

Junior Festivals Information

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As we prepare for a new Festivals season it is imperative that Area Festival Chairs, Junior Counselors, and teachers be familiar with all national, state, and local guidelines and deadlines. There are many documents available to our members that they can utilize to ensure that they observe the rules. In addition to the invaluable information contained in the NFMF *Federation Festivals Bulletin*, members can download for free the following helpful and educational documents: the NFMF Junior Division Federation Festivals Procedures Manual (JR 3-18) which can be found on the NFMF website and the FFMC Junior Procedures Manual that is on the FFMC website under the Junior Festivals menu. Both of the aforementioned documents are revised annually. FFMC makes a point to send to all its members the FFMC Junior Procedures Manual. This manual contains the rules which govern the FFMC State Junior Convention competition. It is every teacher and Junior Counselor's obligation to read, comprehend and observe all procedures in order to ensure positive festival experiences for all participants. I cannot stress the importance of regularly checking the National Federation of Music Clubs website (nfmf-music.org) for 2017 – 2020 Bulletin adjustments as they are also updated on a regular basis.

Many of the NFMF Festivals forms have been revised drastically this year. If you are an Area Festivals Chair, please make sure that your Festival Center uses only forms that are marked "August 2017" in the lower right corner. A new addition to the national forms is the "Federation Festivals Student Event History" (JR 3-11). This template was designed specifically with the intent of providing teachers with a new tool to aid them in planning and record keeping. All national forms, including the JR 3-11, can be downloaded from the NFMF website under Publications/Junior Division.

During the FFMC Spring Convention in Tampa, many adjustments were made in the guidelines for district and state Festival events. Please see below for the adjustments in the FFMC Junior Procedures Manual.

1. Page 8: Revisions to State Junior Officer section
 - a. Remove current paragraph, move entire section to page 9, and reformat.
 - b. Add title for this section "State Junior Officers."
 - c. Change "Junior Advisory Committee" to "Junior Advisory Board."
 - d. Add "Junior membership in FFMC is required of all candidates, voters, and elected officers."
 - e. Add "Enrollment in State Junior Convention is not required for Junior candidates or voters."
 - f. Add "The FFMC Junior Board shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and one Board Member at Large."
 - g. Add "The State Junior President serves as the liaison between FFMC and the State Junior Officers."
 - h. Add "The State Junior President will give a 2-3 minute speech both nights of the Awards Ceremony at the FFMC State Junior Convention."
 - i. Add "The State Junior President will announce the names of the award recipients both nights of the Awards Ceremony at the FFMC State Junior Convention."
 - j. Add "All outgoing State Junior Officers are required to be present at the meeting for the election of incoming State Junior Officers. They are to assist with the voting process unless it involves themselves running for a position."
 - k. Add "Election of officers will be conducted through ballot vote. In the event of a tie for office, the current State Junior Board will determine the winner through a second ballot vote."
 - l. Add "The outgoing State Junior President shall instruct the incoming State Junior President to collect all email and contact information for the new State Junior Officers."
 - m. Add "All State Junior Officers are required to be present for both nights of the Awards Ceremony at the FFMC State Junior Convention."
 - n. Add "For the entire duration of FFMC State Junior Convention all State Junior Officers are required to work at the Registration Desk or any position asked of them by FFMC. If an officer can only be present for part of a day, that officer must notify the State Junior President and help arrange for another responsible student to substitute for them during the time he/she is absent. The State Junior President must notify FFMC of the substitution prior to the State Junior Convention."
 - o. Add "State Junior Officers who do not fulfill their duties at FFMC State Junior Convention (or find a responsible substitute) will be ineligible to run for future FFMC Junior State Officer positions."
 - p. Add "All incoming State Junior Officers are expected to attend the Installation event at the Saturday Awards Ceremony. If an incoming officer is not able to attend, he/she must notify FFMC at the time of election."

