

CIRCUIT TALK

JANUARY 2024

WWW.MCCGA.ORG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- REVIEW YOUR COMPETITION SUITE ACCESS!!! DOUBLE-CHECK THAT YOUR STAFF IS CURRENT AND UP TO DATE. DO THIS BEFORE THE COMPETITIVE SEASON STARTS!
- CRITIQUE SIGN-UPS ARE AVAILABLE. EACH SIGN-UP DOES HAVE A DEADLINE SO BE SURE TO GET SIGNED UP ASAP!
- DIRECTORS SHOULD REVIEW THE TIMING AND PENALTIES SECTION OF THE WGI RULEBOOK
- UNIT FACT SHEETS NEED TO BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN 1 WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST PERFORMANCE.
- TICKET PRICES FOR ALL REGULAR SEASON FESTIVALS ARE NOW \$9 FOR AGES 5 AND ABOVE. 4 AND UNDER ARE ADMITTED FREE.
- SEASON PHOTOGRAPHY PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE! CONTACT BELINDA TO LOCK IN THE DISCOUNTED RATE!

THERE ARE STILL A FEW SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR THE WGI KANSAS CITY REGIONAL. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 19TH!

DIRECTOR TIPS AND TRICKS

- CHECK ON YOUR STUDENTS! NOW IS THE TIME IN THE SEASON WHERE INJURIES START SHOWING UP! MAKE SURE TO CHECK IN WITH YOUR STUDENTS ON BOTH THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH!
- GETTING ON AND OFF THE FLOOR DOES NOT HAVE TO BE A STRESSFUL THING. SCHEDULE SOME TIME NOW TO PRACTICE HOW YOUR TEAM WILL GET ON/OFF THE FLOOR SO YOUR STUDENTS ARE SET UP FOR SUCCESS!
- HAVE A QUESTION OR TIPS/TRICKS TO SHARE????? EMAIL PUBLCRELATIONS@MCCGA.ORG



MCCGA

EDUCATION CORNER

with Troy Peterson

TROY PETERSON TAKES US FROM START TO FINISH THROUGH A COMPETITION DAY!

MCCGA PRE CONTEST CHECKLIST

- 1) BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR "UNIT FACT SHEET" ONLINE (ONCE THE LINK IS AVAILABLE) BEFORE YOUR FIRST FESTIVAL. ONLY ONE "FACT SHEET" MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON. IF YOU NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE OR UPDATE, RE-SUBMIT VIA THE LINK ON MCCGA.ORG
- 2) COMPETITION SUITE--EACH UNIT MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE COMPETITION SUITE TO RECEIVE COMMENTARY. PLEASE UPDATE ANY 2024 STAFF MEMBERSHIP. THIS CAN BE DONE AT THE TOP OF YOUR ENSEMBLES COMPETITION SUITE PAGE. SELECT THE "STAFF MANAGEMENT" TAB AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS WAS VERIFY MEMBERSHIP.
- 3) EDUCATE PARENTS/STAFF/MEMBERS ABOUT CONTEST ETIQUETTE. ENSURE PARENTS KNOW THERE IS AN ADMISSION CHARGE FOR ALL EVENTS AND TELL THEM TO ARRIVE EARLY SO THEY DON'T MISS YOUR PERFORMANCE. PLEASE SHARE THAT THERE IS A "NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY" RULE AT EVENTS. SPECTATORS SHOULD NOT TALK OR BE DISTRACTING DURING PERFORMANCES. SPECTATORS SHOULD NOT ENTER OR LEAVE DURING PERFORMANCES. SPECTATORS SHOULD ENCOURAGE ALL PERFORMING UNITS ON THE FLOOR WITH CHEERS AND APPLAUSE.
- 4) TO AVOID PROBLEMS AND DELAYS, ENSURE YOUR PROPS AND EQUIPMENT CAN FIT THROUGH A STANDARD DOOR BEFORE ARRIVAL. IT'S A GREAT IDEA TO PRACTICE WITH YOUR FLOOR CREW BEFORE YOUR FIRST PERFORMANCE AND DISCUSS LOADING AND UNLOADING PROPS FOR PERFORMANCES. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW IF THERE WILL BE PROP STORAGE, WHERE IT IS AT SHOW SITES, AND TIMES FOR UNLOADING/LOADING PROPS AND PROPS AT THE READY LINE. COMMUNICATE THIS WITH YOUR FLOOR CREW.
- 5) ALWAYS CHECK THE MCCGA WEBSITE FOR LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS, PERFORMANCE TIMES, MAPS, ETC. SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO PROMOTIONS DURING THE SEASON. CHECK THE SCHEDULE FREQUENTLY DURING A SHOW WEEK. COMPETITION SUITE WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE ANY LAST-MINUTE DETAILS. MAKE SURE YOUR EMAIL AND CELL NUMBER ARE UP-TO-DATE ON "CS"!
- 6) DOWNLOAD THE INFORMATION PACKET FROM THE WEBSITE TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE CONTEST SITE; PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE TIMELINE TO ENSURE YOUR FLOOR IS FOLDED CORRECTLY.



