## 19 September 2017

# **Principals**

All Secondary, Full Schools and IP Schools (Secondary Sections)
All Specialised Independent Schools, Specialised Schools and Privately-Funded Schools (Secondary Sections)

# SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL 2018 ARTS PRESENTATION FOR BAND (DISPLAY) (SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL)

- The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) is an annual event organised by the Ministry of Education to celebrate the diverse arts talents of our youths in their co-curricular activities (CCA). Schools are encouraged to arrange for supporters to view the presentations, and will be informed of the details of the complimentary tickets at a later date.
- 2. The SYF Arts Presentation (AP) for Band (Display) (Secondary School Level) will be held on 14 April 2018:

Date	Time	Venue
14 April 2018	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm	To be confirmed (Updates on venue will be sent to the school's generic e-mail address by end-2017)

3. All secondary schools are invited to participate in the SYF AP. Please refer to the attached annexes for details (click on the links below for quick access to specific sections):

ANNEX A: Rules and Regulations

ANNEX B: Important Dates and Events

ANNEX C: Performance Arena Diagram

Online Registration Information

ANNEX E: Frequently-Asked Questions (FAQs)



4. All entries must be submitted via the SYF Portal at <a href="www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg">www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg</a>. Schools will receive their passwords for access through their generic e-mail accounts between 27 December 2017 and 5 January 2018. The default password must be changed upon first login.

The registration period is between 8 January and 5 February 2018.

Schools intending to participate in the SYF AP must ensure the accuracy of the information submitted through the SYF Portal. Any changes in information may only be made through the SYF Portal before **19 February 2018**, 5.00 pm.

Please refer to <u>Annex D</u> for the information to be prepared for submission.

5. For clarifications, please contact the following officers:

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6. Thank you.

VALARIE WILSON (MRS)
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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### 1. PERFORMANCE

#### 1.1 Sub-categories

- i. Band (Display) (Category A): 32-70 students, combination of instruments from the woodwinds, brass and percussion sections.
- ii. Band (Display) (Category B): 71-150 students, combination of instruments from the woodwinds, brass and percussion sections.
- iii. Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble): 12-32 students, <u>either</u> a combination of pitched and unpitched percussion instruments within the band <u>or</u> a combination of unpitched percussion instruments within the band

A school may participate in up to two sub-categories, and up to one entry per sub-category. However, schools may only participate in either Band (Display) (Category A) or Band (Display) (Category B).

#### 1.2 Sequence of Performance

- i. Warm-Up
  - Each display band has 10 minutes of warm-up time at a designated warm-up room.

#### ii. Performance Arena Set-Up

- The first horn is sounded at the start of the 20-minute block for Categories A and B, and at the start of the 15-minute block for Percussion Ensemble.
- Props (only for Categories A and B) and equipment may be brought into the arena only at this time. No additional props and equipment may be brought in or out of the arena during the actual performance.
- The set-up may be conducted by non-participants. Non-participants must leave the performance arena before the start of the actual performance.

#### iii. Actual Performance

- Actual performance time begins when the first note of music or the first step is made after the student representative's introduction (see Annex A, point 1.5, i).
- Any movement of props during performance must be by the participants.
- For Categories A and B, either the drum major or the conductor signals the end of the actual performance.
- For Percussion Ensemble, the band signals the end of the actual performance by bowing (or saluting).

#### iv. Exit and Tear-down

- Only light battery percussion sound is allowed for exiting bands of Categories A and B.
- Exit and tear-down must begin immediately after the announcer thanks the display band for their performance.
- All props and equipment must be completely removed at this time.
   Non-participants are allowed to re-enter the arena to assist.
- Schools must ensure that the arena is returned to its original state after their respective performances.
- v. At the end of the AP, all bands must re-enter the arena for the announcement of the results. Details will be made known at the briefing on **7 March 2018** (see Annex B).

