

Gary Wilkes, All State Symphony Manager  
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Dear All-State Symphony Member:

On behalf of the Tennessee Music Education Association and the orchestra directors of Tennessee, congratulations on selection for membership into the **2020 Tennessee All-State Symphony Orchestra!** Not only have you shown excellence in your playing ability, but your achievement also demonstrates your dedication to your community and school.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of several pertinent matters regarding the All-State Orchestra, seating auditions, and some obligations you will have by being a member of the orchestra. After you have read this letter and have gotten schedule information from your director, if you still have questions regarding anything pertaining to All-State, please email me and I will do my best to answer your question. If you consider your question an emergency, please call me and leave a message.

Your music will be available from your director, who will download it from a secure website. The Orchestra will be conducted by Kevin Noe, the Conductor of Orchestras at Michigan State University. The repertoire this year is *Billy the Kid Ballet-Suite* by Aaron Copland and *Roman Carnival Overture* by Hector Berlioz.

If you are not familiar with this music, I strongly encourage you to listen to recordings of these works as you prepare this material for seating auditions. You are responsible for the entirety of this music as well as ALL the wind, brass and percussion parts for your section. The only music used in the seating audition is the concert repertoire. **There will be no scales nor sight-reading in auditions.**

Strings: Please observe all bowings. Please bring an extra set of strings if possible for emergencies. Bring a music stand with you

Basses: if you use a stool for rehearsals/performances, you will need to bring one. Bring a music stand with you.

Woodwinds, brass and percussion: You are responsible for **all** parts for your instrument. Bring a music stand with you.

- **Learn all parts, with the exceptions marked below. Your audition could come from any of the parts, not just 1st.**
  - **Flute:** learn parts 1, 2 and piccolo. Each of you should plan on bringing a piccolo to All State as well as flute.
  - **Clarinet:** Learn parts 1 and 2. For your convenience, I included both Bb and A Clarinet parts on the Berlioz. If you have access to an A Clarinet, it will be easier to learn the part.
  - **Oboe:** There is a monster English Horn part on the Berlioz. It is expected that **All** of you will audition on the English Horn solo.
  - **Brass:** If your part calls for mutes, please make sure you bring appropriate materials.

- Please be aware of any transpositions within your parts. It is your responsibility to prepare these correctly.
- **Percussion:** please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes early to the first rehearsal to finalize parts/set up. You will be contacted within the next few weeks about bringing some of the smaller instruments to all state.

You will need to register and pick up your name badge and packet at the Tennessee Lobby on Wednesday, April 15 beginning at **3:00 PM CST**. Audition and warm-up locations will be posted then and excerpts will be posted shortly after **5:00 PM** in the warm-up area. The actual auditions will begin shortly after excerpts are posted, please refer to the All State schedule provided by your teacher for the specific time. Your directors have warm-up and audition location information as well as the schedule for the clinic on the TMEA website under All State Director Packet. Concert time and location information will be included in that packet as well.

There is a Rules and Regulations form, available from your director, that you should have already filled out and given to your director. If you have not done this yet, please see your director about completing this step immediately, and be sure that you are familiar with all of the information on this form, including cell phone usage and arriving early to rehearsals.

Please remember, if you have any questions, please feel free to email me. I am looking forward to meeting each of you in Nashville! And **bring a music stand with you.**

Sincerely,

Gary Wilkes

Tennessee All-State Symphony Orchestra Chair

Director of Orchestras, Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences  
Music Director, Chattanooga Youth Symphony