

Southern Star Music Festival ***Atlanta, Georgia*** **2024 Director's Handbook**

Please read over all of the information contained in this package. For groups using a travel agent, be sure that the appropriate information in this package is available to both the directors and travel agents. This information is always available on the website at the home page. The schedules of dates, locations, times and judges are only posted on the website and are subject to change.

Contents:

- 1. Cover page, Contents and Contacts**
- 2. Package Information**
- 3. Package Payment information**
- 4. Southern Star T-Shirts**
- 5. General Festival Information**
- 6. Festival Tips**
- 7-9. Choral Information**
- 10-13. Instrumental Information**
- 14. Atlanta Area Attractions**
- 15. Set-up Chart for Instrumental Groups (send in advance)**

Contact Information

<https://www.southernstarmusicfestival.com/>

or e-mail info@southernstarmusic.com

Phone: 678-325-6080

Squareup online payment: [Squareup payments](#)

Mailing Address: *Southern Star Music Festival*
3473 Clement Trail, Duluth, GA 30096

2024 Festival Prices

***Premium Package is just \$92 for Students**

and \$82 for Chaperones includes:

- **Festival performance** at the Riverside EpiCenter Theater, Paul Duke Stem School Auditorium or other locations (See the Schedule on the website for times and locations)
- **Two-day Admission Ticket to "Six Flags Over Georgia."** We encourage you to use the first day of your two-day pass on the Saturday of your performance weekend to attend the Awards Celebration from 7-7:30. The second ticket can be used anytime during the 2024 season.
- **One Meal Deal** good at many restaurants in Six Flags to use anytime
- **FREE Director's Package**
- **FREE Bonus Package** for each 25 Purchased
- **[Southern Star T-Shirt](#)** with each package
- **[Adjudication](#)** by outstanding Music Educators
- **Recording** of your performance (one per group)
- **Unique Trophy** for each group
- **Awards Celebration** held at Axis Arena in Gotham City (Entrance requires an admission ticket to Six Flags Over Georgia)

***Basic Package is \$80 for Students and \$70 for Chaperones or non-participates:**

- All of the above excluding the t-shirt and bonus packages

Festival Only \$38 per performer (for students with season pass or not going to the park) *T-shirts and Meal Deals can be added to orders

Note: There is no charge for anyone that wants to attend the performance portion of the fesstival

**** Registration Fee: \$100 per group (minimum of 20 performers) is due within two weeks of registration and holds your time until 35 days (see next page for exact date)before your performance date. This can be paid by check or charged through the website and is non-refundable.***

Package Payment Information

There are two payment options and two ways to pay:

Package Payments can be paid in full or a Partial Payment of at least \$1000 paid by the due date will avoid a \$5pp late fee (see the deadlines below) for cancellation. Payments can be made by credit card or school/booster or business check.

All package pricing is contained in the **Invoice/Order Form link** for checks <https://www.starmusicfestivals.com/invoice/> and on the **SquareUp** website at <https://southernstarmusicfestival.square.site/> for credit cards.

If paying by **credit card**, be sure to add your group's name in the comments box and also list the t-shirt sizes if you chose that option.

Note: The Invoice/Order Form will do all the calculations for you. You can create your own Invoice number if that is helpful. Please fill out your numbers and types of packages even if you make a partial payment. If you choose any packages with t-shirts, please include those numbers. Additional packages are available on site and any packages purchased are fully refundable except for t-shirt orders (t-shirt exchanges or additions are no problem).

Package Payments (Full or Partial)

Dates for 2024	Package Payment Due Date
March 15-16	February 8, 2024
March 22-23	February 15, 2024
April 5-6	February 29, 2024
April 12-13	March 7, 2024
April 19-20	March 14, 2024
April 26-27	March 21, 2024
May 3-4	March 28, 2024

Make the 2024
Southern Star Music Festival
a lasting memory...

**Show your group pride and unity by
wearing the T-shirt to the Awards Celebration**



They are available in youth large and adult sizes - small, medium, large, extra large, 2XL and 3XL.