#### 1.3 Pit Percussion and Props

- i. The following instruments are provided:
  - A set of 4 timpani
  - 1 Tubular Bells
  - 1 Marimba
  - 1 Xylophone
  - 1 Vibraphone
  - 1 Gona
  - 1 Concert Bass Drum
  - 1 Drum Set
- ii. The percussion instruments are pre-set at a designated area at the beginning of each band's performance. These pre-set instruments may be moved during the AP but must be restored to their original positions within the stipulated time frame.
- iii. There will not be any professional timpanist for the purpose of tuning the timpani. Students are expected to learn to tune their own timpani.
- iv. Bands are allowed to bring additional/other instruments, but all set-up must be within the stipulated time frame. The list of additional auxiliary instruments and props must be submitted to the officers-in-charge through e-mail by **8 March 2018**.
- v. The maximum height of any prop is <u>2.5 m</u> for Categories A and B. No props are allowed for Percussion Ensemble.
- vi. If a podium is required for the conductor, the school must provide the podium.

#### 1.4 Equipment Use, Restrictions and Safety

The following is not allowed:

- Electronic or battery operated devices or instruments
- Routines that require the stadium lights to be turned off
- Animals
- Fire, pyrotechnics, fireworks, firing of weapons, or the use of any hazardous materials that could adversely impact the arena surface, participants or spectators
- Powder and/or any material that could potentially damage the arena, leave excessive residue, and/or disrupt the flow of the event

#### 1.5 Miscellaneous

- i. A <u>student representative</u> must be nominated to introduce the pieces presented. The introduction segment gives the student representative an opportunity to share their learning process. This student should preferably be a member of the performing group concerned. This introduction must be kept under 1 minute, and should include the following:
  - Name of school
  - Name of conductor (where applicable)
  - Title and brief description of performance
  - Students' key musical learning points from the preparation process and highlights of the work(s) to be performed

This introduction will not be assessed by the adjudicators.

- ii. The performance arena is 60 yards (width) x 30 yards (depth). Marking lines are provided every 5 yards, with a numbered cone at the end of every line. The centre mark is numbered '0'. Fanning out both left and right from this zero-position, each 5-yard point position is marked accordingly with '5', '10', '15', '20', '25' and '30' as reflected in Annex C.
- iii. The entire performance must be within the arena only.
- iv. Display bands may use or adapt the Arts Education Branch (AEB)-prescribed sets of formation for their actual performance.
  - Set I: For band size of 32 participants
  - Set II: For band size of 64 participants

These formations will be sent to schools upon request.

- v. In compliance with Intellectual Property law, specifically copyright, schools <u>must obtain written approval</u> from the original composer and/or publisher before making any modifications to the choice piece(s) (including changing of key, rearrangements, truncating, etc.).
- vi. Schools should purchase or rent original scores from publishers, and are to seek written permission from composers or arrangers for unpublished works. As the organiser obtains a yearly copyright permit for the SYF, participating schools need not obtain separate individual permits from COMPASS for their SYF performances.

#### 2. DURATION

- 2.1 The actual performance must not exceed <u>10 minutes</u> for Categories A and B, and must not exceed 8 minutes for Percussion Ensemble.
- 2.2 The total time for the performance area set-up, actual performance, exit and take-down must not exceed 20 minutes for Categories A and B, and 15 minutes for Percussion Ensemble.
- 2.3 <u>Five marks</u> will be deducted for any actual performance exceeding the stipulated time. Another <u>five marks</u> will be deducted for exceeding the total time.

#### 3. PARTICIPANTS

- 3.1 Each band in Band (Display) (Category A) is to involve 32 to 70 <u>current</u> students of the school. This number includes auxiliary groups (colour guards, pom-pom groups, dancers, flag-bearers and baton twirlers) and excludes the Drum Major and conductor(s).
- 3.2 To support schools with small enrolment, bands with fewer than 32 current students may (a) request to participate with fewer than 32 current students, or (b) combine with bands from other schools to form a combined band to participate in Band (Display) (Category A). Requests to do so must be put in writing to the SYF Secretariat at <a href="MOE\_SYF\_Secy@moe.gov.sg">MOE\_SYF\_Secy@moe.gov.sg</a> stating the following information:

#### Scenario (a)

- Name of school
- Category of participation: Band (Display) (Category A)
- Current CCA strength

#### Scenario (b)

- Names of schools forming proposed combined band
- Category of participation: Band (Display) (Category A)
- Current CCA strength for each of the combining groups

Requests must reach the SYF Secretariat by **17 November 2017** and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

- 3.3 Each band in Band (Display) (Category B) is to involve 71 to 150 <u>current</u> students of the school. This number includes auxiliary groups (colour guards, pom-pom groups, dancers, flag-bearers and baton twirlers) and excludes the Drum Major and conductor(s).
- 3.4 Each band in Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble) is to involve 12 to 32 current students of the school, including the student conductor (optional).

- 3.5 Each band in Band (Display) (Categories A and B) can involve one Drum Major and only up to a maximum of four conductors. These bands may replace one of the conductors with an individual who is not a current student of the school, but the Drum Major and other conductors must be current students of the school. The conductor must not be the Drum Major and vice versa.
- 3.6 With the exception of one conductor as mentioned in point 3.5, bands that involve performers who are not current students of the school will be disqualified.
- 3.7 For IP schools, students in Years 5-6 are not eligible to participate in the SYF AP for Band (Display) for Secondary School level.
- 3.8 Performers must be in their respective band uniforms. All performers must remain in the arena for the duration of the performance. For Percussion Ensemble, it is optional for the student conductor to remain in the arena for the duration of the performance.
- 3.9 Each student may participate in more than one SYF AP category.
- 3.10 Schools must adhere to the reporting time allocated to them for the SYF AP. <u>Five marks</u> will be deducted for schools that report late. The reporting time is not the performance time.

#### 4. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Schools are strongly encouraged to share the Assessment Criteria with their students to enhance student learning through the SYF AP preparation process, which is part of the CCA teaching and learning experience. These can be used formatively to guide teachers and instructors in assessing students' learning during the learning process. They can also be used to inform students of the learning outcomes and levels of performance in each criterion, and to involve them in self- and peer-assessment.

## 4.1 Band (Display) (Categories A and B)

## 50% - Music

- Precision (Rhythm, Pitch, Intonation, Tempo and General Cohesiveness)
- Playing Technique (Articulation and Tone Quality)
- Balance and Blend
- Expression (Dynamics, Appropriate Musical Styles and Musicality)
- Variety and Contrast

# 50% - Display and Marching

- Basic Drill and Movement (Precision of movement, Marching Steps, Poise and Posture)
- Choreography (Creativity, Formation Variety and Visual Impact)
- Display Execution (Alignment, Spacing and Effectiveness)
- Showmanship (Communication, Audience Appeal, Entertainment Value and Overall Presentation)
- Visual and Sound

# 4.2 Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble)

# 50% - Music

- Precision (Rhythm, Pitch, Tempo and General Cohesiveness)
- Playing Technique (Sticking, Articulation and Tone Quality)
- Balance and Blend
- Expression (Dynamics, Appropriate Musical Styles and Musicality)
- Variety and Contrast

### 50% - Display

- Movement (Precision of movement and Quality of movement)
- Choreography (Creativity, Formation Variety and Visual Impact)
- Display Execution (Alignment and Spacing)
- Showmanship (Communication, Audience Appeal, Entertainment Value and Overall Presentation)
- Visual and Sound

# 4.3 Drum Major of the Year

#### 10% - General Appearance

- Confidence
- Leadership (Command and control of the band)
- Dress and Bearing (Smartness of attire, as appropriate for the show)

# 40% - Posture and Carriage

- Poise
- Precision of Step (Ability to effectively march or step in time)
- Mace Work (Ability to effectively manoeuvre the mace)

## 50% - Showmanship

- Audience Appeal (Ability to connect with the audience)
- Body Movement (Appropriateness of body movements to the show)
- Flourish (Variety of manoeuvres using the mace and/or other actions)
- Overall Presentation

# 4.4 Location of Adjudicators

The panel of adjudicators will be seated at the Gallery Seats at the West Area of the venue.

