



# THE POWER OF MUSIC

“The music contest rules are fair for all groups....even less-experienced ensembles. The IESA gives you the flexibility to choose the music which best fits the instrumentation and participation numbers in your group. Whether your band is developing or highly proficient, the IESA music contests are right for you.

If your school already pays the IESA membership dues, why would you pay twice by joining another organization?”

David Conrad, Principal  
Manteno Middle School



*One in three of today's school-aged children will hold an arts-related job at some time in his or her career.*

- Education Commission of the States

*Students with band and orchestra experience attend college at a rate twice the national average.*

- Band Across the USA

## STUDENTS IN MUSIC PROGRAMS:

- \* Achieve significantly higher graduation rates
- \* Improve their overall academic performance
- \* More likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- \* Develop a positive work ethic and pride in their work
- \* Appreciate and understand the world around them
- \* Are more engaged in the learning process
- \* Express themselves creatively

## IESA Music

There are 12 Solo & Ensemble Contests and 11 Organization Contests held annually throughout the state. Typically S&E contests take place in late March or early April and Organization takes place in late April.

Judging is conducted by adult judges and performances are evaluated with adjudication criteria for each event. Judges offer valuable suggestions and encouragement to each contestant.

Each student gets the

chance to compete to their full potential. All participants have the chance to earn the highest rating. Most importantly, each contestant is given a chance to express themselves through their music and bolster their self-confidence.



**Princeville Pep Band**

## National Anthem and Pep Bands

The IESA selects national anthem singers and pep bands to perform at our athletic state tournaments as another way to showcase the music talents of the IESA member schools throughout the state.

“Music is an essential part of everything we do. Like puppetry, music has an abstract quality which speaks to a worldwide audience in a wonderful way that nourishes the soul.”

- Jim Henson – television producer and puppeteer

## IESA

IESA  
1015 Maple Hill Road  
Bloomington, IL 61705

Phone: 309-829-0114  
Fax: 309-829-0625  
E-mail: [iesa@iesa.org](mailto:iesa@iesa.org)



“Participation in IESA Music Contests has greatly improved our program. Solo & Ensemble Contest gives our students that ‘spark’ to improve their playing and creates in them a strong desire to excel. Organization contest gives us a good barometer of where our program stands compared to other districts. We enjoy the preparation, the performance and the sense of reward it gives us in our accomplishment. I couldn't imagine not participating in these contests, it's what drives our program.”

Steve Betz  
Band Director  
Bradley Central Middle School

“The IESA music solo and ensemble contests are well organized and run smoothly due in no small part to the professionalism and actions of the IESA staff. ...you will find them all ready and willing to help in any way possible to make your IESA experience successful for both you and your students. “

Steve Hardwick  
Band Director  
Newton Jasper County Schools

### School Administrators

*Fostering a strong music program in your school will help you achieve your goals as a leader and will aid in the growth and development of the students in your school.*

## How To Become A Member Of The IESA

Membership in IESA is open to all elementary, middle and junior high schools in the state of Illinois who are recognized by the State Board of Education. All member schools are eligible to participate in the activities of Music Solo & Ensemble and Music Organization events.

To inquire about the activities of Music please call the IESA office or access our website at [www.iesa.org](http://www.iesa.org). The Music entry deadline is in the beginning of February every year.

### S&E Event Costs

Solos are \$8.00

Ensembles \$15.00

Choirs \$27.00

**Organization Event Costs \$65.00**

### EVENTS

#### S&E Events

**Solos:** vocal, instrumental (piano, woodwind, brass, percussion, string, hand bells, acoustic guitar)

**Ensembles:** vocal (2-8 performers), instrumental (2-5 performers)

**Choirs:** vocal (9-16 performers), instrumental (6-16 performers)

#### Organization Events

**Concert Band** - no minimum number of performers

**Jazz Bands** - minimum of nine performers

**Choir Chime or Hand-Bell** - minimum of eleven (11) members

**Orchestras** - no minimum number of performers

**Accompanied Chorus** - boys, girls or mixed with no minimum number of performers

**A Capella Chorus** - boys, girls or mixed with no minimum number of performers

**Show Choirs** - minimum number of twelve (12) performers.

