**Honors and Awards**

**All-State Orchestra**

The Florida Orchestra Association is a component of the Music Educator’s National Conference and oversees several events during the year including the All-State Orchestras for middle and high school age students during its annual conference held in January at the Tampa Convention Center and various Tampa downtown hotels. There are two auditioned All-State high school orchestras: 9th -10th grade string orchestra and 11th - 12th full orchestra. As these orchestras represent the best players in the state of Florida, the competition for these positions is extremely tough. Students who intend to audition for one of these orchestras must prepare several scales, an etude and orchestral excerpt. The student plays these items in front of a teacher who records the student without stopping including a sight reading example. No re-taping is allowed. Live tape auditions take place on **Saturday, September 14, 2019 in block times to be announced and will be held at Strawberry Crest High School**. The tapes are then collected and judged by a panel and results are usually out by Thanksgiving. Each student must submit an **audition fee of $35.00 to Steinbrenner High School by Friday, August 26, 2019**. If a student is selected to the All-State orchestra and cannot attend the convention, he/she must inform the orchestra director no later than November 13, 2019. Lastly, students who audition for an All-State orchestra are encouraged to have been working on the material for several months with a private teacher. The honor orchestra is a group of students chosen by teacher recommendation. All-State orchestra will be held this school year on **January 8th – January 11th 2020**. Please take note that this event will be the week of semester exams. For any other information concerning All-State orchestras, go to the Florida Orchestra Association’s website: [www.myfoa.org](http://www.myfoa.org).

**All-County Orchestra**

The All-County Orchestras are selected from all auditioning string students in Hillsborough County. There are two high school All-County orchestras: 9th -10th string orchestra and 11th -12th full orchestra. Audition material is generally given out in October for students to practice. Live auditions will be held this year on **November 13th beginning at 4:30 pm on a first-come basis at King High School**. The audition material usually consists of one announced scale and one short excerpt. Students who are chosen for this honor are expected to prepare the material well and attend all rehearsals and the concert on time with a positive attitude. Students interested in auditioning for All-County orchestra must fill out a contract and submit it to his/her teacher two weeks prior to the audition date. There is a $5.00 fee for auditioning to off-set the costs of the event. All-County auditions will be held Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at King High School beginning at 4:30 pm. All-County orchestra rehearsals and the concert will be held on January 30 – February 1. Specific times and place will be verified later this year.

**Solo and Ensemble**

The Florida Orchestra Association oversees the annual Solo and Ensemble Festival which will be held Saturday, November 9, 2019 at Strawberry Crest High School. Students are to prepare a solo piece with piano accompaniment or a small ensemble piece. Students who decide to attend the festival must remit a fee of $10 for a solo and $8 for each person in an ensemble per ensemble with a registration commitment to the orchestra director by Friday, October 2, 2019 Students choosing to perform a solo MUST have a piano accompanist. It is up to the student to find an accompanist and work with him/her often as well as agree on payment to the accompanist. About 3 weeks before the event, students will be assigned a time for the performance. Once the paperwork and preparation is complete, students will perform the piece for an adjudicator who will give a rating according to the performance: V-Poor, IV-Fair, III-Good, II-Excellent, I-Superior or Superior with Distinction (a superior memorized performance). Students receiving a rating of superior or superior with distinction are awarded a medal.

**Master Musician**

Master Musician is a program overseen by the Hillsborough County Secondary Music Council. The designation of “Master Musician” requires a great deal of work. Some benefits of becoming a Master Musician are automatic entry into All County (provided the student auditions meeting the minimum performance criteria) and scholarship money for music camps during the summer.

Students who wish to earn this title must complete the following in a professional portfolio:

1. Resume with supporting documentation (copies of sheet music, method books, director recommendation, certificates, judge’s sheets)

2. Recording to include all major scales and arpeggios through 4 sharps and 4 flats as well as a, d and e melodic minor scales, a complete etude from specific books for the instrument and a solo of appropriate difficulty with piano accompaniment.

3. Two from the following options – original composition, music technology, ensemble performance, student conducting or 2 concert critiques.

4. And all students must pass the Master Musician music theory test. Testing times and place are on Orchestra Calendar given twice yearly at a school TBD on Mondays – one in October and one in February. You must pass during the same school year as submitting your portfolio.

5. The portfolio must be turned in directly to Mrs. Szarowicz generally one to two weeks after the date of the theory test.

**Orchestra Certificates-**

All orchestra members in good standing who contribute to the orchestra program will be recognized by a certificate of participation. Orchestra Letter or Orchestra Pin All orchestra students can letter if they meet the following criteria:

1. an “A” in orchestra each quarter

2. overall 2.5 GPA

3. attendance to all orchestra concerts

4. participation in Solo and Ensemble Festival or auditioning for All-County Orchestra is required to be considered for a letter.

5. display of an excellent attitude throughout the year.

**Most Improved 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Grade Orchestra Student** –

Each year, a student is chosen from each grade level who works diligently to improve his/her playing skills and displays an excellent attitude toward orchestra.

**Outstanding 9th, 10th and 11th Grade Orchestra Student**-

Each year, a student is chosen from each underclass grade level who surpasses the required material to show outstanding performing skill and attitude.

**Service Award** –

Each year, one orchestra student is chosen who has displayed personal service to orchestra at every available opportunity. This student volunteers and encourages others to follow his/her example. **Director’s Award** -Each year, one senior student is chosen who is a skillful performer, attempts or achieves All-State or All County Orchestra participation, participates in Solo and Ensemble Festival, promotes the orchestra program at every opportunity and acts as an excellent role model and leader to other orchestra students.