



VBODA District VII
Concert Assessment

Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Virginia High School
Bristol, VA



Virginia High School welcomes you to the 2015 VBODA District VII Concert Band Assessment. Gary Skeen and Ben Parks, along with Virginia High School, are proud to host this event, which includes 10 bands from Southwest Virginia. These groups range from middle school bands to high school bands performing a wide variety of music.

This is an assessment: not a competition.

Bands do not compete against each other, but they are judged on a variety of criteria that complies with the Virginia Standards of Learning for Music Education.

On stage, bands will perform three to four prepared selections. The first selection is a march, while the remaining selections are graded music. Music is graded from 1-6, with 1 being the easiest and 6 being the hardest. This music is graded by Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors' Association. While performing, the band will be judged on a range of categories including, but not limited to, intonation, technique, balance, interpretation, blend, and overall musical effect. After their stage performance, bands will go to another venue to be judged on their sight-reading capabilities. The sight-reading selections are newly published pieces that have not been available for performances.

Ratings are:

- I - Superior**
- II - Excellent**
- III - Good**
- IV - Fair**
- V - Poor**



Special Thanks

Gary Skeen—Event Co-Host
Ben Parks—Event Co-Host
Kevin English—Event Chair
Allison Deel- Program
Forrest “Pat” Mason—Sight-reading Judge
Mike Hand—Stage Judge
Charlie Herron—Stage Judge
Dr. Christian Zembower—Stage Judge
Logan Childress—Website Support
**Virginia High School
VHS Band Boosters**
Linda Brown—BVPS Technology
Mr. Ronnie Collins—VHS Principal
Jim Hall—Dominion Music



This year, District VII is proud to have a judging panel of highly qualified and respected adjudicators. They are:

Forrest “Pat” Mason -----Sight Reading

Forrest Murphy Mason, Jr., known in East Tennessee as Pat, is a native of Newport, Tennessee. He received his Bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1976. He earned his Master’s of Education degree with Highest Honors from Tusculum University in 1995. Mason, now retired after 38 years of teaching, enjoyed two stints at his Alma Mater, Cocke County High School, 1976-1980 and 1992 - 2014. Mr. Mason has enjoyed directorships in Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina, consistently receiving Superior ratings in marching and concert performances. Pat, and his wife Susan, live in Newport and have one adult daughter, Laura, and are enjoying their two grandsons, Jaxon and Neyland.

Mike Hand-----Stage Judge

Mr. Mike Hand has been an active adjudicator and clinician for over twenty years. He is currently the Director of Bands at Heritage High School in Lynchburg, Virginia and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. He was the recipient of the Roy M. Acuff music scholarship while an undergraduate. Mr. Hand is presently pursuing his Masters degree from Liberty University in the area of Educational Administration and Supervision.

Entering his twenty third year as a Director, Mr. Hand’s concert ensembles have received continuous Superior ratings on the local, state and national levels including Sweepstakes winner of the National Adjudicators Invitational Concert Band Festival in Chattanooga, Tennessee. His ensembles have performed in notable venues in Florida, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Toronto, Canada.

Mr. Hand’s marching bands have a reputation of Superior performance including divisional and Grand Championships in competitions and festivals throughout Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. His ensembles have performed at Walt Disney’s Magic Kingdom, Toronto Canada, Bands of America regional competitions, the National Independence Day Parade, Chik-Fil-A Peach Bowl Parade and halftime of the Chik-Fil-A Peach Bowl. The band programs under Mr. Hand’s direction have been named a Commonwealth of Virginia Honor Band on seven different occasions.

Mr. Hand has served as District VI Chairman of the Virginia Band and Orchestra Director Association and has been a member of the Virginia and Georgia state council of review for instrumental music. He has been twice named as a Who’s Who of America’s Teachers and been cited by the National

Band Association as well as the Walt Disney and Grammy Foundations for teaching excellence in instrumental music education.

Mr. Hand is a member of the Virginia Band and Orchestra Director's Association, Georgia Music Educators Association, South Carolina Band Directors Association, National Education Association and the National Band Association.

Mr. Hand lives in Forest, Virginia with his wife Erin and is the proud father of three children, Allison, Shaun and Tyler.

Charlie Herron-----Stage Judge

Charlie Herron is a native of Kingsport, Tennessee where he attended Ross N. Robinson Junior High School and graduated from Doby's Bennett High School. Mr. Herron served thirty-four years as Director of Bands at Ross N. Robinson Middle School in Kingsport, Tennessee before his retirement. He also served twenty-five years as Choir Master at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from East Tennessee State University in 1971 and a Master of Education degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from East Tennessee State University in 1983. Following graduation, he served two years as Band Director at Unicoi County High School in Erwin, Tennessee before coming to Robinson Junior High School.

