

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Festival Escorts

Music USA Festivals staff will be at each performance location to escort you and your group through the warm-up performance. Students will be asked to stay on the bus as the Director(s) is shown the facility. Please have your musical scores ready for staff to collect. (Do not forget to list any soloists playing during the selection.) We suggest that you designate a head chaperone to collect the music scores after adjudications as well as to collect and sign for any tickets for the event, dinner and/or Awards Ceremony.

Performance Time Limit at Universal Orlando

Warm-up and performance times are different when performing at Universal Orlando. The maximum time for all Choirs is thirty (30) minutes. This includes warm-up, set-up and performance. The maximum time for all Jazz Ensembles, Concert Bands, and Orchestras is forty-five (45) minutes. This includes warm-up, set-up and performance. For marching and concert percussion, the maximum time is fifteen (15) minutes. This includes warm-up, set-up, and performance.

Adjudicator's Scores

Three original scores should be provided for all three judges for all concert performance groups except vocal soloists. In some cases, because of improvisation, scores may not be available for jazz ensembles, show choirs, or concert percussion groups. Scores are not necessary for marching events. Measures need to be numbered with each score. **Music USA Festivals** disclaims all liability in actions resulting from the unlawful reproduction of parts and/or scores of music. Directors are advised to acquaint themselves with the restraints and responsibilities set forth in the Federal Statutes governing copyrights.

Clinics

An important feature of the **Music USA Festivals** adjudication program is our clinic which is provided to each choir, jazz ensemble, orchestra, and concert band by one of the adjudicators at the conclusion of the group's performance. The purpose of this clinic is to provide the adjudicator with an opportunity to discuss and rehearse the group on any areas of weakness and to reinforce the strengths of the group. We strive for a positive learning experience. Please inform your escort, however, if you desire to forgo the clinic. **Also, please note that clinic time may be sacrificed or shortened if you exceed the warm-up and performance time limit.**

Sound System

MUSIC USA FESTIVALS provides a sound system, which includes three (3) microphones for the Instrumental adjudication and three (3) microphones for the Choir adjudication (2 directional mics and one solo mic). Any group requiring an expanded sound system with additional microphones must bring their own systems.

Stage Set-up Crew

Please remember that you must have a stage set-up crew available for each of your performing organizations. Your set-up crew should be prepared to move quickly upon the conclusion of the previous group's performance.

Final Count of Participants

Directors are requested to notify **MUSIC USA FESTIVALS** thirty (30) days prior to your departure for the scheduled festival with a **final exact count** of your total participants. We are required to notify the hotels and restaurants at that time if there is any change in your number of student or adult participants.

Festival Guides

MUSIC USA FESTIVALS staff members will be at each performance location to meet your buses upon arrival and to escort you and your group through warm-up and performance. Your escort will collect the musical scores and Music Performance Selection Forms for the adjudicators when you arrive to check in. The director and/or parent in charge should check in with the festival staff upon arrival and deliver the three (3) original scores for the adjudicators.

Awards Representative

For the Awards Ceremony, we request that each school select two (2) student representatives to report to the stage to accept the awards when your school is called.

Performing Groups and Festival Etiquette

Please place your musical performance first on the day of adjudication. We ask that your scheduling of other activities allow flexibility so that the group can enjoy the maximum benefit from their participation. Directors, students, and chaperones must understand that "entertainment" is not provided at the facility site. The purpose of the festival is to provide an enriching musical experience. When students are not performing or warming up, please have them quietly and courteously watch other group's performances. They are not to enter or exit, however, during the actual adjudication performance.

Performance Times

Performance times are selected at the time the \$10 per student deposit is received. All payments must be received on time to keep the selected performance times. Groups not making payments on time will have a performance on their selected date, but the times will be subject to what is available at the time the payments are received.

Rehearsals

Rehearsal space at any hotel cannot be guaranteed and should be requested months in advance. The hotel may charge an additional amount for this space even though you are a guest. Music USA Festivals will not be able to supply any music stands, equipment, or choral risers for rehearsals.

What We Supply

At the adjudication site, **Music USA Festivals** will supply a sound system with three microphones for Instrumental and Choral groups (any groups requiring an expanded sound system with additional microphones and amps must bring their own): four timpani, xylophone, symphonic chimes, acoustic piano and a concert band drum, music stands and risers for performance area. We do not promise dressing rooms, cafeterias, instrument storage rooms, or rooms and hallways for students to “hang out”. Do not bring instrument cases into the changing facility, except for emergency situations, extreme inclement weather, and stringed instruments. Instrument cases cannot be left in the warm-up room, since other groups will be immediately using the room when you are finished.

Universal Orlando

There is not a warm up area at Universal Orlando. Warm up is done “on stage” and is immediately followed by their performance. There is no longer a changing facility at Universal Orlando. Please arrive “dressed” or plan on changing on your buses.

Instrument cases should be left on the bus.