

Twelve Corners Middle School

SPRING SOLO FESTIVAL INFORMATION

February 17th, 2019

Dear 8th Grade Band Families,

Your child is invited to participate in the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Solo Festival to be held at **Calkins Road Middle School (1899 Calkins Road, Pittsford)** on **Monday, May 20th**. This is an optional event at which instrumental students from across Monroe County perform a solo in front of a judge who evaluates each performance. Judges also provide suggestions on how each student can improve his or her playing.

Spring Solo Festival differs from January Solo Festival in that it is organized by New York State (New York State School Music Association), as opposed to Monroe County (Monroe County Music Educators Association). This means that any student who would like to be eligible for **Jr. High Area All-State** or **NYSBDA High School Honor Band** must attend Spring Solo Festival. Students must perform a Level 4 or higher solo to be in contention for these ensembles due to the fact that it encompasses several surrounding counties in addition to Monroe County.

Brighton's Music Department encourages student participation in Solo Festival because we feel that performing a solo can help students gain confidence and independence in playing their instrument. There is a **\$16** fee for students opting to perform a Level I-IV solo at the festival. The fee for students playing a level V or VI solo is **\$24**. Your child is performing a level _____ solo.

In addition to the fee, **students must also purchase an original copy of their solo**. This is because solo festival rules prohibit the use of duplicated (photocopied) music. Music usually costs between \$4 and \$12. After we are sure of which solo your child has chosen, I will send home information about where and how to order the original manuscript. To ensure that all sheet music arrives before the festival, solos should be ordered by the end of April. Students who already own an original copy of their solo should see me as soon as possible so that we can double-check to make sure it is the correct arrangement, publisher, etc.

Parents will need to arrange for transportation for their child to and from Calkins Road Middle School. Please arrive 30 minutes before to your performance to allow enough time to register, warm-up, and find your room. Check your family schedule and please specify your preference for performance time on the attached permission slip. Performance times will be passed along to parents and students as soon as they are made available. Once they are set, they are virtually impossible to change, so please mark your calendars right away! I register the kids online, so the earlier you send in your permission slip, the better the chance that you will get your requested time.

If you are interested in having your child participate in this event, please return the attached permission slip to Ms. Lamb by Monday, March 18th with the \$16 or \$24 registration fee. **Checks should be made payable to: Brighton Central Schools.**

I am looking forward to hearing from you and appreciate the opportunity to help your child prepare for this special event. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me. As always, thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Ms. Kendra Lamb

8th Grade Band Director

PERMISSION SLIP

New York State School Music Association

SOLO FESTIVAL

Calkins Road Middle School (1899 Calkins Road, Pittsford)

MONDAY, MAY 20th

Due by MONDAY, March 18th

(please check **all** that apply)

_____ **YES**, I am interested in having my son/daughter participate in this festival.

_____ We have *no preference* regarding performance times.

_____ We prefer a Monday afternoon (4-6pm) time.

_____ We prefer a Monday evening (7-9pm) time.

_____ I will be making arrangements for my child to have piano accompaniment*. The accompanist's name is:

*Please note: I do not send students with piano accompaniment. If a parent or family member/friend is available to accompany your child, that is fine **BUT, I MUST know at the time of registration**. I will need to know the accompanist's name and I will need to hear the student play with the accompanist at least once (preferably twice) before the festival. Please plan accordingly IF you choose to have your child accompanied. ***Piano accompaniment is NOT required for participation in solo festival.***

STUDENT NAME

PARENT SIGNATURE