#### 5. CERTIFICATION STRUCTURE

5.1 The SYF AP provides schools with the opportunity to benchmark their performance standards against the assessment criteria. There is no predetermined number for any certificate type. Participating schools will be presented certificates based on the assessment of their performances as follows:

SYF AP Certification Structure	Mark Range
Certificate of Distinction	≥ 75.0
Certificate of Accomplishment	60.0 - 74.9
Certificate of Commendation	≤ 59.9

- 5.2 The decision of the panel of adjudicators is final and no appeals will be entertained.
- 5.3 Results of the SYF AP for Band (Display), including Drum Major of the Year (for Categories A and B), will be published one working day after the end of category, on <a href="www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg">www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg</a>. In May 2018, written comments by individual adjudicators, along with an Adjudicators' Report that provides an overview of schools' performances at the SYF 2018 AP, will be made available to participating schools.
- 5.4 While preparing for the SYF AP, participating schools are advised to focus on their students' learning process.

# 6. REGISTRATION AND BALLOTING

- 6.1 Each school may submit only one entry per sub-category, up to a maximum of two entries in all. However, schools may only participate in either Band (Display) (Category A) or Band (Display) (Category B).
- 6.2 The Performance Schedule (previously known as Order of Appearance) will be determined through a balloting exercise undertaken by the organiser.

#### 7. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

7.1 The Arts Education Branch (AEB) has revised its photography and videography practices at SYF AP, as detailed in points 7.2 and 7.3.

#### Photography of Schools' Performances

7.2 AEB will continue to provide professional photography services for all schools during the SYF AP. As with past practice, schools may place orders for photographs of their schools' performances with the AEB-appointed photographer.

#### Videography of Schools' Performances

7.3 As AEB does not have access to all the copyright owners of schools' choice pieces, AEB will not have the permission to video-record these performances, and hence will <u>not</u> provide videography services for the Band (Display) category. In lieu of this, schools will be allowed to appoint <u>one videographer</u> each to video-record their respective schools' performances.

To do so, schools will need to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) of the work(s) to be performed, and submit a completed <u>video-recording</u> <u>declaration form</u> on the day of SYF AP. This form can be retrieved from <u>www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg/arts-presentation/downloadable-materials</u>. For more information, please refer to the resource pack that can also be downloaded from this link.

#### 8. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 8.1 All participating schools must comply with the Rules and Regulations.
- 8.2 Unauthorised photography, video- and/or audio-recording are not allowed during all SYF AP performances.
- 8.3 No food or drinks may be brought into the SYF AP venues.
- 8.4 Schools are advised to prepare the Risk Assessment Management System (RAMS) form to ensure that safety measures are considered and adhered to. Teachers must accompany their students throughout the SYF AP.
- 8.5 By registering for the SYF AP, all schools are deemed to have consented to publishing their repertoire titles for publicity purposes.
- 8.6 By participating in the SYF AP, all schools are deemed to have consented to the photography of their performances by the Arts Education Branch (AEB) for archival and publicity purposes.
- 8.7 Details on the SYF AP venue and the venue contact person will be sent to the schools' generic e-mail addresses by end-2017.

## **IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS**

#### 1. BRIEFING

1.1 An important briefing session for participating schools will be held closer to the SYF AP in 2018. Details are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 7 March 2018

Time: 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm (Registration starts from 2.30 pm)

Venue: PARB Meeting Room

Block 2, Level 2

Ministry of Education (Grange Road)

51 Grange Road Singapore 249564

- 1.2 The session will cover the following:
  - i. Key updates to the SYF AP
  - ii. Rules and regulations
  - iii. Administrative and logistical matters
  - iv. Performance Schedule (previously known as Order of Appearance)
- 1.3 Each school may nominate up to two teachers-in-charge per Band sub-category for the briefing session. For admission, please bring your PS card (for MOE personnel) or a photo ID (for non-MOE personnel). Pre-registration is not required.
- 1.4 The Performance Schedule will be released at the end of the briefing session and published on <a href="www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg">www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg</a> by 5.00 pm on the same day. Prior to the briefing session, an Information Pack will also be uploaded onto the SYF Portal. This Information Pack will also be e-mailed to each teacher-incharge (based on the e-mail address provided upon the school's registration on the SYF Portal).

