2021 Adjudicator Guidelines for District Festivals

1. After introduction by the chair, you are welcome to make a few comments. This sometimes helps relax the students and dispel some of their fears of being adjudicated.

2. Please note that the students are placed in Age Divisions.
   - Division I, up through the age of 8
   - Division II, 9 through 11
   - Division III, 12 through 14
   - Division IV, 15 through 19 (24 for vocalists)

Please select a maximum of 30% from each division to advance to the Final Event. The District chair should provide you with the exact number for each Age Division. Select as many Honorable Mentions as you wish. Do not place the Honorable Mentions in order. Three-time Baroque Festival winners are not included in the 30%, but they are adjudicated, and with your approval advance to the State Final Event. Every category of instrument and voice is eligible. With the exception of organists, all music must be memorized. Photocopied music will disqualify the student.

2. Write your selections on the Winners Sheet and sign it.

3. When selecting students to advance to the State Final Event, in the case of equal merit, preference should be given to the older student. Decisions should be guided by the musical quality of the performance. Carefully select students who are prepared to advance. These standards of excellence extend from the selection of repertoire to its performance in stylistically appropriate interpretation.

4. Arrive early at the recital location so that you can sign the certificates and the evaluation forms before the recital begins. A worksheet will be provided for you to help you decide on the winners.

5. Write your evaluations as quickly as possible, taking no more than two minutes to write after the student has finished performing. The tension for the students and the audience mounts in direct relationship to the time it takes the adjudicator to write comments. Make your remarks encouraging as well as constructive.