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DAY OF CONTEST SITE INFORMATION

- 1) UNIT CHECK-IN. ALL UNIT MEMBERS SHOULD CHECK IN WITH THEIR UNIT DIRECTOR AT EACH CONTEST.
- 2) CHECK-IN MEMBERS PLUS SEVEN FLOOR CREW MEMBERS. ALL OTHERS WILL NEED TO PURCHASE A TICKET. DIRECTOR'S BADGES WILL BE ISSUED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON AND SHOULD BE WORN TO ALL SHOWS. IF A UNIT DIRECTOR DOES NOT WEAR/LOSES DIRECTOR BADGE, YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED TO UTILIZE ONE OF YOUR FLOOR CREW PASSES.
- 3) UNLOAD EQUIPMENT, PROPS, ETC., AND STORE IN DESIGNATED AREA. PARK BUSES AND TRUCKS/TRAILERS IN DESIGNATED OR APPROPRIATE AREAS.
- 4) UNIT STORAGE AREA (SOMETIMES IN HALLWAYS, DESIGNATED CLASSROOM) IS WHERE YOUR GROUP WILL PUT BELONGINGS. HOST SITES ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY. HAVING ONE OF YOUR PARENTS MONITOR YOUR AREA AT ALL TIMES IS RECOMMENDED. REMIND YOUR STUDENTS NOT TO REFRAIN FROM BRINGING VALUABLES. FLOOR COVERING/PROP STORAGE MAY BE IN A DIFFERENT PART OF THE BUILDING.
- 5) SPECTATOR RESTROOMS SHOULD ONLY BE USED AS CHANGING AREAS IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. PERFORMING MEMBERS SHOULD NOT "TAKE OVER" SPECTATOR RESTROOMS FOR SHOW PREPARATION. DISCUSS AND PLAN WITH YOUR MEMBERS HOW TO AVOID THESE COMMON COMPLAINTS/CONCERNS BY SPECTATORS.
- 6) FOR THE SAFETY AND HEALTH OF YOUR UNIT, PERFORMERS SHOULD WEAR FOOTWEAR (SHOES/FLIP FLOPS, ETC.) INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE SHOW SITE. FOOTWEAR IS NOT REQUIRED DURING YOUR PERFORMANCE. IF YOU ARE NOT WEARING FOOTWEAR, CONSIDER HAVING A STORAGE CONTAINER TO COLLECT SHOES BEFORE ENTERING THE PERFORMANCE FLOOR.
- 7) CONTEST FLOW - FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF/YOUR STAFF/CREW WITH THE SHOW'S FLOW. IF THERE IS A QUESTION OR CONCERN, CONTACT THE CONTEST DIRECTOR OR FESTIVAL HOST. VERIFY THE TIMELINE TO ENSURE YOUR FLOOR COVERING, PROPS, ETC., ARE ORGANIZED AND READY TO GO. PRACTICE WITH YOUR UNIT & PARENT CREW GETTING ON AND OFF THE FLOOR.
- 8) PRE-WARM-UP AREA - PLEASE BE PROFESSIONAL AND RESPECT OTHER UNITS BEFORE THE ESTABLISHED WARM-UP SCHEDULE. SOMETIMES, HALLWAY SPACE MAY ONLY ACCOMMODATE YOUR GROUP AT ALL EVENTS. THERE SHOULD NEVER BE ANY PRE-WARM-UP IN HALLWAYS, CLASSROOMS, OR OTHER INDOOR COMMON AREAS AT A SHOW SITE. UNITS MAY PRE-WARM UP IN AREAS OUT THE SIDE OF THE PERFORMANCE BUILDING. BE AWARE OF SAFETY AND WEATHER CONDITIONS.
- 9) OFFICIAL WARM-UPS & INSPECTION -THESE ARE YOUR EQUIPMENT WARM-UPS. TIMES ARE FOUND ON THE DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EACH SHOW. THERE MAY BE A HOST GUIDE WHO WILL MEET YOU AND MAKE SURE YOU ARE AT THIS CHECKPOINT ON TIME.
- 10) TAPE AND PADDING - ACCORDING TO WGI PERCUSSION RULES:
"FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE WOODEN COMPETITION FLOORS, ALL EQUIPMENT MUST BE PROPERLY TAPED OR OTHERWISE BE PREPARED TO ASSURE THAT DAMAGE TO THE FLOORS WILL NOT OCCUR. INSPECTION WILL OCCUR AT ALL REGIONALS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS. DAMAGE TO THE FLOOR, SUCH AS BY DRAGGING THE TYMPANI; WHEELS ON CARTS LOCKING, ETC., WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ENSEMBLES AND IS SUBJECT TO PENALTY."