They are provided in the Premium Package and can be picked up at the
Registration Desk.

Additional shirts will be available on site for \$16 each but supplies are limited.

Southern Star Music Festival

General Information

Open to Senior High, Middle/Junior High School and Elementary Instrumental and Choral Groups

Each group can select to enter for: *Competition & Rating* — *Rating Only* — *Comments Only*

Minimum number is 20 per performing group.

Instrumental Division Competition Categories

1. Senior High School Band (concert/symphonic, wind ensemble)
2. Middle/Junior High School Band (concert/symphonic, wind ensemble)
3. Orchestra (Senior High, Middle/Junior High Schools)
4. Jazz Band (Senior High, Middle/Junior High Schools)

Choral Division Competition Categories

1. Senior High School Choir (chamber, madrigal, concert, men's & women's ensembles)
2. Middle/Junior High School Choir (chamber, madrigal, concert, men's & women's ensembles)
3. Jazz/Show Choir (Senior High, Middle/Junior High Schools)

Equipment

Choral groups: There will be sound shells in place behind the risers. Five choral risers, a tuned grand piano, and two music stands will be provided. A microphone will be on stage for announcements. Playback equipment is available for those who require CD accompaniment.

Note for Jazz/Show Choirs: Choral risers and sound shells will stay in place at all times. Groups must adapt to the performance space. A PA system with up to five microphones will be available for Jazz/Show Choirs.

Instrumental groups: Four timpani, marimba, chimes, xylophone, vibraphone, concert bass drum and stand, podium, and music stands will be provided. (No bells, snare, gong, Drum Set or other percussion or mallets are provided).

Music Requirements

For adjudication in the **Instrumental or Choral Divisions**, there is not a required music list. However, school groups should choose literature appropriate for an educational festival. Please perform two selections in order to accommodate an onstage clinic. If no clinic, three selections are allowed. Jazz/Show Choirs should limit performance time to a maximum of **15 minutes**.

On-Stage Clinic

If you choose, an on-stage clinic can be given by one of the judges immediately following your group's performance. The session (not to exceed ten minutes) will provide a more personal touch to the Festival and allow the judge to share his/her expertise about a particular musical discipline. You will let us know when you check-in at the registration desk on the day of the festival if you want to take advantage of the clinic experience. We reserve the right to cancel the clinic if the performance schedule is running behind.

Southern Star Music Festival

Important Tips

- The Director should arrive at the Festival Site between 45 minutes and one hour prior to your performance time. (Please take into consideration Atlanta traffic)
- If for any reason you are running late, call Dennis Naughton at 404-660-9578 or Wes Johnson at 678-508-0336.
- The Director should check-in at the registration desk upon arrival. (Instrumental groups should leave cases on the bus.)
- Bring three original scores of each performance piece for the judges.
- Warm-up times are *15-20 minutes prior* to your scheduled performance time.
- We encourage you to come early and stay late to listen to other groups perform.
- The on-stage clinic, if you select this at the registration desk, will be given by one of the adjudicators immediately following your group's performance if time permits. This will provide a unique personal touch to your group's festival experience and allow a judge to share his/her expertise about a particular musical aspect.
- Additional Packages and a limited number of t-shirts are available at the registration desk for purchase.
- Package Order Payments, full or partial, are due 45 days prior to your performance date.
- Performances are free and open to the public.

The Awards Celebration is held at the Axis Arena at Six Flags Over Georgia near Batman the ride on each Saturday at 7:00 pm. The celebration is held rain or shine but is canceled in the event of dangerous weather conditions and may be changed by Six Flags to a similar venue (we will notify you of a change).

