## 2019 Tennessee All State Symphony Orchestra Gary Wilkes, Orchestra Manager (423) 718-4874 gwilkes428@gmail.com

Dear All-State Symphony Orchestra Member:

On behalf of the Tennessee Music Education Association and the orchestra directors of Tennessee, congratulations on your selection for membership into the **2019 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 Symphony, 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 <u>email</u> 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 Dr. Gary Lewis, Music Director and Conductor for the University of Colorado, Boulder. The repertoire this year is *Festive Overture* by Dmitri Shostakovich and *Pines of Rome* by Ottorino Respighi. 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. <u>You are responsible for the entirety of this music</u>. The only music used in the seating audition is the concert repertoire. **There will be <u>no</u> scales nor sight-reading in auditions**.

## <u>Strings</u>:

Please observe all bowings. Please bring an extra set of strings if possible for emergencies as well as **mutes** when applicable.

## Woodwinds, brass and percussion :

You are responsible for <u>ALL</u> the various parts for your instrument. There are solos in the music that are not necessarily in the principal parts.

- Learn all parts, with the exceptions marked below. Your audition could come from any of the parts, not just 1st.
  - o Flute: learn parts 1 and 2 and piccolo.
  - o Oboe/English Horn: There are major parts for each of these. You will need to be prepared to audition on both instruments.
  - Clarinet: Learn parts 1 and 2 and be aware that there are parts in the music that call for an **<u>A clarinet</u>** as well as Bb.
  - o Brass: If your part calls for mutes, please make sure you bring appropriate materials and more importantly, please be aware of any transpositions or clef changes within your parts. It is your responsibility to prepare these correctly.
  - o Percussion please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes early to the first rehearsal to finalize parts/set up.

Your director will need to register and pick up your name badge and packet at the Presidential Lobby at the Opryland Hotel and Convention Center on Wednesday, April 10 beginning at **3:00 PM CST.** 

Next, **YOU** wil report to the Presidential Lobby (location could change, look for signs/tables) to sign in and pick up your AUDITION TICKET. Each ensemble will have a registration table. Look for your ensemble to register. You will be assigned a unique audition letter. You will only share the letter/ticket with the monitor for your instrument's audition room. You will sign stating you have received your audition ticket at the audition registration table for your ensemble. Please note: Directors and parents are NOT allowed to pick up the student's audition ticket. This will be strictly enforced. DO NOT LOSE YOUR AUDITION TICKET!

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 at 6 PM 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. If you are not familiar with Opryland, you should plan to arrive early so you may get acquainted with the vastness of this place. It's easy to get lost in there.

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. There will be NO food or drinks other than water allowed in the rehearsal room.

Please remember, if you have any questions, please feel free to email me. I am looking forward to meeting each of you in Nashville!

Sincerely,

Gary Wilkes

Tennessee All-State Symphony Orchestra Chair Director, Chattanooga School for the Arts & Sciences Music Director, Chattanooga Youth Symphony