

INTERESTED?

If you are interested in applying for one of the two grant options, please contact Susan Metelsky, District 5 President, by email at metelskys@basd.k12.pa.us with the following information:

School
Director
Phone
Participating Ensembles
Preferred Grant Option: Clinic Grant or On-Site MPA Grant
Projected Date and Time frame (morning, afternoon or evening)

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1, 2011

Grants will be awarded until the funds allotted for this pilot program are depleted. Interested directors are encouraged to apply earlier as applications will be processed in order of postmark.

WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PMEA ADJUDICATION?

Go to www.pmea.net and click on 'Adjudication' under 'Events' in the menu on the home page OR contact Tom Snyder, Adjudication Coordinator, directly at tsnyder@westasd.org

"If you have not yet participated in a PMEA Music Performance Assessment, you are missing a great teaching opportunity. The rubrics and terminology used by the adjudicators can be used in preparing your ensemble as a tool to more effectively rehearse and create a focus for each part of the rehearsal. Teaching the students what the judges will be listening for is a great way to create opportunities for reflection, a forum for constructive criticism, and as structure for assessment by the students of themselves and others."

Susan Metelsky

FROM SUSAN'S STUDENTS ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN AN MPA:

*"It makes us try harder." "It gives us as students a more defined goal."
"It gives us something to work for other than a concert."
"It's beneficial to be evaluated and see where we need to improve."*



PMEA ADJUDICATION

Music Performance Assessment

DISTRICT 5 PILOT GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2011-12

Clinic Grant • On-Site MPA Grant

Apply to have YOUR band, orchestra or chorus assessed on YOUR own stage by bringing the adjudicators to YOU ---- AND, have the entire experience funded by District 5

WHY 'ASSESSMENT'? WHY NOW?

The leadership of District 5 strongly believes in the educational benefits of participating in PMEA Adjudication and would like to see more of our middle and high school level bands, orchestras and choruses experience the Music Performance Assessment (MPA) process.

We know from our own experiences that one of the hardest decisions is to commit to participate for the first time in a formal PMEA Adjudication MPA at one of the available sites throughout western PA, given the common challenges of funding the \$150 registration fee and the necessary buses, receiving permission for students to miss classes for even part of the day, making time for the planning and rehearsal preparations, and fitting yet another thing into hectic schedules.

The even larger obstacles to overcome include not being familiar with the performance assessment process---how it actually works, the assessment form itself, or how it can positively impact students, directors and programs---and an overcoming the feelings that we as directors or our ensembles themselves aren't 'ready', 'good enough', or have the 'right instrumentation' or 'enough guys in the chorus'.

However, we also know that, once we participated in an MPA for that first time, the benefits for our students, our ensembles as a whole, and our own professional development quickly became clear. Simply experiencing the process from beginning to end provided a comfort level for the future and the feedback through the recorded commentary in real time, clinic (chorus) or sight-reading (band/orchestra) and the ratings and written commentary itself offered tremendous insights and motivation.

'Assessment' is now at the forefront of educational dialogue at the local, state and national levels. To be effectively implemented, standards and curriculum must be accompanied by quality assessment practices. Beyond high stakes testing, decision-makers are choosing which programs to keep and which programs to limit or eliminate. Participating in formal music performance assessment can support ensemble classes as academic endeavors with processes and language that colleagues, administrators and school boards can understand.

We feel that we can best serve our member directors and their programs by taking PMEA Adjudication directly to the schools and funding the entire experience, either the Clinic 'practice assessment' or an actual formal 'On-Site MPA', whichever option that you feel is in the best interest of your program at this time. District 5 is looking to seed this Grant Program by funding the costs involved in coordination with the statewide PMEA Adjudication system and its qualified adjudicators.

OPTION 1: THE CLINIC GRANT

The clinic option offers the opportunity for you and your students to experience a 'practice assessment' with one adjudicator coming to your school to take the ensemble through the entire MPA process while thoroughly explaining each aspect and providing immediate feedback on the performance. Parameters will include:

- **1 clinician working with ensembles in the rehearsal room or on stage for approximately 45 minutes each during the morning, afternoon or evening**
- **A minimum of 2 ensembles are required with a maximum of 4 permitted**
- **Assessment of prepared repertoire on an official PMEA Assessment Form**
- * **Immediate verbal feedback on the performance**
- **For bands and orchestras, an actual sight-reading assessment experience**
- **The discounted fee of \$50 per ensemble funded in full by PMEA District 5**

OPTION 2: THE ON-SITE MPA GRANT

The on-site MPA option offers the opportunity for you and your students to experience the official, sanctioned PMEA Adjudication Music Performance Assessment without leaving your district. Parameters will include:

- **2 adjudicators assessing each ensemble for approximately 45 minutes each during the morning, afternoon or evening**
- **A minimum of 2 ensembles are required with a maximum of 4 permitted**
- **Formal assessment of prepared repertoire using the PMEA Assessment Form**
- * **Immediate verbal feedback on the performance from one or both adjudicators**
- **For bands and orchestras, the formal sight-reading assessment**
- **Each ensemble will receive the official PMEA Adjudication Plaque**
- **The discounted fee of \$100 per ensemble funded in full by PMEA District 5**