Six Flags Over Georgia is **NOT** open most Fridays in the spring. You can check parking operating schedule at: www.sixflags.com/parks/overgeorgia/index.asp

Check website for adjudication location for each weekend. They are one of these:

**Riverside EpiCenter
135 Riverside Parkway, Austell, GA 30168
Paul Duke Stem High School
5850 Peachtree Industrial Blvd, Norcross, GA 30071
Norcross High School
5300 Spalding Dr., Norcross, GA 30092**

Southern Star Music Festival

CHORAL DIVISION

Information for: CONCERT CHOIR, TREBLE CHOIR, MALE CHORUS, CHAMBER CHOIR, MADRIGAL CHOIR, GOSPEL CHOIR AND JAZZ/SHOW CHOIR

1. The festival is open to Elementary, Middle School, Junior High, and Senior High School groups with a **Minimum of 20 performers.**
 2. Groups may enter for Comments Only, Rating Only or Competition/Rating and may elect to participate in a mini-clinic on stage immediately after the performance. Groups that enter for Competition/Rating will be considered for the Southern Star Sweepstakes Trophy and/or Grand Champion Trophy provided a minimum of two groups choose to enter for competition in their division. (3 Divisions: Middle School/Junior High Choir, Senior High Choir & Jazz/Show Choir)
 3. There is no required music list, however, groups are encouraged to select music of the highest quality. It is advisable to choose selections comparable to those found on state or national lists. The director must provide original scores (no photo copies allowed unless authorized by the publisher) of each selection labeled with the name of the school and with measures numbered.
 4. **Groups will perform two works if you wish to take advantage of the on-stage clinic. Otherwise, three works can be performed not to exceed a performance time of fifteen minutes.** Groups will be scheduled in twenty minute blocks to allow for the optional clinic session. There will be 15-20 minutes available for warm-up.
 5. Groups should arrive 45 minutes prior to performance time and be in their concert attire approximately 10 minutes before warm-up. The Director should check-in at the Registration table upon arrival.
 6. The performances will be adjudicated by three experienced judges. Each judge will provide a numerical assessment and recorded comments. Groups will receive a rating based on the following scale: GOLD (90-100), SILVER (75-89), BRONZE (60-74), and BLUE (45-59). The composite rating would be determined as follows:
GOLD STANDARD (G) - Superior GGG GGS GGB
SILVER STANDARD (S) - Excellent GSS GSBr SSBr SSS
BRONZE STANDARD (Br) – Good GBrBr SBrBr BrBrBr SBrBl BrBrBl
BLUE STANDARD (Bl) – Fair SBIBl BrBIBl BIBIBl
- Each weekend, one **Sweepstakes Trophy** may be awarded to the group per each choral division (Middle/Junior High Choir, Senior High Choir, Jazz/Show Choir) that received the highest cumulative numerical score among choral groups competing in their division scoring a Gold Standard. (Up to three Sweepstakes per weekend within the Choral Division) A **Grand Champion Trophy** may be awarded to the group receiving the highest cumulative numerical score, provided it is 275 or higher, among all choral groups competing.
7. Each group will receive a specially designed trophy to commemorate its level of achievement. **All trophies will be presented at the Saturday night Awards Ceremony held at the Axis Arena at 7:00 p.m.** All festival participants should plan to attend this special event. Adjudicator packets will be distributed at this time. If you are unable to attend the Celebration, please indicate that on the Check-in Form that you fill out at the Registration Desk and your trophy, judges sheets, recording and comments will be available 10 minutes after the performance at the Registration Desk.
 8. Equipment provided for Choral Groups: two music stands, five three-step choral risers, sound shells and a tuned acoustic piano. One microphone will be on stage for announcements. Playback equipment is available for participants who require thumb drive accompaniment (can use your computer).
Note for Jazz/Show Choirs: Groups must adapt to the performance space that includes choral risers. A PA system with up to five microphones will be available for Jazz/Show Choirs.
 9. Dates, locations, adjudicators and maps are available on the website.