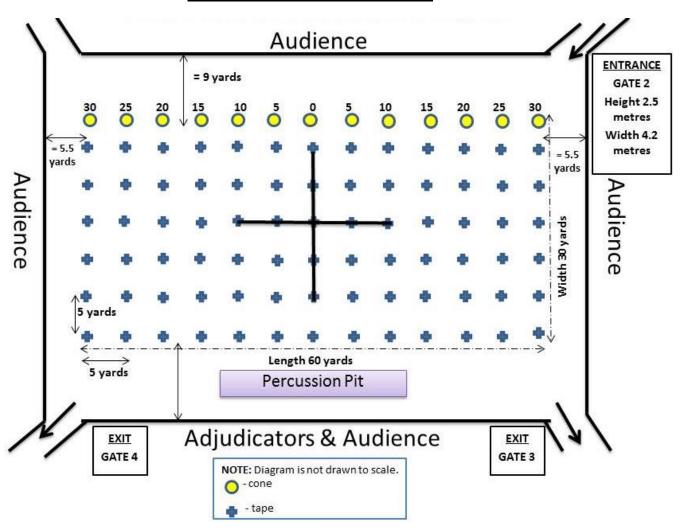
## 2. SCHEDULE FOR SYF 2018 AP FOR BAND (DISPLAY)

Date	Time	Event
27 December 2017 - 5 January 2018	-	Schools receive user IDs and passwords to the SYF Portal, www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg, through their generic e-mail addresses
8 January 2018	12.00 pm	Start of Registration, through www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg
5 February 2018	5.00 pm	End of Registration
19 February 2018	5.00 pm	Deadline to make changes to registration details, through www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg

# **ANNEX B**

7 March 2018	3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Registration starts at 2.30 pm	Briefing Session PARB Meeting Room Block 2, Level 2 Ministry of Education (Grange Road) 51 Grange Road Singapore 249564
	5.00 pm	Publishing of Performance Schedule on www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg
		Information Pack available for download on www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg
8 March 2018	-	Deadline to submit list of additional auxiliary instruments and props to officers-in-charge
9 April 2018	8.00 am - 6.00 pm	Rehearsal Venue to be confirmed
14 April 2018	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm	SYF AP for Band (Display) Venue to be confirmed
16 April 2018	by 5.00 pm	Publishing of Results on www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg
May 2018	-	Dissemination of written comments by individual adjudicators and Adjudicators' Report to participating schools

# PERFORMANCE ARENA DIAGRAM



#### **ONLINE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

- 1. Schools may register for participation through the SYF Portal at <a href="https://www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg">www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg</a> between 8 January and 5 February 2018.
- 2. Schools will receive their passwords for access through their generic e-mail account between **27 December 2017 and 5 January 2018**. The default password must be changed upon first login.
- 3. Schools intending to participate in the SYF AP must ensure the accuracy of the information submitted through the SYF Portal. Any changes in information may only be made through the SYF Portal before **19 February 2018**, 5.00 pm.
- 4. The registration process takes approximately 20 minutes. Please have the following information ready before you begin:

#### **Details of School**

- Name of School
- Name of Principal (including salutation)
- Address
- General Office number
- Fax number

#### **Details of Performance**

- Title/theme of performance (where applicable)
- Duration
- Total number as well as racial and gender breakdown of participants (including reserves and excluding helpers)

## **Details of Conductor**

- Full name as in NRIC (including salutation)
- Mobile phone number and other contact numbers
- Email address

#### Details of Teacher-in-charge

- Full name as in NRIC (including salutation)
- Mobile phone number and other contact numbers
- Email address

# **FREQUENTLY-ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

# 1. What is the rationale for removing the awards in the SYF AP for Band (Display)?

The SYF AP learning experience seeks to provide opportunities for students to deepen their learning in their respective art forms, learn important values and life skills, and develop 21st century competencies. As such, schools are encouraged to focus on the learning process through the SYF AP. The removal of the "Display Band of the Year", "Outstanding Music Performance" and "Outstanding Visual Performance" awards since 2016 aims to better align the format of the Band (Display) category with that of the other music categories.