- q. Add "State Junior Officers should seek out and offer to assist their local organizers with district and senior club events throughout the year."
2. Page 9: Monitoring Section
 - a. Amend sentence to "If not, the Area Festival Chair, in cooperation with the participating teachers, will make arrangement..."
 - b. Amend sentence to "Area Festival Chairs are responsible for organizing and for dispersing..."
 - c. Amend sentence to "Fees must be paid at least one week prior to the FFMC State Junior Convention to the State Treasurer."
3. Page 13: Provide Copy of Score
 - a. Add to last sentence "Accompanists cannot copy entire pieces or books for the ease of page turning even if they have the original score in their possession at the audition."
 - b. Add "Ipad and other electronic devices with downloaded scores are not permitted for use without written prior consent from the FFMC Junior Division Chair."
4. Page 13 and 14: Gold Cup Senior Concerto Scholarship Competition
 - a. Amend third sentence "...earned at least one NFMC Gold Cup" and add "Entrants are not required to have future plans to major in music."
 - b. Add "Students who have previously won the standard Senior Concerto event at FFMC State Junior Convention are eligible to enter this event provided all other criteria are met."
 - c. Add "Students in 12th grade must participate in the Senior Concerto event at District Festival and receive a Superior rating in order to enter the Gold Cup Senior Concerto Scholarship Competition."
 - d. Add "Teachers will indicate on their FFMC State Junior Convention application under the "Event" column that the student will be participating in the Gold Cup Senior Concerto Scholarship Competition (GC Sr. Concerto)."
5. Page 14: Irene Muir Memorial Award
 - a. Amend sentence to "Judges may nominate any Junior of extraordinary talent and potential, any age, any solo instrument or voice (not including ensembles) to compete at the close of the FFMC State Junior Convention for a single cash award."
 - b. Add "No ties are allowed, only one person can win this award."
6. Page 15: Add section titled "Florida Summer Music Camp Award"
 - a. One recipient is chosen by Federation officials from written applications that demonstrate worthiness and need.
 - b. Applications should be concise, grammatically correct, and creative. Include years of study, motivation to attend a certain program, Festival/State Junior Convention participation, and/or volunteer activities to promote music in the community.
 - c. Award is open to Juniors currently in grades 9 – 11.
 - d. Only official applications will be considered and can be obtained at the Registration Desk.
 - e. Application deadline is 4pm on Saturday of the FFMC State Junior Convention.
 - f. Applications may also include: Correspondence from a reputable summer camp program indication acceptance and financial obligation to attend and/or teacher recommendation.
 - g. This scholarship cannot be awarded to the same Junior more than one time.
7. Page 17: NFMC Area Festival Auditions
 - a. Add "The deadline for District Festival applications will be between December 1st -10th."
 - b. Add "FFMC will honor the official NFMC rating system of Superior, Excellent, Satisfactory, Fair, Needs Improvement. Area Festival Chairs will instruct Festival judges not to add embellishments of pluses and minuses to the prescribed rating system."
8. Page 19-20: Junior Composers Contests
 - a. Amend all Festival cup verbiage to Federation cup.
 - b. Add "Include a complete Federation Cup form with the application."
 - c. Amend sentence to "First place winners will receive a trophy and second place winners will receive a ribbon by mail from the Junior Composition Chair unless other arrangements are made."

9. Page 20: Essay Contest
 - a. Add "First place winners are awarded a trophy. The Essay Contest Chair is responsible for obtaining the trophies from FFMC and mailing them to the recipients unless other arrangements are made."

10. Page 21: Federation Cup Plan
 - a. Add "Supplemental orders submitted after the final cut-off deadline of March 30th are subject to a shipping cost (minimum \$20) to be paid by the teacher."
 - b. Amend sentence to "Signature of Federation Cup form by the teacher verifying the information is correct is optional."

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who devoted countless hours of their time to help with our District and State events. Without your assistance, we would not be able to provide our Festival entrants with numerous musical opportunities.