

# MUSIC COMPOSITION

## Overview

This competition challenges high school students to compose an original piece of music. Entries will be judged on their creativity, musical structure, harmonic and rhythmic interest, melodic strength, theoretical understanding, and overall presentation.

## Requirements

1. **Original Composition:** Submit one original, notarized composition.
2. **Formatting:** The top page of the composition must include the contestant's name, page number, and unit name and number.
3. **Manuscript:** The composition must be neatly written on standard music manuscript paper, clear enough for any trained musician to perform. Electronically generated manuscripts (Finale, Sibelius, etc.) must be carefully proofread to ensure accurate quantization. All submissions must demonstrate a strong understanding of the chosen medium.
4. **Audio Recording:** Submit an MP3 audio file of the composition along with the National Registration materials. Local units may allow CD submissions for local competitions.
5. **Time Limit:** The composition must not exceed five (5) minutes.
6. **Performance:** Students must perform their piece without affecting their interview time. Performances can be live or pre-recorded. Pre-recorded performances must be arranged and produced by the contestant—it can feature collaborative performers, however additional points are not awarded for collaborations.

## Judging Criteria

Criteria	Points
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Creative Sense	10
Form	20
Harmonic and Rhythmic Interest	20
Melodic Strength	10
Execution of Manuscript (performance)	10
Theoretical Understanding	20
Quality of Manuscript	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Submission Guidelines**

- Ensure that all submissions are original and adhere to the specified guidelines.
- Submit the notarized composition, MP3 audio file, and National Registration materials by the deadline.

### **Showcase Your Musical Talent!**

This competition is an opportunity to express your creativity and technical skills as a composer. Good luck!