

S.J.B.O.D.A / Rowan University
South Jersey Band & Orchestra Directors Association

REGION III

Of

The New Jersey Music Educators Association
is proud to present:

**The 29th Annual
Concert Band Festival
March 14th & 15th, 2023
Rowan University**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY February 3rd

www.SJBODA.org

South Jersey Band & Orchestra Directors Association **The 29th Annual Concert Band Festival**

Dear Colleague,

The South Jersey Band and Orchestra Directors Association is proud to present the 29th Annual Region III High School Concert Band Festival. This year's festival will feature performance opportunities for 8 bands on Tuesday, March 14th and 8 bands on Wednesday, March 15th with the director's choice of either ratings (for those competing for a spot in the NJ State Gala scheduled for Sunday, April 30th at Rowan University) or comments only (for those wishing to gather constructive feedback for developing programs). Both options will include a performance by the ensemble followed by a clinic from one of the 2 adjudicators present. In case of inclement weather, a Snow Date is scheduled for the following Thursday, 3/16. All time slots will remain the same for any rescheduled festival dates.

The Region III Festival will be held at Rowan University from 9:00am – 4:00pm each day. Each band will receive a certificate commemorating their participation in this event as well as taped and written down commentary from the adjudicators.

The format for the bands performing are as follows: each band will receive a 40 minute time slot. That time slot will consist of 25 minutes on stage to set up and perform followed by a 15 minute clinic from one of the 2 adjudicators. Bands will have the option of performing 1 warm up piece followed by 1 or 2 adjudicated pieces, or the adjudicated pieces without an optional warm up. We strongly suggest that all bands remain in the auditorium to listen to one another when not performing. We believe this is the most important learning ingredient for all of our students to continue to build a sense of community and support between the programs.

The Concert Band Festival is being provided to foster and promote the growth of the most important aspect of our programs. We hope that you will take advantage of this worthwhile opportunity. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the attached application as soon as possible. Read all of the enclosed materials carefully to understand the changes to this year's festival and your band's eligibility for State Gala participation. Due to space and time considerations, bands will be selected on a first come first serve basis. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Mike Armstrong
Festival Co-Chair
Deptford High School
armstrong.m@deptfordschools.org

Jon Porco
Festival Co-Chair
Deptford Middle School
porco.j@deptfordschools.org

Complete festival details will be sent to participants.

(Please note; Application fees will be returned if we are not able to accommodate your group. They will not be returned if you should cancel your participation.)

SJBODA 29th Annual Concert Band Festival

APPLICATION

(Copy and complete a separate application for each ensemble attending)

School (please print)

Address

_____, N.J.
City

Zip

Director's name and NAFME #

Band Size

Phone

Director E-mail

Please select 3 times from the options below in preference order (label them '1', '2', '3')

Tuesday, March 14th

9:00am _____

9:45am _____

10:30am _____

11:15am _____

1:00pm _____

1:45pm _____

2:30pm _____

3:15pm _____

Wednesday, March 15th

9:00am _____

9:45am _____

10:30am _____

11:15am _____

1:00pm _____

1:45pm _____

2:30pm _____

3:15pm _____

****Time slots will be confirmed AFTER receipt of your signed application and fee. Incomplete applications will not be accepted****

Band Director Signature

Principal Signature

Application & Registration check (\$200 made payable to SJBODA) must be received by Friday, February 3rd and sent to:

Send Application To:
Mike Armstrong
Deptford High School
575 Fox Run Rd; Deptford, NJ 08096

Send Check To:
Rich Beckman
437 Jessup Mill Rd
Mantua, NJ 08051

South Jersey Band & Orchestra Directors Association
The 29th Annual Concert Band Festival

STAGE CREW FORM
(Equipment and Seating Chart)

Name of Group: _____

Director: _____ Phone #: _____

Note: Please submit a different form for each group entering the festival.

Please diagram your seating arrangement. Use **X** for chairs & - for stands.
Also note the location of percussion equipment.

CHAIRS

Row Row Row Row Row
5 4 3 2 1

Total number of chairs _____

STANDS

Row Row Row Row Row
5 4 3 2 1

Total number of stands _____

The festival site will furnish the following. Please indicate equipment as needed:

_____ Podium	_____ Orch Bells	_____ Marimba	_____ Concert Toms
_____ Bass Drum	_____ Xylophone	_____ Chimes	_____ Piano
_____ Timpani	_____ Vibes	_____ Gong	_____ Other: _____

**** Participants must furnish snare drums, all cymbals, traps, drumsticks, **
** mallets, beaters, and any other equipment needed. ****

South Jersey Band & Orchestra Directors Association

Concert Band Festival

1. Purpose and Administration

The purpose and objectives of the Concert Band Festival sponsored by SJBODA are:

- a. to provide incentive for the development of musical understanding, skills, and taste through performances which are aimed at exhibiting each group at its most mature level of performance.
- b. To provide students and teachers a means of hearing work done by other school groups.
- c. To stimulate and to recognize growth.
- d. To provide students and teachers a means of receiving constructive criticism by qualified adjudicators.

2. Eligibility

Any student enrolled in junior high/ middle or senior high school in Region III is eligible to participate in this event. A student must be a regular performing member of his/her school band at the time of the festival. All participating directors must be members of NJMEA.