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CLEARLY, THIS IS A VAGUE AND BROAD DEFINITION, AND THE SUBSEQUENT PENALTY IS AS WELL (.1 UP TO DISQUALIFICATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHIEF JUDGE). THE RATIONALE FOR THE RULE IS THAT ANY ITEM THAT MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FLOOR MUST BE TAPED OR PADDED TO PROVIDE PROTECTION. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE RULE ALLOWS FOR PENALTIES FOR DAMAGING THE FLOOR, NOT FOR NOT TAPING OR PADDING EQUIPMENT.

SO, IT IS NOT AGAINST THE RULES TO NOT TAPE OR PAD EQUIPMENT. STILL, IT PUTS THE UNIT AT RISK FOR NOT DOING SO AND, AS AN MCCGA POLICY TO PROTECT OUR FESTIVAL HOSTS, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE TAPED OR PADDED BEFORE ENTERING THE PERFORMANCE AREA (REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE UNIT USES A TARP OR NOT):

TIMPANI PEDALS (WHERE THE TYMPANI PEDAL RESTS ON OR NEAR THE FLOOR)

VIBRAPHONE, CHIME, OR OTHER PEDALS (WHERE SUCH PEDAL MAY TOUCH AND DAMAGE THE FLOOR)

MUSIC STAND BASES

WHEEL LOCKS THAT MAY CONTACT THE FLOOR (IF THEY ARE LONG ENOUGH TO DO SO IF OVEREXTENDED)
THE BASES OF ANY PROPS

ADDITIONALLY, ALL WHEELS ON CARTS PROPS, AND EQUIPMENT MUST BE IN GOOD WORKING ORDER

THIS LIST IS MEANT TO BE AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST. SUPPOSE THERE IS AN ITEM THAT A FESTIVAL HOST BELIEVES MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FLOOR. IN THAT CASE, THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR MUST BE ADVISED IMMEDIATELY SO THE FESTIVAL IS NOT DELAYED. ONLY THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR MAY PROHIBIT A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT FROM ENTERING THE PERFORMANCE AREA.

11) READY LINE - THIS IS YOUR STAGING AREA BEFORE PERFORMING. PLEASE KEEP THIS AREA ORGANIZED AND QUIET. DIRECTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR GROUP BEING AT THIS CHECKPOINT ON TIME. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A CURRENT SCHEDULE AND THE CORRECT TIME.

12) PERFORMANCE AREA - THE TIMING & PENALTY JUDGE WILL SIGNAL YOUR GROUP TO BEGIN SET UP. YOU MUST STAY BEHIND THE "TIMELINE" UNTIL THE T&P JUDGE SIGNALS YOUR GROUP TO CROSS. THIS WILL START YOUR INTERVAL TIME. KNOW YOUR TIME!

13) ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURE:

PRIOR TO THE ENSEMBLE ENTERING THE FLOOR TO SETUP, THE TIMING AND PENALTY JUDGE WILL ANNOUNCE THE START OF THE INTERVAL TIME. DURING THIS TIME, MUSIC MAY BE PLAYED THROUGH THE PA SYSTEM.

AS THE ENSEMBLE IS SETTING UP, THE TIMING AND PENALTY JUDGE WILL PERIODICALLY ANNOUNCE THE SETUP TIME TO THE DIRECTOR. THE TIMING AND PENALTY JUDGE WILL ALSO MONITOR THE JUDGES TO BE SURE THEY ARE READY FOR THE START OF THE PERFORMANCE. DURING THIS TIME, MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED THROUGH THE PA SYSTEM.

IF AT ANY TIME THE JUDGES ARE NOT READY, THE INTERVAL TIME WILL BE SUSPENDED AND THE ENSEMBLE WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE SUSPENSION OF THE INTERVAL TIME BY THE TIMING AND PENALTY JUDGE.

IF THE ENSEMBLE HAS ANY PRE-SHOW MUSIC, THE HOUSE MUSIC WILL BE FADED OUT AT THE START OF THE PRE-SHOW MUSIC.

