



January 2019

Dear Advanced MHES/SES Band and Strings Parents,

Calvert County will be hosting an **Elementary School Solo and Ensemble Festival** that is county-wide. You may or may not be familiar with the following musical terms:

SOLO: A single performer playing alone or with an accompanist (usually piano)

ENSEMBLE: A group of two or more instruments performing together

The festival offers instrumental music students the opportunity to perform alone or in a small group as opposed to the usual full group settings they are limited to in their schools. This smaller setting allows students to take more responsibility and receive individual recognition for the study that they put in on their instrument. The festival will take place on **Sat. March 9, 2019 at Sunderland Elementary School**. Exact performance times will come after all registration information has been turned in and processed. The festival will run from **8:30am – 2:00pm**. If you have any time restrictions, please let Mrs. Gross know below on the sign-up form.

The tone of the festival will be energetic and supportive. For most of these students, this may be the first time they have performed on their own or in a small group. They will perform a selection for a professional music “judge” who will listen and then offer a brief (5 min.) “clinic.” No scores or ratings will be given or posted. All students will receive written commentary about their performance from their judge, a pin, and certificate rewarding their participation.

Students have the following options:

1. Performing a **SOLO** with an accompanist. (Mrs. Gross will accompany any students who are interested in performing).
2. Performing with an **ENSEMBLE**. Mrs. Gross will place students choosing this option in an ensemble. Consideration will be given to all requests. Mrs. Gross will schedule extra class sessions to help students learn their music. Mrs. Gross will make the music selections for students from the Solo & Ensemble Library at school.
3. Students can perform both a **SOLO** and an **ENSEMBLE** if they wish. Each student may sign up for 2 events.

To sign your child up for the festival, please fill out and return the form at the bottom of this letter to Mrs. Gross as soon as possible. This can also be done by email.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Gross grossj@calvertnet.k12.md.us
Band & Strings Teacher Mt Harmony ES/Sunderland ES

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Please return to Mrs. Gross at MHES or SES as soon as possible:

Your child _____ has shown interest in performing in the Calvert County Elementary Solo and Ensemble Festival on **Saturday, March 9, 2019**.

Your child would like to perform: _____ Solo _____ Ensemble

I give my child, _____ permission to participate in the Calvert County **Elementary Solo & Ensemble Festival** held at **Sunderland Elementary School on Sat. March 9, 2019**. I understand that I will be responsible for providing transportation to and from the Festival.

Parent Signature Home Phone Email

****Scheduling: Please indicate scheduling preference time below:**

_____ 8:30am – 9:50am _____ 10:00am – 11:50am _____ 12:30pm – 1:50pm