3. Responsibilities

a. Region President

The Region III President is responsible for selecting the Festival Chairperson.

b. Festival Chairperson

The Festival Chairperson is responsible for arranging for a suitable festival site, establishing and accounting for participation fees, securing adjudicators, correspondence with festival participants, development of schedule and format. Once the applications have been received, the chairperson will send correspondence to participants advising of festival schedule, names of adjudicators, and other pertinent information. The Festival Chairperson is accountable to the Region III President concerning all of the above responsibilities.

c. Directors

Directors are responsible for completing the application in full (including program info sheet and stage crew sheet) and return it prior to the deadline. **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.** Directors are to furnish two original scores of each composition for the adjudicators on the Festival day. The scores must have all measures numbered. All scores submitted must be in accordance with current United States copyright laws. Photocopied scores must be accompanied by a letter from the publisher stating that the scores are out of print or have been ordered. Permission for photocopying must come from the publisher. Adjudicators will not use unauthorized photocopies.

d. Students

Students are expected to meet the eligibility requirements and to abide by the rules of behavior of the hosting festival site.
Students will also be responsible for bringing a bag lunch.

4. Selection of Performance Options

- a. **Comments Only** – This option is offered to the band who does not want a rating for its performance. Repertoire is of the director's choosing. Rating sheets will carry no numbers for the judging categories and no final rating will be given. Adjudicators will only give comments and suggestions on the performance.
- b. **Rating** – This option is offered to the band that wishes to be selected for the NJ State Gala Concert based on an evaluation of its performance of graded band literature.

- 1) **Selection of Music** – each director should select and prepare three compositions to perform, one warm-up selection and two concert selections.
 - a. **Warm-up selection** – in order to adjust to the acoustical properties of auditorium, temperature, pitch levels, etc., all groups may precede their concert selections with a “warm-up” selection of their choosing. A chorale or a march not to exceed four minutes is suggested.
 - b. **Concert selection** – For the final two compositions, we suggest that directors consult the band music guides at the following sources: National Band Association, Instrumentalist Magazine, or NYSSMA. Consideration should be given to grade level (1-6):

Grade 1 – mainly for the first year instrumentalist

Grade 2 – for those definitely beyond the beginning band stages.

Grade 3 – for those who have acquired some technique

Grade 4 – for more advanced instrumentalists

Grade 5 – mostly for college players

Grade 6 – for the skilled professional

- 2) **Ratings** – A composite rating will be given which is an average of the ratings given by the adjudicators. The following system will be used in adjudicating the Concert Band Festival:

GOLD LEVEL – Highest Rating

SILVER LEVEL

BRONZE LEVEL

- 3) **Interpretation of Ratings:**

1. **Gold Level – Highest Rating:** A superior interpretation and performance, technically and musically, of all three selections. The comments and number grades on the adjudicator forms correspond to and justify the final rating. The performance demonstrates that the group is able to meet all of the technical demands of the music with precision and no aural evidence of strain; the musicality of the performance demonstrates an acute awareness of the composer’s intent and desire. It is, to all appearances, free of technical errors and shows much attention to the music’s expressive feature. The director demonstrates an ability to clearly communicate his interpretation requirements to the group, and the performers respond immediately and accurately.
2. **Silver Level** – An excellent interpretation and performance of all three selections, or a superior performance of one selection and excellent of two. The comments and number grades on the adjudication forms correspond to and justify the final rating. Technical demands are met with precision and the musical requirements are met with integrity in meeting the composer’s intent, desires, and instructions. It is an authentic reading, marred by noticeable technical errors and intonation defects. The ensemble shows the results of sound fundamental training, but the performance lacks the polish and finesse necessary to qualify for a Gold Level.
3. **Bronze Level** – A good interpretation and performance of all three selections, technically and musically, or a combination of performances of the three selections which would justify an overall Bronze Level. The group is unable to execute all of the technical demands of the music with precision and accuracy and does not demonstrate an awareness of the musical demands required for an outstanding performance. The group may lack instrumentation essential to an authentic reading of the music, or it may lack consistence in strength in all of its selections. The general quality of the performance represents good preparation, attention to detail, and good

musicianship; but the performance is marred by a large number of technical errors, obvious problems with intonation, rhythmic inaccuracies, and a lack of dynamic contrast.

The Judges may confer after hearing approximately half of the performing groups. Each adjudicator is to give an individual rating and then all ratings will be averaged.

Each performing group will be graded on the lowest level of any composition selected from the Band Music guide (i.e., selections from Grades III and IV will be classified at the Grade III performance level).

5. Time Logistics

a. **Response to Application** – Responses should be made as soon as possible to allow the Festival Chairperson ample time to schedule bands and make the proper arrangements.

b. **Festival logistics**

- 1) Each group will proceed to the designated warm-up area for a 20 minute warm-up before proceeding to the stage.
- 2) Groups will proceed to the stage 5 minutes before their allotted time.
- 3) All groups will have 40 minutes to enter the stage perform, and have their clinic. This block will be broken down into 25 minutes for set up and performance and 15 minutes for clinic.
- 4) All groups will have 5 minutes to clear the stage of all personnel and equipment.

c. **Viewing Other Performances**

Directors are requested to have their bands enter and/or exit areas only while stage is being set for another group to perform. **Directors are also reminded to properly supervise their students when they are not performing.**

6. State Gala Selection

Only bands who are participating in the ratings portion of the festival will be considered for selection into the NJ State Gala. The NJ State Gala is an honors concert that occurs on the first weekend of May each year at a predetermined location in one of the 3 NJMENC Regions. The top 4 bands of each region are invited to perform in one of 2 concerts that particular day. Bands do not have to receive the highest rating in order to perform at the Gala, they simply need to be one of the top 4 from the Region Festival. If one of the top 4 bands is unable to attend, the next band on the list can be invited at the Region board's discretion. It is possible for multiple performance ensembles from a single school to be selected for performance at the NJ State Gala Concert.