



Mississippi Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment

Friday, Feb 6, 2026

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The MS S&E MPA is a program designed to encourage students to learn repertoire to prepare for college auditions and offer performance opportunities. Efforts are made to create a positive and encouraging environment for the student. This year teachers may choose to attend one of the four locations and we have a virtual option.

All ensembles/soloists perform one selection for one judge. Soloists who score a Superior will earn a medal; Ensembles who score a Superior will earn a trophy (or medals if requested on registration form). Each performance must provide an original (with measures numbered) for the judge. Schools will need to provide their own accompanist or may use a track and provide their own bluetooth speaker (this is for a small space). Singers will not use mics. The location host will plan a special event for all participants that same day. Examples include a masterclass, recital/performance, seminar, etc. a possible schedule would be to compete in the morning, special event in the afternoon.

Categories:

- Vocal solo (art songs, spirituals, folk songs)
- Vocal musical Theatre/commercial music
- Piano solo or duet (piano piece must be 16 measures in length; memorization is encouraged but not required)
- Vocal Ensemble
 - Any size
 - Any grade or grade combination
 - Any voicing
 - Can be conducted or not (director's choice)
- Non-Traditional Ensemble (piece must be 16 measures in length; memorization is encouraged but not required- see next page for suggestions)
 - Any size
 - Any grade or grade combination
 - Any voicing and/or instruments

SUGGESTIONS OF BOOKS FOR SECONDARY VOCAL SOLOS (This list is not comprehensive)

- The “First Book” Series compiled by Joan Frey Boytim – collections for soprano solos, mezzo soprano/alto solos, tenor solos, baritone/bass solos
- The Heritage Solo series – High or Low
- Songs for Bass (or Low Voice) in A Comfortable Range by Leonard Van Camp
- The Young Singer Series by Richard Row

SUGGESTIONS FOR ELEMENTARY VOCAL SOLOS (This list is not comprehensive)

- Easy Songs for Beginning Soprano, Alto, Tenor, or Baritone/Bass - Joan Frey Boytim
- 36 Solos for Young Singers - Joan Frey Boytim
- Basics of Singing - Jan Schmidt

<https://www.brileemusic.com/bl/solos.html> has several excellent books for the young changing voices.
Brilee Solo Books-

- Heroes and Vagabonds arranged by Mark Patterson
- Let Nature Sing Various Composers
- Takes of Land and Sea by Mark Patterson
- Traveling On arr. Ruth Elaine Schram
- My Heart Sings by Mark Patterson

This is the solo list from the Florida Vocal Association:

https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=floridavocal.files.wordpress.com/2018/08/fva_music_list_vocal_solos.xls

OTHER FREE RESOURCES

- Artsongcentral.com
- Petrucci Music Library- https://imslp.org/wiki/Main_Page
- Public Domain- <https://www.cpdll.org/wiki/>

NONTRADITIONAL ENSEMBLES

- The philosophy behind this category is to encourage performances and support our current programs throughout the state. This list is not meant to be comprehensive, but to encourage creativity.
 - Bucket drumming
 - Guitar/ukulele
 - Elementary choirs/ensembles
 - Recorders
 - Orff ensembles
 - Piano Ensembles
- NONTRADITIONAL RESOURCES
 - Music K-8
 - Quaver
 - Teachers pay Teachers



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Registration

Please submit by Friday, January 16, 2026

Registration will be open through [this google form link](#). It is available at State Conference to jan 31.

Purchase Orders/fees are sent to your location coordinator

Fees are \$5.00 per student per event

Make checks out to MS Music Educators Association

Awards- soloists who earn SUPERIOR will receive a medal.

Ensembles may choose medals or one trophy per group.

For more information, please call Jennifer Davis at 601.513.2297.

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Evaluation Form

(Please fill out one form for each entry)

Soloist or Ensemble Name: _____ Grade(s) in School _____
School Represented _____ City: _____
Category: _____
Title of Selection _____ Composer/Arr. _____

Adjudication Instructions: Comment on the areas listed below.

<u>TONE</u>	<u>TECHNIQUE</u>	<u>INTERPRETATION</u>	<u>SELECTION</u>	<u>GENERAL EFFECT</u>	<u>ENSEMBLE</u>
control	attack/release	dynamics	suitability	stage presence	balance
intonation	rhythmic accuracy	tempo		memorization	blend
quality	pitch accuracy	phrasing		posture	
naturalness	diction	style		artistry	

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS:

RATING: (Circle One) I (superior) II (excellent) III (good) IV (fair)

WRITE IN RATING _____

SIGNATURE OF ADJUDICATOR

Solo & Ensemble Virtual Submission Guidelines

Recording Location:

The video should be recorded in the spirit of a live audition or recital performance. You may record in a home, school, church, synagogue, recital hall, rehearsal room, or voice studio with good natural acoustics with or without an audience.

Recording Guidelines:

The camera should record from a fixed position as if the judge was seated in front of the student(s).

Vocal soloists should face straight forward to the camera as they would appear to the judge in a live performance.

Ensembles may face the director, but the director should not be in view in the video.

Piano solos/duets may of course be faced toward the piano keyboard.

Collaborative Pianist or Recorded Accompaniment:

Vocal solos may sing with a live pianist, such as their teacher, or recorded/digital accompaniment.

If the teacher is the accompanist, they should not be in view in the video.

Suggestions for pre-recorded tracks: Appcompanionist, Hal Leonard's Virtual Library, YouTube Karaoke Tracks, Piano Trax, tracks recorded by the teacher, or any other medium that you can find.

Performance:

Introduce the selection at the beginning of the video.

For example: Vocal solos, or piano solos/duets can be introduced by the student(s) saying: "My Name is _____; "I will sing/perform—Title of Composition---by—Composer—and if appropriate—from---Title of Work". (The identity of your teacher, school, and region should not be revealed.)

Ensembles should be introduced by a student (not the director) using a similar format as above.

Submitting Your Videos:

You will be sent a link for a google folder with the name of your school on your google drive to submit your video(s).

Please create a separate folder inside your school's google folder for each performance and label the folder with the student's or ensemble's name.

You can upload the performance video inside that performer's folder you created.

All videos are due Friday, February 6, 2026. Judge results will be completed within a week of submission.

All vocal solos and choir ensembles are expected to perform their music from memory. Ensembles may be directed, but the director should be off screen. For vocal solos, any indication that the student is being coached off screen will result in the student being disqualified and their video will not be judged.