

2024-25 Original Composition Program: PMEA Member, Compositions for Elementary & Middle School Ensembles

- Purpose:** The purpose of this program is to promote and encourage adult composition for the elementary and middle/junior high school teacher. This program is to allow members to submit a piece they have composed for their own elementary/middle/junior high ensemble.
- Eligibility:** Open to PMEA members who teach at the elementary and middle/junior high school level
- Requirements:** An original composition for a standard elementary or middle school instrumental or choral ensemble (with or without piano accompaniment – with original or borrowed text (credit must be given)). **Previous composition awardees may not submit a composition in the same genre in which they were recognized, however a composition in a different genre may be submitted.*

Program Rules and Procedures:

1. Composer must be a current PMEA Member and unpublished.
2. Entries must be unpublished original compositions. No transcriptions or arrangements will be eligible.
3. Compositions should be between one and a half and four minutes in length.
4. The purpose of the program is to encourage and promote composition. Therefore, the composition must be conceived and constructed solely by the composer.
5. Compositions must be submitted with a full score in PDF format and a recorded performance or digital audio file.
6. Be sure that your name is **NOT** listed anywhere on the score or in the audio file.
7. All entries must be received by **11:59 p.m., December 4, 2024**. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.
8. All rights, including copyrighting, remain with the composer.
9. Compositions submitted must not be published (printed or available publicly on streaming services) and must have not won any other competitions.
10. The panel of judges may include qualified university composition faculty, university music education faculty and/or music educators. Their decisions will be final, with the right to withhold the award in the event that no entry is judged to be worthy of winning.
11. A composer may submit multiple compositions; however each one must be written for a different ensemble/genre. A separate application is required for each composition submitted.
12. The top compositions will be featured during the 2025 PMEA Annual In-service Conference, April 10-12 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in the Poconos. If your composition is selected, you may be asked to submit a video recording to be played during the composition program session.

Evaluation criteria:

- Creative use of the elements of music
- Appropriate use of voice and/or instruments (range/playability, texture, tone color, text if applicable)
- Compositional technique and development
- Presentation (correct musical notation)

Results:

The top composition(s) will be recognized and will have their pieces featured during the 2025 PMEA Annual In-service Conference. All applicants will receive feedback on their compositions.

Entry Fee: \$15

Deadline: December 4, 2024

[Applications](#) will be accepted from Monday, September 16 until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4.

Questions: Please email: info@pmea.net