

FIRST ANNUAL MMEA 2010 YOUNG COMPOSERS FESTIVAL

A CALL FOR COMPOSITIONS

Students in grades K-12 are invited to submit original compositions for the **First Annual MMEA Young Composers Festival**. Each student who submits a composition will receive a MMEA Certificate of Participation and written feedback on his/her piece from a professional composer. The compositions may be in any style and genre. Please note: MMEA will not be accepting compositions for electronic instruments at this time.

Each submitted composition will be considered for inclusion in the **First Annual MMEA Young Composers Honor Festival Concert** at the May MMEA In-Service Conference. Composers of selected pieces will also participate in the MMEA Young Composers Workshop – a master class with professional composers. In addition to having a composition premiered at the MMEA Festival, one young composer will have his/her piece performed by **Portland Symphony Orchestra during its Spring 2010 Youth Concert Series**.

Eligibility:

- This festival is open to all K-12 students.
- Composers must be students of an MMEA member or attend a school that has paid MMEA institutional fees for festival participation.

Submission Requirements:

- Submission fee: (\$30) for each composition entry. Make check payable to MMEA.
- Each student may submit as many as two (2) compositions.
- Compositions may not exceed five (5) minutes in length. Pieces must be at least 3 minutes in length to be considered for PSO performance. Multiple movements totaling 3 to 5 minutes are acceptable.
- All entries must include a score and a recorded performance (CD). Scores and recordings will not be returned, so please do not send originals.
- MIDI files may be used as performances, but please do not submit data files (Sibelius, Finale, etc.).
- A brief program note written by the composer must accompany each entry.

Evaluation Criteria & Timeline:

- Evaluation is based on five criteria: Intent, Expressivity, Artistic Craftsmanship, Originality and Overall Appeal
- The festival committee will attempt to select pieces in a variety of styles and genres representing work in three age categories (K-4, 5-8, 9-12).
- Students and teachers will receive composition evaluations in late January/early February, 2010.

Performance:

- If a composition is selected for inclusion in the MMEA Young Composers Honors Festival Concert, the committee will assist in the recruitment of performers, but cannot guarantee a performance.
- Composers of selected compositions are expected to attend the conference and participate in all Young Composer events.

Submissions must be postmarked by November 1, 2009 and sent to:

Dr. Michele Kaschub
MMEA Composition Chair
25 Majestic Heights
Windham, ME 04062

For further information, please contact Dr. Michele Kaschub by email kaschub@usm.maine.edu.

**MMEA YOUNG COMPOSERS FESTIVAL APPLICATION
2009-2010**

(Please print clearly. Submit a separate form for each entry.)

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Home Address _____

City, Zip code _____ Phone () _____

Parent/Guardian _____

School _____

School Address _____

School City, Zip code _____

Music Teacher's Name _____ MENC membership # _____

Teacher Email _____ School Phone () _____

Check the appropriate category: (separate application for each composition)

_____ instrumental solo _____ vocal solo _____ piano solo

_____ instrumental ensemble _____ vocal ensemble _____ vocal jazz

_____ collaborative work (two or more composers) _____ instrumental jazz

Program note _____

We hereby certify that the musical composition being submitted with this application is the original work of the student(s) named above. The text, if applicable, has been authorized for public usage, and is not presently copyrighted.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Music Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

Submissions must be postmarked by November 1, 2009 and sent to:

Dr. Michele Kaschub
MMEA Composition
25 Majestic Heights
Windham, ME 04062

The YOUNG COMPOSERS FESTIVAL APPLICATION will be available on the MMEA website and in the MMEA Handbook.

Ready to get started?

SELECTED RESOURCES FOR TEACHING COMPOSITION

Books:

Kaschub, M. and Smith, J. P. (2009 - release date May 28). *Minds on Music: Composition for Creative and Critical Thinking*. Lanham, MD: R&L Education—A Division of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. (Guide to composer development K-12 general and ensemble settings, curriculum development/lesson planning, assessment and more.)

Why and How to Teach Music Composition: A New Horizon for Music Education (2003). M. Hickey (Ed). MENC: Reston, VA. (Series of discussion papers about teaching composition).

Wiggins, J. (1990) *Composition in the Classroom: A Tool for Teaching*. MENC: Reston, VA. (Primarily intended for classroom music K-5)

Articles:

Ginocchio, J. (2003) *Making Composition Work in Your Music Program*. MEJ, September.

Hickey, M. (1997) *Teaching Ensembles to Compose and Improvise*. MEJ, May.

Kaschub, M. (1997). *Exercising the musical imagination*. *Music Educators Journal*, 84 (3), 26-32.

Kaschub, M. (1997) *Composition in the choral rehearsal*. *Music Educators Journal*, 84 (1) 28-33.

Ruthmann, A. (2008) *Whose agency matters? Negotiating pedagogical and creative intent during composing experiences*. *Research Studies in Music Education*, 30 (1), 43-58