

Solo & Ensemble Festival Information, 2018

The **Florida Bandmaster's Association** (F.B.A.) sponsors the District 11 Solo and Ensemble Festival during February of every year. The opportunity to be evaluated as a soloist or as a member of a small ensemble by a judge (an experienced music educator) is a wonderful learning experience. Participation in this festival is strongly encouraged for students in the advanced band and percussion ensemble.

Due to the large size of our band program, students in intermediate or beginning band may only participate if he/she is taking private lessons.

Each student and a parent must complete the contract on the back of this to participate in the Solo & Ensemble Festival. Additionally, each festival participant must pay the required fees. Both the contract and fees must be turned in by Monday, January 8th.

This contract and the lessons/rehearsals with the accompanist are used to *nearly* guarantee each student will be properly prepared and have a great experience.

There are two ways in which a student may participate in the Solo & Ensemble Festival. Every student in advanced band will participate in a large woodwind ensemble or brass ensemble. Every "varsity" percussionist will also perform in a small percussion ensemble. This is paid for by the band boosters. Students may also play as a soloist with a piano accompanist. There is a small fee for performing a solo.

All music performed *must* be chosen from the F.B.A. Music List. Music will be chosen with the help of the director or the student's private teacher.

Solos

- A solo is a piece of music written for one person to perform on his or her instrument.
- Solos include a piano part (the accompanist) that must be performed with the solo.
- A student may perform only one solo per instrument. If a student plays more than one instrument, he or she may perform multiple solos, as long as they are on different instruments.

Ensembles

- An ensemble is a small group of performers. This includes: duets (2), trios (3), quartets (4), quintets (5), and choirs (up to 26).
 - Again- this year, students will perform in choirs. There is no charge for this as the boosters will pay the fee.
- Ensembles DO NOT WORK when 1 or more members are not present to practice with the group. As such, ensembles will be rehearsed in class. If a student is not prepared, he or she may be asked to not perform.



Solo & Ensemble Performance Contract, 2018

Date of Event: Friday, February 16th for ensembles and choirs. Buses will be provided for the ensembles. Saturday, February 17th for solos. Students performing solos will need to be driven to the performance. Clear your calendar now for this Saturday if your child wishes to perform a solo.

Location: Braden River High School, 6545 State Road 70 East, Bradenton, FL 34203 (about 50 minutes from Ainger)

Times: Typically announced a week or two before the event by the event organizers. An S&E update letter will be sent home with the student with additional information. Ensembles will take place on Friday after school from 4pm to 9pm. Solos will take place on Saturday in ten minute time-slots from 9am to 5pm.

Music: Provided by the L.A. Ainger Band Program.

Cost: Option 1: \$40 for just a solo (\$5 judge assessment fee, \$20 piano accompanist fee, and \$15 for three fifteen minute lessons with a clinician)

Option 2: \$80 for two solos (The same as option one, but twice)

Students performing in a small chamber ensemble (duets, trios, etc.) **must** be committed to performing at least one solo. The boosters will pay entry and lessons for small ensembles.

The fees, along with this signed contract, are due by Monday, January 8th. **Checks need to be made out to L.A. Ainger Middle School Band Boosters.**

“I will be participating in the following events:”

Solo #1

Name _____

Instrument _____

Title of Piece _____

Composer _____

Solo #2

Name _____

Instrument _____

Title of Piece _____

Composer _____

“I, (Print Student Name) _____, agree to participate in the above-mentioned Solo & Ensemble Festival event. I agree to practice at home, rehearse with my private instructor or attend before and after school sessions, rehearse with my piano accompanist (*if applicable*) before the performance, and meet with my ensemble (*if applicable*) as necessary. If I fail to properly prepare, Mr. Ostrow or my private instructor has full discretion in disqualifying me or my group from the event.”

(Student Signature)

As the parent of the above student, I agree to and understand the above terms of Solo & Ensemble Festival and I will help my child prepare for this major event. I also understand that I am responsible for driving my child to the event on time/early. I understand that I will need to reimburse the band program for my child’s participation. Along with this contract, I have included a check made out to L.A. Ainger Band Boosters for \$40 for a solo or \$80 for two solos. If my child chooses not to participate or does not prepare properly and is disqualified, I do not expect a refund.”

(Parent/Guardian Signature)