WHEN THE ENSEMBLE IS READY, THE DIRECTOR WILL NOTIFY THE TIMING AND PENALTY JUDGE, AND HE/SHE WILL CUE THE ANNOUNCER. THE MUSIC WILL FADE OUT, AND THE ANNOUNCER WILL SAY: "PLEASE WELCOME FROM (CITY AND STATE/COUNTRY), (NAME OF ENSEMBLE). (PAUSE) PERFORMING THEIR PROGRAM (PROGRAM TITLE), MCCGA IS PROUD TO PRESENT (NAME OF ENSEMBLE)."



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AFTER THE PERFORMANCE, THE ANNOUNCER WILL SAY, "(NAME OF ENSEMBLE) FROM (CITY AND STATE/COUNTRY), UNDER THE DIRECTION OF (DIRECTOR'S NAME)." MUSIC WILL FADE IN AS THE ENSEMBLE LEAVES THE FLOOR. MCCGA ANNOUNCER WILL MAKE NO OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS. ENSEMBLES MUST PLAN ON THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AS PART OF THEIR INTERVAL TIME.

14) RETREAT - EACH UNIT SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST ONE AND AT MOST THREE MEMBERS PRESENT FOR THE AWARDS PRESENTATION. THESE MEMBERS MUST REPORT TO THE DESIGNATED AREA IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LAST COMPETING GROUP'S PERFORMANCE. MEMBERS SHOULD POLITELY SALUTE OR ACKNOWLEDGE WHEN THE ANNOUNCER CALLS YOUR UNIT NAME.

15) CRITIQUE RESERVATIONS-CRITIQUE IS NOT REQUIRED BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. YOU MUST SIGN UP IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND CRITIQUE. THIS SIGNUP SHOULD BE DONE NOW! GO TO THE SHOW SCHEDULE PAGE ON THE MCCGA WEBSITE. CLICK ON YOUR SHOW TO SEE THE UNIT FACT SHEET AND CRITIQUE SIGNUP. GET IT DONE TODAY!

16) HOW TO CRITIQUE

ENSURE YOU HAVE LISTENED TO THE JUDGES' COMMENTS BEFORE THE CRITIQUE. -MAKE NOTES AS TO THE COMMENTS FROM THE JUDGES FOR DIALOG WHEN MEETING.

THE T&P JUDGE WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN IT IS TIME FOR YOUR UNIT TO ENTER.

CRITIQUE IS USUALLY DIVIDED INTO MUSIC, VISUAL, AND EFFECT (WITH BOTH EFFECT JUDGES)...THIS MAY CHANGE, SO STAY TUNED.

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR UNIT TO RECEIVE EDUCATIONAL INPUT THAT WILL BENEFIT THEM FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON. TAKE NOTES.

THIS PROCESS IS ALL ABOUT COMMUNICATION. DID YOUR PERFORMANCE COMMUNICATE WITH THE AUDIENCE AND JUDGES? DID THE JUDGES CREATE A RECORDING THAT COMMUNICATED AND INTERPRETED YOUR SHOW CORRECTLY? THE CRITIQUE IS A DAUNTING PROCESS OF FILTERING EVERYTHING AND TRYING TO UNDERSTAND IN A 3-MINUTE "ONE-ON-ONE" SETTING. KEEP YOUR EMOTIONS IN CHECK, AND LISTEN AND HEAR WITH AN OPEN MIND.

17) CLEANUP/DEPARTURE - MAKE SURE YOUR STORAGE AREA IS CLEAN. ALWAYS DOUBLE-CHECK TO ENSURE YOUR UNIT HAS EQUIPMENT, COSTUMES, FLOOR COVERINGS, PROPS, ETC.

HAVE A GREAT SEASON!

Region Highlights

Southern Region- Houston High School

- Director- Beth Tapen
- Classification- Scholastic Novice
- Membership- 1st year members of MCCGA
- We're excited to present our program "Spark" using music from Monster High mixed by our in-house percussion technician Tyrese Vanderkuur.



Eastern Region- Wentzville Liberty

- Director- KC Starr
- Classification- Regional A
- Membership- Since 2015
- Awards/Accomplishments- 2 x Gold Medalist and 2x Silver medalist at MCCGA
- Fun Facts- Half of our team is made up of Seniors this year!
- Shout to our WSD fam
#wearewentzville!



Region Highlights

Western Region- Liberty High School

- Director- Jessica Woods
- Classification- Scholastic A
- Membership- Have been a member of MCCGA since 2013
- Awards/Accomplishments- WGI Scholastic A finalist 2022 and have made finals several times at WGI regionals.
- Traditions- The guard loves having a holiday party and doing a sock exchange at the last practice of December.



Meet your Percussion & Winds Board

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION- REACH OUT TO A MEMBER FOR HELP AND ADVICE!



Josh Janes
Percussion & Winds
Education Director



Troy Peterson
Percussion & Winds
Coordinator



Nathan Spurling
Percussion & Winds
Advisory Board