

# 2020 Festival at The Falls

## For Concert Bands

### Directors:

Enclosed you will find information pertinent to your band's success at this year's *Festival At The Falls*. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with this information to avoid any problems or confusion as we draw closer to this year's festival.

### Group Arrival:

*Festival at the Falls* is located at:

Cypress Falls High School  
9811 Huffmeister Rd.  
Houston, TX 77095  
(281) 856-1055 Band Hall  
(281) 856-1445 Fax

We suggest using Google Maps for directions to Cypress Falls HS. The entrance to our school bus lot is at White Oak Ridge Dr., off of Huffmeister Rd. As your buses pull onto White Oak Ridge they will turn left on Martesia towards our pool and vocational center, then immediately right to access the back of our school. Buses and equipment vehicles will be required to park in an area that will not conflict with our own school traffic. **Please help us to ensure that your drivers will be flexible with special parking requests that we might have for them.**

**Important: All Buses, Equipment and Faculty/Parent vehicles must be cleared from the bus lot, which is adjacent to the auditorium, from 6:30-7:40 am, and 1:45-2:45 pm on Thursday and Friday. The bus lot is extremely busy and every area of the lot is used during bus loading times. If you arrive during those hours, please plan to either wait or use the parking area off Tuckerton Drive, which is on the south end of the school off Huffmeister. We will provide temporary parking permits for parents or directors who drive their own vehicle. Please inform your visiting parents to park in the athletic lot off Tuckerton. Sorry for the inconvenience!**

Performing groups should arrive in concert attire. There will be no facilities available for changing before or after a group performance.

For your safety, we kindly request that your group leave all instrument cases and personal items on your buses or equipment vehicles. Any group needing special consideration for equipment storage, due to buses returning to their home school to make regular routes, may make arrangements for storage at festival check in.

## **Festival Check In:**

The Director should report to the check in area located in the auditorium foyer. Students are asked to remain on the buses until the Director returns or until a festival guide directs them to a holding area.

Directors are required to submit a festival group announcement form, two (2) seating chart diagrams, and three (3) original scores, with the measures numbered, of each selection to be performed.

## **Warm-up:**

Please assemble your students in the courtyard (or the commons if it is raining) ten minutes before your scheduled warm-up time. A guide will then escort your group to the warm-up area (band hall). Playing of instruments is not permitted in any other area other than the warm-up and performance areas.

A tuner and metronome will be available in the warm-up area.

Please note that the acoustics in our band hall are extremely dry. There is very little reflected sound. Your students may feel that it is hard to hear each other in the room. If you let them know in advance, it may help them prepare so as to not let it be a big deal and affect your stage performance. The stage is fairly live and hearing each other should not be an issue there.

## **Festival Performance:**

The following percussion equipment will be available on stage: a Ludwig 40" Concert Bass Drum, Adams Vibraphone without motor, Adams Zelon Xylophone, Adams 4 1/3 Zelon Marimba, Pearl Chimes on a Jarvis Rack, and four (4) Adams Timpani with gauges (23, 26, 29, 32). A baby grand piano will be made available if requested in advance of the festival date.

Participating groups are expected to bring any other percussion equipment (including but not limited to: snare drum, accessory instruments, sticks, and mallets) needed for your group's performance.

Risers (four 8-in, four 16-in, and two 24-in) will be available for your setup. Each riser measures 4' x 8'. Please arrange to have a staff member or band parent available to assist our setup crew with any special needs for your particular ensemble. If you need more risers than are listed please email Mark Edenfield at [mark.edenfield@cfisd.net](mailto:mark.edenfield@cfisd.net) to make those arrangements.

When your setup is complete, your guide will direct you from the warm-up area to the performance location.

After a brief sound check on stage (chorale, concert F, scale, etc.), the festival announcer will introduce your group. Please remember to complete the enclosed group announcement form and turn it in at check in.

Michael Browning Audio Productions will professionally record your festival performance. **CD's will be made for all bands.** For assistance in compiling your Honor Band Entry or your program's annual commemorative CD, please contact Michael Browning at (281) 580-2386.

Our adjudication panel will use the following rating system to evaluate your group's performance:

### **Score Rating**

850-1000 Division I – Superior  
700-849 Division II – Excellent  
600-699 Division III – Good  
0-599 Division IV – Needs Improvement

### **After Your Performance:**

Immediately following your group's performance, you will be escorted from the stage. Please see that your percussionists have all the help they need to clear the stage in an efficient manner. Time is of the essence. Please know what your performance time is and be aware of the start time of the group following to ensure that the festival stays on schedule. It would be best to load all of your equipment after your performance, to avoid mixing equipment with another school.

If your students will be staying to support other performing groups, please go over appropriate concert etiquette. **No Food or Drink Allowed in the Performance Area**, however if you would like to order pizza or bring food, the courtyard will be available. The commons may or may not be available.

### **Festival Awards:**

Final Division Ratings will be determined using UIL procedures (I-I-II=I; I-II-II=II; I-II- III=II; etc.).

The Best in Class trophy will be presented to the group in each classification and division whose performance is judged to be the most outstanding. This will be determined by adding the three judge's rank points with the lowest rank total becoming Best in Class. In the event of a tie, the best two out of three rule will be applied. There must be a minimum of three (3) groups participating in each classification and division to be considered for Best In Class trophies. **EXCEPTION:** An ensemble participating in a classification or division with fewer than three

participating ensembles *may* be awarded a Best In Class trophy at the discretion of the judging panel.

**There will not be a traditional awards ceremony at the conclusion of the contest.**

Best in Class Directors will be notified of their award, and all other directors may check the Cypress Falls Band Website at [www.cypressfallsband.org](http://www.cypressfallsband.org) for Best in Class Results.

### **Festival Adjudicators:**

Teri Brockway, Retired – Clear Creek ISD

Gloria Ramirez – Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Susan Scarborough, Retired – Klein ISD

### **Group Arrival:**

Consider traffic when making your travel plans. We suggest that your group arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled warm-up time.

If possible, please do not plan to arrive between the hours of 1:45 to 2:45 on Thursday or Friday. School lets out at 2:30 and there will be extreme and dangerous traffic. The bus lot starts filling by 1:45 and will be unavailable. If necessary, the parking lot located off Tuckerton should be available for a quick unload.

If you have any questions before the festival, feel free to e-mail us, or call the Band Hall at (281) 856-1055. Best of luck to all!