

Dear Orchestra Parents,

Your child has expressed an interest in auditioning for the Texas Music Educators' Association's (TMEA) All-Region orchestra this year. Being a member of the All-Region orchestra is a tremendous honor in our district and I sincerely hope your child chooses to audition for this group. I would like to take the time to explain the audition process to so you and your child can make an informed decision. The auditions will take place on **Saturday, October 19th at Freeman High School**. The audition process will take from 3 hours to 6 hours depending on the instrument the child plays.

Audition Information:

Upon arrival at the site, the students will check in and report to their assigned room. Depending upon the instrument, there could be as many as 40 other students in the room at the same time. When the student's assigned letter(s) is called, the student will be asked to play a portion of the excerpt from the all-region audition music for a panel of 5 judges. The students are not allowed to talk or play their instruments while other students audition. The students play in front of each other but the judges do not see the students. There are monitors in the room to control behavior and announce the students by letter(s). The students are given stretch breaks and warm up time every so often. After every student in the room has completed the audition, the students will be allowed to leave and go home. However, they must stay in the audition room until all the students in their room have completed the audition. Results are posted online after all groups have finished. This is usually in the late afternoon.

Fee and payment:

There is an audition fee of \$12 for any student wishing to participate in the audition. This money helps to pay for the judges, clinicians, and patches. You will pay the audition fee online via Pay N' Go. Please follow the step-by-step instructions included in this packet for payment. **It is different than when you paid the course fee.** The fee and form need to be turned in no later than **Friday, September 27th**. I cannot enter the student to audition unless the fee is paid and the audition contract has been turned in. Please let me know if there are any financial concerns regarding the region fee.

Volunteers needed:

The region requires each school to supply a number of parent volunteers to help on the day of the audition. These volunteers will be in the room with the students while they wait for the judges to travel to their room. There will be morning and afternoon shifts available. Please indicate on the attached form if you are available to volunteer for this event. Each shift will last approximately 3-4 hours. BDJH will need approximately 7 volunteers on the day of the audition.

For those who are accepted:

If accepted, the students must attend all of the region rehearsals and be present for the concert. Before auditioning, the students must fill out the obligation form indicating that they will be available and present for all rehearsals and the performance. Rehearsals will be held on: **December 13th and 14th**. On the evening of **December 14th**, the students in the region orchestra will perform a concert. In addition, the student will receive an all-region patch. In

order for the student to participate in the audition and the concert, the student must be academically eligible. Please review the contract for specific locations and times for all region events before signing. All students must turn a signed contract in to audition.

I hope this letter explains the All-Region process clearly. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at AmyWilliams@katyisd.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ms. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ms. Williams
BDJH Orchestra Director

How to enter the region audition process:

- Student prepares the region music to the best of his/her ability.
- Student and Parent complete the information sheet.
- Parent and student review the contract for the Region 23 orchestra and sign the form.
- Parent pays the \$12 audition fee via Pay N' Go or contacts Ms. Williams with financial concerns.
- Student turns in a physical copy of the completed information sheet and audition contract to Ms. Williams, Mr. Vuu, or Mr. Hulipas

**Please complete the payment and turn the region contract in to
September 27th, 2024**

Region Orchestra Audition Information Sheet

Student name: _____

(Print your name as you would like for it to appear in the program if you make region)

Grade: _____

Instrument: _____

Audition fee instructions:

This is different than when you paid the course fee.

1. Go to katyisd.org
2. Click on the Pay N' Go icon (white icon located in the red bar near the top of the home page)
3. Select the Pay N' Go tile on the left (Pay N' Go Webstore)
4. Select the brown Pay N' Go tile on the right.
5. Login to Pay N' Go
6. Select "Junior Highs"
7. Select "Beckendorff Junior High"
8. Select "Student Activities"
9. Select "BDJH Orchestra"
10. You should now see a payment that says "**Fine Arts fees: region audition orchestra**"
11. Select the fee and complete the payment.

Volunteers Needed:

The region requires that each school provide one parent volunteer for each 10 students auditioning. Based on previous years, I anticipate that BDJH will need about 7 volunteers. The volunteers will remain in the room with the students as they wait for the judges to move to their rooms to hear their audition. You will not be in the room while the students are auditioning. There will be both morning and afternoon shifts available. Each shift will last between 3 and 4 hours. Please indicate below if we can count on you as a volunteer for the day of the audition. We will contact you with specific information prior to the audition date.

_____ Yes, I am willing and able to volunteer at Jordan HS on **Saturday, October 19, 2024**

Printed name of volunteer: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

_____ No, I am not available to volunteer at this event.

2024 Region 23 JH Orchestra Audition Contract

Student First Name _____ Last Name _____

Instrument _____ Student Age _____ Grade _____ Gender _____

School Name _____ Director _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____

Parent/Guardian Phone _____

Before the applicant will be allowed to audition, the applicant and the applicant's parents must read, agree to, and sign the following:

In the event the applicant is invited to become a member of the Region 23 Junior High School Orchestra, the applicant agrees to participate in the orchestra that they are placed in. The Region 23 Orchestra Division believes participation in the Region Orchestra is one of the highest educational processes open to the JH/MS music student. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that every student selected to the Region Orchestra will have participated in all TMEA rehearsals and concerts to the best of their abilities. A student who fails to meet his/her obligations to the Region 23 Orchestras will be entered into the appeals process. Conflicts with other organizations, personal discomforts, personal schedules, etc. will not constitute a reasonable excuse for missing any activities in this Region. *Exceptions: personal illness, hospitalization, and doctors' notes will be dealt with individually at the discretion of the Region Chair. The Region Chair must be notified of such special circumstances immediately.* Absolutely no deviation from this schedule will be allowed. If you cannot meet these obligations, please do not apply for or accept membership in these organizations

Event	Date	Location	Time (Arrival/Start)
JH Auditions	Saturday, Oct. 19th	Freeman High School 7800 Katy Hockley Rd, Katy, TX 77493	8:30am/9:30am
Rehearsals with Clinician & Sectionals	Friday, Dec. 13th	Stockdick JH/Paetow HS 4777 Peek Rd, Katy, TX 77449	5pm/5:15pm-9pm
Rehearsal with Clinician	Saturday, Dec. 14th	Stockdick JH/Paetow HS	8:45am/9am-3:30pm
Concert	Saturday, Dec. 14th	Paetow High School 23111 Stockdick School Rd. Katy, TX 77493	Philharmonic 3:30pm Symphony 4:15pm

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Applicant's Signature

***Registration Fee is \$12**