DIVISION:

RATING:

Southern Star Music Festival
Choral Adjudication

SAMPLE

SELECTIONS: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TONE QUALITY: 15 POINTS Beauty () Vitality () Support () Placement () Resonance () Focus ()	
PITCH: 15 POINTS Accuracy () Intonation ()	
RHYTHM: 15 POINTS Precision () Rhythmic Energy () Attacks () Releases ()	
ENSEMBLE: 15 POINTS Balance () Sectional Blend () Overall Blend ()	
DICTION: 15 POINTS Communication () Vowels/Purity () Consonants/Clarity () Uniformity () Syllable Inflection () Foreign Language ()	
INTERPRETATION: 15 POINTS Tempo () Style () Phrasing () Dynamics () Expression () Articulation ()	
OTHER: 10 POINTS Choice of Music () Stage Presence () Overall Musical Effect ()	

TOTAL

GOLD (90-100) SILVER (75-89) BRONZE (60-74) BLUE (45-59)

COMMENTS:

Signature of Adjudicator: _____

DIVISION:

RATING:

Southern Star Music Festival
Jazz/Show Choir Adjudication

SAMPLE

SELECTIONS: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

tone quality: 15 POINTS Beauty () Vitality () Support () Placement () Resonance () Focus ()	
PITCH: 15 POINTS Accuracy () Intonation ()	
RHYTHM: 15 POINTS Precision () Rhythmic Energy () Attacks () Releases ()	
ENSEMBLE: 15 POINTS Vocal Balance () Sectional Blend () Accompaniment Balance () Overall Blend ()	
DICTION: 10 POINTS Communication () Vowels/Purity () Consonants/Clarity () Syllable Inflection ()	
INTERPRETATION: 10 POINTS Tempo () Style () Phrasing () Dynamics () Expression () Articulation ()	
CHOREOGRAPHY/STAGING: 10 POINTS Creativity () Appropriateness () Precision ()	
OTHER: 10 POINTS Choice of Music () Stage Presence () Audience Appeal ()	

TOTAL _____

GOLD (90-100) SILVER (75-89) BRONZE (60-74) BLUE (45-59)

COMMENTS:

SIGNATURE OF ADJUDICATOR: _____

Southern Star Music Festival

INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION

Information for: CONCERT BANDS, SYMPHONIC BANDS, WIND ENSEMBLES, JAZZ BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS

1. The festival is open to Elementary, Middle School, Junior High, and Senior High School groups with a **Minimum of 20 performers** (except for jazz bands minimum 15).
2. Groups may enter for Comments Only, Rating Only or Competition/Rating and may elect to participate in a mini-clinic on stage immediately after the performance. Groups that enter for Competition/Rating will be considered for the Southern Star Sweepstakes Trophy and/or Grand Champion Trophy provided a minimum of two groups choose to enter for competition in their division. (4 Divisions: Middle School/Junior High Band, Senior High Band, Orchestra & Jazz Band)
3. There is no required music list, however, groups are encouraged to select music of the highest quality. It is advisable to choose selections comparable to those found on state or national lists. The director must provide original scores (no photo copies allowed unless authorized by the publisher) of each selection labeled with the name of the school and with measures numbered
4. **Groups will perform two works if you wish to have an on stage clinic. Three pieces are permissible otherwise not to exceed a performance time of twenty minutes.**
Groups will be scheduled in twenty-five minute blocks to allow for the optional clinic session. There will be twenty minutes available for warm-up.
5. Groups should arrive a minimum of thirty minutes prior to warm-up in their concert attire and the Director should check in at the Registration table upon arrival.
6. The performances will be adjudicated by three experienced judges. Each judge will provide a numerical assessment and recorded comments. Groups will receive a rating based on the following scale: GOLD (90-100), SILVER (75-89), BRONZE (60-74), and BLUE (45-59). The composite rating would be determined as follows:

GOLD STANDARD (G) - Superior	GGG	GGS	GGB		
SILVER STANDARD (S) - Excellent	GSS	GSSr	SSBr	SSS	
BRONZE STANDARD (Br) - Good	GBrBr	SBrBr	BrBrBr	SBrBl	BrBrBl
BLUE STANDARD (Bl) – Fair	SBIBl	BrBIBl	BIBIBl		