# 2. Why is the "Drum Major of the Year" retained?

It specifically acknowledges the exceptional skill and hard work of individual students who devote extra effort and time to their training.

# 3. What is the rationale for having the Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble) category?

This new category allows students to combine musical performance technique with body movement and team precision skills. The percussion ensemble could comprise <u>either</u> unpitched percussion instruments <u>or</u> a combination of both pitched and unpitched percussion instruments.

# 4. Can a school participate in both Band (Display) (Categories A and B) and Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble)?

Yes, a school may participate in up to two sub-categories, and up to one entry per sub-category. However, schools may only participate in either Band (Display) (Category A) or Band (Display) (Category B).

# 5. How would the Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble) category impact students' participation in the AP for Band (Display)?

The Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble) category will allow for greater student participation within the Band (Display) AP, thereby increasing performance opportunities for students.

# 6. How would the introduction of Band (Display) (Percussion Ensemble) benefit schools?

This would allow schools to develop their students' musical strengths in an ensemble-setting. It would also provide schools with the flexibility to consider different platforms in Band that would best allow their students to demonstrate their learning. In addition, the movement-based musical experiences enable students to have a heightened sense of coordination while demonstrating musical understanding.

# 7. How can schools make use of the SYF AP criteria and/or rubrics, adjudicators' comment sheets and adjudicators' report to enhance students' Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) CCA learning?

The SYF AP assessment criteria and rubrics guide teachers in the planning of VPA CCA experiences that develop students' Knowledge, Skills and Values in the art forms during the AP preparation process. They can be used formatively to guide teachers and instructors in assessing students' learning during the learning process, to inform students of the learning outcomes and levels of performance in each criterion, and to involve students in self- and peer-assessment.

After the AP, the adjudicators' comment sheets and report provide timely feedback on students' performance outcomes and highlights the strengths and areas for improvement. Teachers should use them collectively to inform students' learning and future planning of their co-curricular programmes.

#### 8. Can a student take part in more than one SYF AP category?

A student can be involved in more than one category as long as he/she is able to cope with the practices and rehearsals.

#### 9. Why is there a need for a student introduction?

The SYF AP learning experience presents many opportunities for students to deepen their learning in their respective art forms, learn important values and life skills, and develop 21st century competencies. The introduction segment gives the student representative an opportunity to share this learning process.

# 10. Does the student representative introducing the band have to be one of the performers?

As the student representative will be articulating the key musical learning points from the preparation process and highlights of the work(s) to be performed, the student representative should be one of the performers from the group.

11. As with past practices, AEB is centrally coordinating photography services so that schools can purchase official photographs after the SYF AP. Why can't the same arrangements be made for videography for schools' choice pieces?

Referring to the slides in the photography and videography and resource package downloadable from <a href="www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg/arts-presentation/downloadable-materials">www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg/arts-presentation/downloadable-materials</a>, videography is deemed to be a form of reproduction, and reproduction of works would require permission from owners that own the copyright of work.

As AEB will not have access to all the copyright owners of schools' choice pieces, AEB does not have the permission to video-record these performances. As such, schools that wish to video-record their performances of choice pieces will have to clear the copyright with relevant copyright owners of their choice pieces. Upon copyright clearance, schools are to use the form template provided in the resource package to declare that permission has been given for videography. Schools must submit this form on the day of SYF AP upon registration, before their school-appointed videographer (only one per school) is allowed to enter the venue. All of the above information is stated in the guidelines found in the resource package.

A designated videography spot at the venue will be demarcated for this purpose.