

## **GMEA ALL STATE BAND & ORCHESTRA PARTICIPANTS**

***Congratulations on your selection for the 2010 GMEA All State Orchestra!***

### **General Reminders:**

The schedule of rehearsals and performances is online. Go to [www.gmea.org](http://www.gmea.org), click on the Orchestra division link, click on the all state link, and look in the left columns for schedule.

Please report to your rehearsal site by 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2010 so that you can sign in, tune your instrument, etc. You will also want to warm-up before rehearsal begins. Arriving moments before the start time creates confusion and might delay the start of the first rehearsal as you wait to sign in, set up, etc.

Make sure that you bring your school's concert attire/uniform with you to the event. This will be your attire for the performances.

Bring a folding music stand. There are no stands provided in the rehearsal sites and the area music stores typically run out prior to the first rehearsal. Sound Around will be selling music stands in the Lobby of the Civic Center.

Remember that attendance is mandatory. Missed rehearsals will result in dismissal from the group. Tardiness will result in loss of chair placement. Arrange rides to and from meals in advance and remember that many area restaurants will be crowded. If you get there and there is an obvious long wait, go elsewhere. You **MUST** return to rehearsal on time.

Appropriate attire and behavior is expected in rehearsals. No hats, no shorts, wear shoes (not flip-flops). No food or drink (except water) in your rehearsal areas.

Have a pencil on your stand. Be respectful and attentive. Your conductors have a great deal of information to share in a relatively short time. Help them to help you by being alert and efficient during rehearsals.

Meet other students. An important aspect of the all state experience is the mixing of students from different schools into an ensemble. If you only talk to or hang out with students you already know, your experience is limited. You all have many things in common...be willing to share your experiences.

Above all, **ENJOY YOURSELF!** You have earned a spot in an outstanding performance organization. Make the most of this opportunity.

See you in Savannah!!!

## RULES GOVERNING STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN GMEA ALL-STATE EVENTS

- Students participating in any GMEA All-State event must attend all rehearsals and the performance. Students who cannot meet this requirement should withdraw as soon as they realize there will be a conflict.
- Students who are selected for participation in a GMEA All-State group and who fail to attend that event without giving advance notice and showing good cause in writing to the chairperson of the division involved will not be allowed to audition for that All-State event the following year.
- **No student may register himself at a GMEA All-State event. All students must be registered by an adult who assumes responsibility for that student's safety and conduct while the event is in progress. ALL STUDENTS FROM A SINGLE SCHOOL SHOULD BE REGISTERED BY THE SAME ADULT.**
- Teachers are encouraged to not allow any student to drive a motor vehicle to the All-State event and no student should be allowed to operate a motor vehicle during the All-State event.
- Use of alcoholic beverages, illegal and/or non-prescription narcotic drugs, and tobacco products by students during the All-State event is strictly prohibited. Students violating this rule are subject to immediate suspension from the event.
- All adults assuming the responsibility for All-State participants must set curfews for the students under their supervision that are reasonable and proper and that are respectful of the other guests in the hotel. These adults must also supervise the behavior at all times when rehearsals and performances are not ongoing to insure the students' safety and the rights of other hotel guests.
- **Students must be on time for all rehearsals and the performance.** Students in instrumental groups who are late for rehearsal are subject to being moved to the bottom of the section at the first occurrence and to removal from the group at the second occurrence. Decisions involving this rule are made by the organizing chairperson, the division chairperson, and the GMEA All-State Vice-President.
- **No disruptive behavior of any kind will be tolerated during rehearsals.** Students who disrupt rehearsals will be subject to removal from the group for the remainder of the event.
- Students attending GMEA All-State events will be required to abide by the following dress code:
  - Shoes must be worn at all times.
  - Students may wear shorts to rehearsals provided the bottom of the leg of the shorts extends at least to the students' fingertips with the arm fully extended. The same rule will apply to the length of the girls' skirts.
  - No tank tops or shirts without sleeves may be worn.
  - All students must wear appropriate undergarments.
  - No hats of any kind may be worn during rehearsals.
  - Students may not wear clothing bearing obscene, vulgar, or otherwise offensive language or pictures.
  - Concert dress for instrumental All-State events will consist of the uniform worn by students when performing formal concerts with their local school band or orchestra. Concert attire for choral All-State events will be:
    - GIRLS:** long black or dark navy skirt, long-sleeved blouse, dark shoes, NO WHITE SHOES OR TENNIS SHOES.
    - BOYS:** long-sleeved white shirt, black bow tie, dark navy or black slacks (no blue jeans), dark shoes, NO TENNIS SHOES.
  - Students violating the dress code are subject to immediate suspension from the All-State event.