KMEA JAZZ FESTIVAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Each middle school and high school jazz ensemble will be given twenty-five minutes of performance time. Jazz Combos will be given twenty minutes total of performance time because with fewer members, they will not require as much set-up/tear-down time. All participating directors/groups are asked to schedule time to listen to at least two other performances during the jazz festival.

A Jazz Ensemble is defined as a group consisting of:
   1. 2–5 Saxophone parts
   2. 2–5 Trombone parts
   3. 2–5 Trumpet parts
   4. Rhythm section (guitar and/or piano, bass, percussion)

Vocalists may perform as soloists with the jazz ensemble.

All parts listed in the musical score for each piece performed MUST be covered by the written instrument OR by a non-standard instrument playing in the same range as the written instrument. Non-standard instruments may perform where necessary to ensure that all parts in the written score are being performed. The term “non-standard instruments” includes instruments such as flute, clarinet, double reeds, horn, baritone, or tuba. These instruments are only considered “non-standard” in pieces where they are not included in the musical scored by the composer.

A Jazz Combo is defined as a group consisting of:
   1. a rhythm section with one piano or guitar, one bass player, and one set drummer
      AND
   2. 1–3 wind players (any mixture of brass or woodwind instruments)

Style Requirements for Repertoire
Each Jazz Ensemble or Jazz Combo should perform a program that features contrasting styles. All high school and middle school groups must perform at least one SWING piece and a second piece that is either a BALLAD or LATIN style. Each ensemble and combo may perform a third selection as long as the combined performance time for all selections does not cause the ensemble or combo to exceed its allotted time on stage. The third selection may be of any contrasting style the director chooses. Repertoire lists for middle school ensembles and high school ensembles are provided to assist directors in programming quality literature for their ensembles and combos, but selection from these lists is not required.

Sight-Reading is not required for groups classified as jazz ensembles that participate in the KMEA Jazz Assessments. (Groups classified as Jazz Combos will not sight-read.) During the first two years (2011 and 2012), middle and high school jazz ensembles will have the option previewing the sight-reading material and providing feedback to the festival manager about the sight-reading process (appropriateness of music, procedural suggestions, etc.). The middle school sight-reading selection will be very easy (.5–1) level, and the high school sight reading selection will be medium easy (2.5–3) level.

In the sight-reading room, directors will have two minutes to look over the score and five minutes to go over the selection with the students. No teacher or student may play an instrument until it is time to perform the sight-reading piece. Following the ensemble’s performance, the adjudicator will use the remaining sight-reading time to provide an additional clinic with the teacher and students.