Each weekend, one **Sweepstakes Trophy** may be awarded to the group per each instrumental division (Middle/Junior High Band, Senior High Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra) that received the highest cumulative numerical score among instrumental groups competing in their division scoring a Gold Standard. (Up to four Sweepstakes per weekend within the Instrumental Division) A **Grand Champion Trophy** may be awarded to the group receiving the highest cumulative numerical score, provided it is 275 or higher, among all instrumental groups competing.
7. Each group will receive a specially designed trophy to commemorate its level of achievement. **All trophies will be presented at the Saturday night Awards Ceremony held at the Axis Arena at 7:00 p.m.** All festival participants should plan to attend this special event. Adjudicator packets will be distributed at this time. If you are unable to attend the Celebration, please indicate that on the Check-in Form that you fill out at the Registration Desk and your trophy, judges sheets, recording and comments will be available 10 minutes after the performance at the Registration Desk.
8. Equipment provided: podium, chairs, stands, four timpani, marimba, chimes, xylophone, vibes, concert bass drum with stand and a tuned acoustic piano.
9. Dates, locations, adjudicators and maps are available at the website.

DIVISION:

RATING:

Southern Star Music Festival
Band Adjudication

SAMPLE

SELECTIONS: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TONE QUALITY: 15 POINTS Beauty () Support () Control ()	
PITCH: 15 POINTS Note Accuracy () Intonation ()	
TECHNIQUE: 15 POINTS Key signatures () Facility () Articulation ()	
RHYTHM: 15 POINTS Note Values () Precision ()	
ENSEMBLE: 15 POINTS Balance () Sectional Blend () Overall Blend ()	
INTERPRETATION: 15 POINTS Tempo () Style () Phrasing () Dynamics () Expression ()	
OTHER: 10 POINTS Choice of Music () Response to the Director () Stage Presence () Overall Musical Effect ()	

TOTAL _____

GOLD (90-100) SILVER (75-89) BRONZE (60-74) BLUE (45-59)

COMMENTS:

SIGNATURE OF ADJUDICATOR: _____

DIVISION:

RATING:

Southern Star Music Festival
Jazz Band Adjudication

SAMPLE

SELECTIONS: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TONE QUALITY: 15 POINTS Beauty () Support () Control ()	
PITCH: 15 POINTS Note Accuracy () Intonation ()	
TECHNIQUE/RHYTHM: 20 POINTS Key signatures () Facility () Articulation () Note Values () Precision ()	
INTERPRETATION: 15 POINTS Tempo () Style () Phrasing () Dynamics () Expression ()	
ENSEMBLE: 10 POINTS Balance () Sectional Blend () Overall Blend ()	
IMPROVIZATION: 10 POINTS Appropriate style () Creativity () Staging/Balance ()	
OTHER: 15 POINTS Choice of Music () Stage Presence () Overall Musical Effect ()	

TOTAL

GOLD (90-100) SILVER (75-89) BRONZE (60-74) BLUE (45-59)

COMMENTS:

SIGNATURE OF ADJUDICATOR: _____

Division:

Rating:

Southern Star Music Festival
Orchestra Adjudication

SAMPLE

Selections: 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

TONE QUALITY: 15 POINTS Beauty () Support () Control ()	
PITCH: 15 POINTS Note Accuracy () Intonation ()	
TECHNIQUE: 15 POINTS Key signatures () Facility () Articulation () Bowing ()	
RHYTHM: 15 POINTS Note Values () Precision ()	
ENSEMBLE: 15 POINTS Balance () Sectional Blend () Overall Blend ()	
INTERPRETATION: 15 POINTS Tempo () Style () Phrasing () Dynamics () Expression ()	
OTHER: 10 POINTS Choice of Music () Response to the Director () Stage Presence () Overall Musical Effect ()	

TOTAL _____

GOLD (90-100) SILVER (75-89) BRONZE (60-74) BLUE (45-59)

COMMENTS:

SIGNATURE OF ADJUDICATOR: _____

Atlanta Area Attractions

Georgia Aquarium (*one of the largest aquariums in the world*)

www.georgiaaquarium.org

Atlanta Braves (they are now located in Cobb County near Cumberland Mall)

