



Crone Middle School Music Department

4020 111th Street
Naperville, IL 60564

Crone Middle School Students and Band Parents:

All band students have the opportunity to participate in this year's Solo and Ensemble Festival to be held Saturday, February 20, 2016 at Scullen Middle School. Learning a solo or an ensemble and performing for a judge is an important step on the road to musical independence. Although this is not a required music department activity, **we encourage all students to participate.**

Which musical activity can I participate in at Solo and Ensemble?

- Solo (instrument and piano accompaniment)
- Ensemble (Duet, Trio, Quartet, etc...)

6th Grade Students may only perform a solo for solo and ensemble out of the Festival Solo Book 1.

What is solo and ensemble?

Once the student indicates interest, we will help him/her choose a piece. On February 20th, the student(s) will perform the solo or ensemble for an adjudicator who will provide a written evaluation of the performance. The judge will provide a rating based upon their performance. **This is not a competitive situation, but an opportunity for musical growth for students at any ability level.** The Solo and Ensemble experience is very similar to the solos we perform in class and technique.

How does each student prepare?

We will be available before and after school to work with students on their music. Each student will sign up for several 10-minute help sessions that best fit his/her schedule. Sign-up sheets will be posted beginning in December. **If you have a professional private instructor, you will not be required to come in for a help session. However, your private teacher will be signing a progress report three times before February 12th.** Rehearsals with piano accompanists will begin in early February.

Is there any cost involved in participation?

All students performing a solo must be accompanied by a pianist. There will be a **\$30.00** fee for this service. This fee is paid directly to the accompanist and covers practices with the pianist as well as the performance on the day of the contest. An accompanist may charge more for additional rehearsals if needed for longer, very advanced solos. **Please do not send a check to school for the accompanist fee until the rehearsals with the accompanist begin.**

You are also responsible for paying an entry fee. The entry fee pays for the judges, the cost of transporting and renting pianos, and other details that cost money when putting on a large event such as the Solo & Ensemble Festival.

The cost is \$9 per solo and \$5 per each ensemble member. This fee MUST be paid when you turn in the attached form. Please fill out the attached form and return to your band teacher. **Please make checks payable to Crone Middle School.**

Do I need to purchase the music for Solo and Ensemble?

Students will be responsible for the purchase of an original copy of the piece of music they choose to perform. Each student must have this original copy of the music for the Festival. This is the "judge's copy" and is required for each solo or ensemble. Students will NOT be allowed to give the judge a photo copy of the piece that they are performing.

Solo and Ensemble Schedule

All solos and ensembles will be scheduled between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on February 20th. Some special scheduling needs can be met if we know early enough, for example, "morning only because we have a wedding that afternoon." The closer we get to the actual contest date the more difficult it becomes to make changes in the scheduling. The students will be at the performance site about 1 1/2 hours total for the solo and/or ensemble experience: warm-up, performance, and waiting for the ratings.

What do you need to do as a student?

- ✓ Meet with your private teacher or band director to choose a solo and/or ensemble.
- ✓ Each solo or ensemble must have at least **28 measures**.
- ✓ Make sure you get plenty of help from us or your private teacher.
- ✓ Always come to the help sessions you sign up for.
- ✓ Make sure that the measures are numbered on your original copy.

What do you need to do as a parent?

- ✓ Provide transportation to the contest site (**Scullen Middle School**) and to all help sessions.
- ✓ Please be punctual to help sessions and the day of the festival.
- ✓ Be responsible for the accompanist fee and participation fee.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us! We hope to see you at the Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Mrs. Roberts

Mr. Timmins



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Music Department**

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Student Name _____ Instrument _____ Years Played _____

Solo and Ensemble Registration
will take place on the
Crone Band Website.

**Please visit the HOME PAGE of the Crone Band Website, and fill in the
required Solo and Ensemble information**

by

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2015!

The link is listed below:

www.cronebands.weebly.com

**Please turn in the following by
Monday, November 23, 2015:**

- ✓ This page and S & E Online Registration (Crone Band Website)
- ✓ An envelope containing entry fee(s)
- ✓ A copy of the piano accompaniment for your solo

Fees

_____ solo @ \$9 each = \$ _____
_____ ensembles @ \$5 each = \$ _____ (no 6th graders for ensembles)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

**DO NOT SEND THE
ACCOMPANIST FEE AT
THIS TIME!**

I have read the guidelines outlined above and give my student permission to participate in **Solo & Ensemble Contest** to be held on Saturday, February 20, 2016. I have made the check for the participation fee **payable to Crone Middle School Music.**

Student Signature _____ Print Student Name _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____ Phone _____