

SELECTION OF THE PIANISTS

The 2025 All-State Music Festival will need piano players for the Band, Chorus, and Orchestra. Students auditioning for an All-State Pianist position must be an eligible member of the school's band, chorus, or orchestra. The registration fee does NOT cover the cost of the music for the students auditioning on piano. Schools will need to make their own arrangements for the music performed by the chorus, including the patriotic numbers. Music may be purchased by contacting Lee Stickney of West Music at: lstickney@westmusic.com or (800) 373-2000. Music for the Band and Orchestra selection may be obtained by contacting the IHSMA office at (515) 432-2013.

Piano auditions will be held in the Scheman Building at Iowa State University, Ames IA, at 9:00 AM, on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. Students may register to audition on piano and another instrument/voice part. Students who are successful will serve as pianists for the ensemble designated and will NOT be permitted a second audition on Saturday.

Requirements For The Piano Auditions:

1. The excerpts of the keyboard parts which are to be played will be posted online (www.ihsma.org) at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025.
2. Each candidate **MUST** prepare all of the piano parts for the Chorus, Band, and Orchestra selections, including the patriotic numbers. Candidates are to take all selections into the audition center.
3. The candidate **MAY** use a student page-turner that is not also auditioning on Piano.
4. The candidate may take 5-10 seconds to familiarize him/herself with the piano in the audition center.
5. The audition:
 - a. The auditor will conduct the candidate on the designated excerpts.
(The following items, b. and c., will not be posted on the night before auditions - the auditor will give the candidate instructions.)
 - b. The auditor will instruct the candidate to find and play a vocal line.
 - c. The auditor will ask the candidate to find and play the starting pitches of a section - the candidate should roll the pitches from the bottom to the top.
6. The candidate will be judged on their ability to play the keyboard parts accurately at the required tempo, their ability to follow a conductor, and their ability to locate and accurately play choral parts and pitches (bottom to top).
7. The candidate will not be required to play the open score.

After all pianists have auditioned, there will be a break, and then a round of call back auditions may be held. ***Those selected will be required to attend rehearsals on Thursday evening, November 20 in Ames.***

REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS IN AMES

If your school is to be represented in Ames, directors will receive a final mailing containing students' names (for you to proof for spelling), directors' responsibilities, complete rules and regulations, and a map of the Iowa State Center area prior to chair placement auditions. All directors or chaperones must register participating students and pay the correct fees, if not prepaid, at the IHSMA Registration desk (middle floor lobby of Scheman Building) either Thursday afternoon or Friday morning. At this time, ONE director will receive the registration packet, which will include identification name tags for all participants from that school. **No student will be admitted to afternoon rehearsals without these name tags.** Schools commuting must be registered in the same manner; names listed on the registration form and fee paid, with a notation that they will be commuting and not using the housing that has been arranged.

Following the Saturday afternoon rehearsal in Hilton Coliseum, **all participating students will have a wristband placed on their wrist** after their required individual pictures are taken. **No performers will be permitted to enter the performance area for the concert Saturday night without the required wrist band.** Concert attire, medals, etc. will NOT be sufficient to gain entry. This procedure is in place to help ensure everyone's security.