<http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com>

Stone Mountain Park (*Free Laser Show each night – check schedule*)

www.stonemountainpark.com

Medieval Times

<http://www.medievaltimes.com/atlanta.aspx>

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus (*Group ticket prices available*)

<http://www.atlantasymphony.org/>

Fox Theater (*Broadway Shows and Concerts*)

www.foxtheatre.org

Alliance Theater

www.alliancetheatre.org

CNN Center Tour

www.cnn.com/tour/

Centennial Olympic Park (*near CNN, World of Coca-Cola & King Center*)

www.centennialpark.com

The King Center

www.thekingcenter.org

World of Coca-Cola

www.woccatlanta.com

Zoo Atlanta and Cyclorama

www.zooatlanta.org

US Play (*Cosmic Bowling, video games & food near Towne Center Mall*)

www.usplay.com

Fernbank Museum IMAX

www.fernbank.edu/MUSEUM/imaxmenu.html

The Varsity (*unique Atlanta fast food – 3 locations*)

www.thevarsity.com

Cumberland Mall

www.cumberlandmall.com

Perimeter Mall

<http://www.perimetermall.com/>

Hard Rock Café

Call 404-688-ROCK

ESPN Zone Atlanta

www.espnzone.com/atlanta/

Southern Star Music Festival

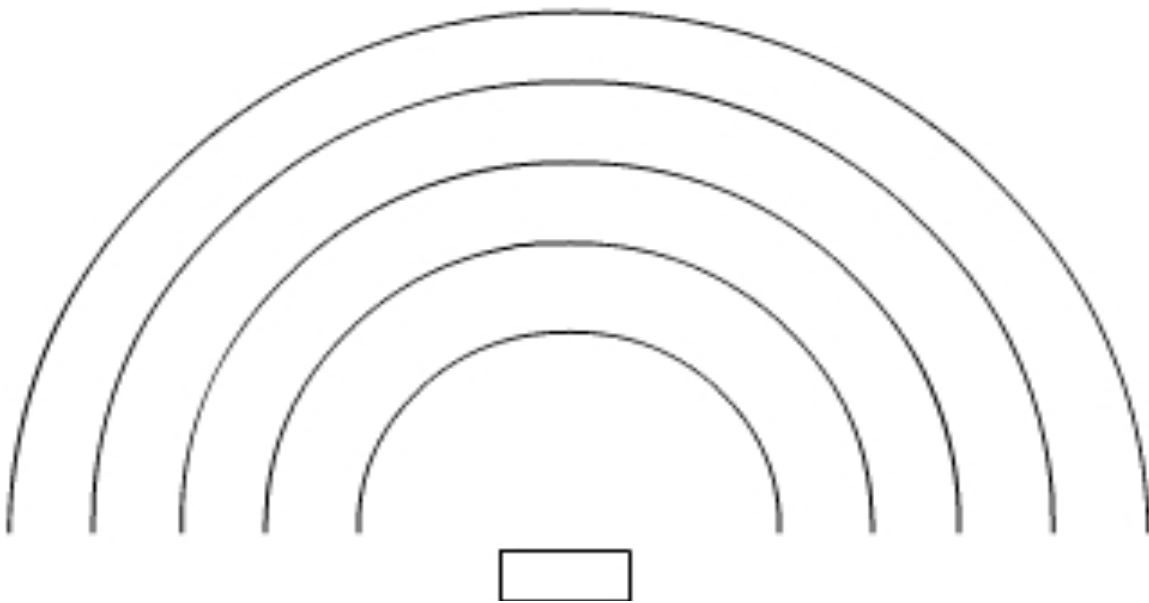
Instrumental Stage Plot

Please return with Festival Package Order Form

Name of performing group: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

Director: _____



Total Number of chairs: _____

Total number of Stands: _____

All bands will be arranged in a semi-circle formation. Please diagram your seating arrangement, location of all percussion, and placement of podium and/or other equipment.

Please use **X** for each chair and **•** for each music stand.

Indicate the number of chairs and stands per row:

	Row 1	Row 2	Row 3	Row 4	Row 5
Chairs (X):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stands (•):	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____