

# NORTHWEST LOUISIANA RALLY ASSOCIATION

## MUSIC EVENTS: GENERAL INFORMATION

The music events that will be conducted at the District and State levels include:

### **Four vocal solo contests:**

- Girls' High Voice (Soprano)
- Girls' Low Voice (Alto)
- Boys' High Voice (Tenor)
- Boys' Low Voice (Bass)

### **Ensembles**

- Boys' Quartet (TTBB) Regular parts must be sung- i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>tenor & 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> bass
- Mixed Quartet (SATB) Regular parts must be sung-i.e. soprano, alto, tenor, bass
- Girls' Trio (SSA) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> soprano and alto must be sung

In all cases, soprano and alto parts must be sung by girls and tenor and bass parts must be sung by boys.

For both solos and ensembles, piano accompaniments may be used and may be played by the competing school's teacher. There will be no accompanist provided by the Rally host. Accompanist must play from the original music. No photocopied music is allowed, and if it occurs the performance has grounds for disqualification. The use of taped accompaniments is discouraged, though not prohibited. Music performed should be memorized.

It is advisable, but not required, that the performers have original (not copied) music for the judge. In general, it is recommended that there be no alteration of the music or texts as published. However, if optional notes are found in the selections, the singer is advised to use the one best suited to his/her capabilities.

In deciding the contest, the following elements of musical performance will be considered:

- Intonation: Is the selection sung exactly in tune?
- Beauty of tone: Is the tone vital and pleasant to listen to, or is it forced, harsh, and unmusical?
- Phrasing and expression: tempo, rhythmic flow, dynamics, variations to tone, and tempo suited to the mood.
- Suitability of the selection: Is the piece well adapted to the voice and musical ability of the singers?
- Accuracy: rhythms, pitches, attacks, releases, etc.
- Diction: Are the words understandable? Are the vowels sung correctly? Are the consonants clearly enunciated?

Ratings and awards are given as follows: Superior, Excellent, Good, Average and Fair. Superior-rated students will be eligible to compete at the State Rally.

