

Hello everyone and
Happy Halloween!!!

First.....

Share this information with students and faculty that works with your students as they prep for this year's Senior CD Festival Auditions. Some things are the same and some details have been modified. Read carefully :)

Steve

So, here it goes.....

This year, as you now know, Central District has switched to an online registration and audition process. This process is new to Central District and will also be used for All State Auditions. Plus we have not had full in-person auditions for several years.

It is important that you are familiar with the recent changes/updates in our handbook, the changes in all of the score sheets (including some new and modifications of audition requirements), and the actual day-of-audition process. Much of this information can be found on our website (cdmmea.org).

If you have a question, concern or a bit confused, email me (supmug@comcast.net), and I will get you an answer. Keep in mind all of us are trying to maneuver through a new process.

Here is a current bullet list things to think about (in no particular order). It has lots of details so please read through it carefully. We are trying to avoid awkward surprises at auditions. I also suggest going over this with your students. Let them know all the details and what to expect.

1. Schools who have registered. Please remember to send a signed copy with your payment to Steve Archambault, 662 Page St. Lunenburg MA 01462. The signed form is the legal document that verifies the students on your list are eligible to audition for the CD Senior Festival as outlined in our handbook. If your payment is pending, due to paperwork, send the signed form in without it and send the payment later.

2. If you have any changes or NO SHOWS please use your webpage portal and send me an email with your updates. It is important that we know the no shows ahead of time. Also, if you know of a change/substitution do it early as, under our new web based structure, students are assigned a specific judge. Their score sheet WILL NOT show up under another judge.

3. With that in mind....

I will accept all changes for no charge (yes, free), until November 11th. After that date we need to finalize all the information to prepare for auditions. Again, it is important to email me any and all changes.

4. After Nov. 11, any changes will need to go through the audition day registration process. There is a limit of 2 changes/substitution per school (as stated in the handbook), with a \$10 charge for each change/sub.

5. Important Band/Orchestra need! If your Flute player can play Piccolo or your Oboe player can play Eng. Horn please drop me a note so I can notate it. The current system does not allow you to notate it online. It will help when we are assigning parts.

6. NEW Audition Day Registration Process;

- * Everything is online
- * Have your students wait away from the registration desk. At Milford you will be able to meet with them in the Caf. Which is next to the main entrance.
- * Bring an accurate copy of your student list
- * Notate your no shows and changes
- * You will share that with the Registration desk (Nicole :)
- * She will verify your list and notate the changes online
 - You will also be asked to fill out a change/sub form
- * You will be given a packet of student papers. You will need to give out, to each of your students, their individual paper that will contain their audition code Number and Name. This is the information that they will give to the judge so the judge will be able to access the student's online score sheet. Be sure your student is listed under the appropriate audition. Judges are assigned and can only view students in their list.
- * Meet with your students to hand out their audition code sheets
- * Students then go to their appropriate warm-up room to prepare for auditions.

7. **NEW** - When all of your students have finished and you are ready to leave you will need to check out at the registration desk. The new software allows us to make sure everyone has fully auditioned and we can double check for errors. Don't leave without saying goodbye to Nicole!

8. Audition Room updates;

- * Students will be asked to play/sing their solo first (this is a web-based issue). Students in divided rooms will need to play their solo first then go to the sight-reading/scale room.
- * Students will enter the audition room and hand the judge their audition code. The judge will bring up the students score sheet and verify their name. If the judge is unable to verify the student the student will need to leave, find the manager or their director who will then figure out the issue (this is why it is important to give accurate information at the registration desk!).
- * When they are done they should report back to you and wait in the waiting areas to be checked out.

9. VOCAL AUDITION UPDATE!

This year, due to low numbers we have modified the vocal audition process. In all the vocal rooms there will be a solo judge and a different sight-reading/scale judge. Vocalist will need to report to the solo judge first, then move to the appropriate sight-reading/scale room.

* In the solo room they will hear my voice introducing the song via a mp3 player and sound system.

* In the sight-reading/scale room;

The student will be given the tonic "Do," in the sight-reading tonality. The student will have a maximum of one minute to examine the sight-reading before starting to sing. While previewing the excerpt, the student may tap and/or hum or sing quietly to themselves. They will again be given the tonic major triad, followed by the tonic "Do," in the sight-reading tonality. The student then sings the exercise. Solfege syllables, numbers, neutral syllables or any other method may be used. Students will have only one opportunity to perform the sight singing example. No requests to restart will be allowed.

10. With low numbers in mind.....

CD will follow its ensemble instrumentation numbers (as posted on our website), as best as possible. We will make adjustments to ensure a balanced ensemble.

Again, questions, concerns, confusion? Drop me a note (supmug@comcast.net), and I will do the best I can to follow up with an appropriate answer.

Have a great week,
Steve Archambault,
CD Auditions Coordinator
supmug@comcast.net