

All-National Selection Procedure

Rationale or Purpose

The NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles is a program that recognizes the finest high school student musicians for their accomplishments, as well as to provide each participating student with the highest quality honors ensemble experience available in the United States today. NAFME believes that its strength comes from its State Federated Associations; therefore, the All-National Honor Ensembles program is designed to support each State's efforts of advancing the vision of providing a *high-quality music education for every student* by recognizing their most accomplished high school student musicians.

The purpose of this policy is to engage state federated associations in the building, development and quality of the national honors ensembles to highlight and recognize the finest student musicians at the national level.

Policy Statement

NAfME shall have an all-national honors ensemble program. The NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles will directly involve State MEA Presidents in the selection process ensuring that each of the All-National Honor Ensembles: Band, Orchestra, Mixed Chorus, Jazz Ensemble, and Guitar Ensemble are representative of every state in the Nation as applications allow. Student selection will be based on total NAFME active membership percentages within each of the federated state associations. It is the policy of NAFME that its selection procedure will set it apart from all other National Honor Ensemble programs with the intention that every State Federated Association will be represented. The musical processes within each ensemble will reflect components of the 2014 National Music Standards.

The following individuals should be present and are responsible for the selection procedure:

NAfME Staff Member(s), NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles General Chair, Band Manager, Orchestra Manager, Mixed Chorus Manager, Guitar Manager, and Jazz Ensemble Manager

Selection Criteria

1. Each state will receive a quota based upon the number of active NAFME members in their state. This quota must be filled first unless a particular state does not provide enough student applications for each ensemble.
2. If your state Music Education Association (MEA) does not sponsor a particular All-State Festival, the state MEA will determine which students are eligible to apply.
3. Each state will provide the NAFME Staff and the ANHE General Chair a ranking (by instrument and/or voice part) of their students who have applied. These rankings must be followed during the selection process (i.e.: the selection committee cannot select a 3rd ranked clarinet from MA over the 1st ranked clarinet from MA.). When All-State rankings are not available as the primary ranking criteria, the state MEA may use students' audition media to determine rank.
4. Each student applicant will submit an audition to be used for part assignments and/or to fill any seats that are vacant due to a lack of applications from a particular state. The auditions will not supersede the state quotas or the state rankings.



5. All woodwinds, brass, and percussion applications are considered for both band and orchestra. Harp and Piano auditions may be considered for band and/or orchestra based upon repertoire requirements.

Selection Procedure

1. Begin selection with Washington DC and Europe by taking their first ranked instrument/voice student for BOCJ.
2. Continue selection with the smallest states trying to keep a balanced representation and instrumentation.
3. Continue to select in reverse order of the states' quotas; keeping the instrumentation balanced as much as possible i.e.: equal numbers of woodwinds, brass, percussion, strings, and voice parts for BOCJ.
4. Try to maintain a mini wind ensemble, string ensemble, vocal ensemble, etc. that represents each instrument voice part from each state for BOCJ
5. Band and Orchestra Managers should select winds and percussion by rotating through the states from smallest to largest to fill each state's quota while adhering to each state's rankings. When looking at solo/small numbers of instruments such as piccolo, double reeds, orchestral winds, etc., review resume information and other experience and/or defer to large states for selecting these instruments due to the fact that the all-state selection process is probably more competitive in larger states.
6. After Orchestra Winds and Percussion are selected, Band and Orchestra Managers can then fill remaining seats by going to the highest rank/state working from smallest to largest states keeping a balanced representative instrumentation as much as possible for each state.
7. Mixed Chorus Manager should select SI, SII, AI, AII, TI, TII, BI, and BII by going to highest rank from each state working from smallest to largest states keeping numbers in each voice part as equal as possible to fill each state's allotted quota.
8. Check to see that each state has at least the minimum total number of selected students listed on the spreadsheet to fill their quota. Also, double check that the student instrumentation for each state is balanced as much as possible. In the event that there are not enough applications to fill a state's quota, other states may receive additional students in the ensembles. Audition tapes may be consulted to help fill any extra seats, however state rankings must still apply.
9. Jazz Ensemble selection will be done by the manager in conjunction with Jazz at Lincoln Center. Consideration should be given to having as much representation from a variety of states as possible.
10. Due to the limited size, specific instrumentation, and the uniqueness of the Guitar Ensemble, a specific number of seats from for any given state cannot be guaranteed. Consideration should be given to having as much representation from a variety of states as possible. Selection will be based primarily on student audition media.
11. Select Alternates for every instrument and voice part by filling in spots, alternating from state to state starting with the largest states in reverse order of the initial selection. Try to select an alternate instrument/voice that may not have been selected, or may have fewer numbers, from a particular state. For example, if a tenor sax was not selected for CT, try to select an alternate tenor sax from CT.