At Robinson Middle School, Mr. Herron's concert bands have consistently received superior ratings in sight-reading and on stage performance at state concert festivals. In 1988, The Robinson Concert Band was chosen to perform at the Tennessee Music Educators' Association Annual in Service Conference. In 1993, the Robinson Brass and Percussion were chosen to perform in concert with the Dallas Brass.

Mr. Herron is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Music Educators' National Conference, Tennessee Music Educators' Association, East Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association (Honorary Life Member), National Band Association, Percussive Arts Society, National Education Association, Tennessee Education Association, and Kingsport Education Association. Mr. Herron has received two National Band Association Citation of Excellence Awards. He has received three Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts Outstanding Teacher Awards. He has been recognized five times in the WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS. Mr. Herron is A Pro-Mark Educational Endorser, a member of the VIC FIRTH, inc. EDUCATION TEAM and an endorser for the Drumometer by DrumDial. He has served as clinician and adjudicator in Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, and Georgia. Now that Mr. Herron is retired, he teaches private lessons and works with band programs arranging marching music, writing drum books for marching band show music, holding clinics with drum lines,

working with concert bands, concert percussion, percussion ensembles and mentoring new band directors.

Dr. Christian Zembower-----Stage Judge

Dr. Christian Zembower is Director of Bands and associate professor of music at East Tennessee State University. His duties include conducting the Wind Ensemble, Concert Band and Chamber Winds, teaches beginning and advanced conducting, band literature, instrumental music education methods courses, and leads all aspects concerning the ETSU Bands program. Over the last year, with the implementation of football on campus, he has developed and coordinated the plans and preparation of redeveloping the marching band at ETSU, and the hiring of an additional director position. Prior to his appointment in May, 2006 at ETSU, Dr. Zembower served for eight years as the assistant director of bands at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. From 1996 to 1998, he served on the faculty as a doctoral graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi, and was Director of Bands at Musselman High School in Inwood, West Virginia from 1992 through 1996.

Dr. Zembower holds a Doctorate in Music Education (emphasis in wind band) from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Master of Arts degree in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Frostburg State University (MD). An active clinician and conductor, he has adjudicated and/or guest conducted middle school and high school honor bands throughout the mid-Atlantic and mid-western regions of the United States. In April, 2010, Dr. Zembower was honored as a recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award in the College of Arts and Sciences at ETSU.



Performances

12:40 P.M.

Carroll County High School Concert Band (III/IV)

Michael Farina, Director

Aces of the Air

Karl King/arr. Swearingen

Greenwillow Portrait

Mark Williams

Aventura

James Swearingen

1:05 P.M.

Auburn High School Wind Ensemble (IV/V)

Bob Priest, Director

Activity March

Harold Bennett/arr. L. Clark

A Childhood Hymn

David Holsinger

Jubilance

James Swearingen

1:30 P.M.

Virginia High School Concert Band (IV)

Gary Skeen, Director

The Cluster, Bluster, Fluster March

David Holsinger

Perthshire Majesty

Samuel Hazo

Prairie Songs

Pierre La Plante

1:55 P.M.

Holston High School Band (IV)

Uley Daniels, Directors

Darklands March

Randall Standridge

Mountain Thyme

Samuel Hazo

Brick Street Encounter

Richard Saucedo

-----**JUDGES' BREAK: 2:30-3:25**-----

3:30 P.M.

Bland County Concert Band (III)

Jared Perdue, Director

Symbol of Honor

Ted Mesang/Quincy Hilliard

Phantom of Dark Hollow

Robert Sheldon

Legend of Devil's Lake

Michael Sweeney

3:55 P.M.

Rural Retreat High School Concert Band (III)

Kevin English, Director

Darklands March

Randall Standridge

The Bonsai Tree

Julie Giroux

African Dreams

Brant Karrick

4:20 P.M.

Galax High School Concert Band (III/IV)

Chris Sklar, Director

Fairest of the Fair

J.P. Sousa/arr. Larry Clark

Rage

Randall Standridge

Nevermore

Brian Balmages

4:45 P.M.

Pulaski County High School Wind Ensemble (V)

Matthew Shrewsbury, Director

Men of Ohio

Henry Filmore/arr. Schissel

Appalachian Overture

James Barnes

Flight of the Griffin

Brian Balmages

5:10 P.M.

Blacksburg High School Symphonic Band (VI)

Darell Pearman, Director

The National Game March

J.P. Sousa

From Every Horizon

Norman Dello Joio

Through the Rings of Saturn

Ben Kirby