



**Thank you for your interest in our
2026 FMEA All-State Orff Ensemble!**
You MUST read the following for success with your student audition.

We want your participation in this process to be successful. The information in this audition prep is simply to get you started on preparing your students for the audition. The downloadable packet will be released by **August 1st** and it will contain *critical* information to help you conduct your auditions with ease and validity. You must take time to **READ** with comprehension what is required. Following all procedures will require preparation and understanding on your part. We have diligently prepared this document to answer questions before you have them. Please read to the end before getting started. If you have questions after reading, please contact the All-State Orff Co-Coordinator, Lisa Hewitt and Rosemary Pilonero at Orff@femea.flmusiced.org

Be sure you are prepared to:

- Meet the deadline for all membership dues before uploading auditions. (NAfME, FMEA, FEMEA)
- Have required **paperwork** submitted no later than **September 12, 2025**.
- Prepare all audition music with students using the rubrics as a guide.
- Submit fees and online-generated Orff application form with student/parent signature. **Fees will be updated as needed in the August packet after FMEA review.**
- Secure an Orff-style **alto** xylophone
- Follow the 2026 audition from the August packet. **Note new partner song.**
- Record video audition using .mov or .mp4 format, in landscape (horizontal) view.
- Upload your recording(s) by the **September 25th** deadline.
- Select ensemble preference, if auditioning for both All-State ensembles.
- You will be asked if you teach recorder on the application even though it is not part of the audition.

We look forward to working with you and creating a memorable All-State Orff experience with our conductors, **Jennifer Donovan and Tiffany English**. Letters for the principal and to send home are available on the page. Find the links to these letters on the All-State Orff webpage. Results will be posted on October 9, 2025.

Lisa Hewitt and Rosemary Pilonero
FMEA All-State Orff Co-Coordinator
orff@femea.flmusiced.org

2026 Audition Prep Material

Teacher Directions

1. Set up a device to record the audition (phones in **landscape view**) making sure the student's hands may be seen for body percussion and mallet piece.
2. Start the recording (any pauses or stops in recordings can result in disqualification).
3. There are no verbal prompts given by the teacher during recording.
4. The student will perform the prepared body percussion piece, "Sleep Tight." **First time with speech and body percussion. Second time with body percussion only.**
5. Be sure the student is closer to the microphone than the teacher during "Shake the Papaya Down". The student's voice should be dominant on the video. Sing one time through. Student starts singing on Part 1, and continues through Part 2. Simultaneously, Teacher starts singing Part 2, and continues through Part 1.
6. The final part of the audition is the prepared song on **alto xylophone**.
7. Memorization is not required.
8. **Students' faces are allowed to be seen. Teachers, their names, and school names are not to be seen or spoken on camera.**

Audition

Ensure your video is in the required .mov or .mp4 format and be sure your video is horizontal if using a phone or tablet.

1. Before you start the video, Teacher says; "We are going to make a video for the FMEA All-State Orff Ensemble audition. When I start the video, we will record the entire audition without stopping the recording. **Do not say your name, my name, or our school name during the recording.**"
2. Start the video.
3. Student performs "Sleep Tight" alone.
4. First time speech + body percussion. Second time body percussion only.

Part 1: Prepared Body Percussion – "Sleep Tight"

$\text{♩} = 112-120 \text{ bpm}$

Good-night, sleep tight. Don't let the bed bugs bite.

Snap
Clap
Pat
Stamp

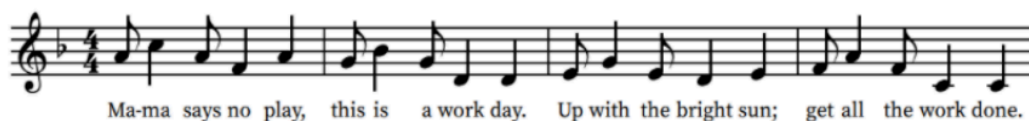
Part 2: Sing a Partner song – "Shake the Papaya Down"

1. Teacher plays starting pitches (A for the student/F for the teacher) one time. **Do not play the melody or sing the pitch.**
2. Student sings Part 1 through the end of Part 2 while Teacher sings Part 2 through Part 1 one time only.

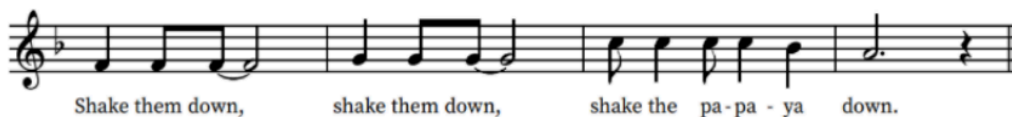
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♩ = 112 - 120 bpm

Part 1



Part 2



Part 3: Play with Mallets – “Mallet Piece”

5. Student plays “Mallet Piece” alone.

♩ = 115-130 bpm



6. Teacher turns off the camera.
7. Teacher says “Thank you for auditioning.”

Audition Scoring Rubrics on the next page to help you and your student assess the performance.

2026 FMEA All-State Orff Audition Scoring Rubrics

Part 1: Prepared Body Percussion

	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Performance Accuracy	100% accuracy in performance maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	1-2 errors (speech, levels, and/or rhythm) maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	3-4 errors (speech, levels, and/or rhythm) maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	5 or more errors (speech, levels, and/or rhythm) OR does not maintain prescribed steady tempo

Part 2: Sing a Partner Song with Teacher

	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Tone Quality	Utilizes clear, centered, rich tone in head voice throughout free of pushing/sliding	Head voice throughout but tone is breathy or thin, free of pushing/sliding	Head voice is present, but chest voice is used at inappropriate place OR tone is raspy and/or unsupported	Chest voice is used more frequently than head voice OR tone is pushed or strained
Intonation/ Pitch Accuracy		Accurate pitch and intonation throughout	1 - 2 pitch or intonation errors	3 or more pitch or intonation errors
Rhythmic Accuracy		Accurate rhythm throughout maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	1 - 2 rhythmic errors maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	3 or more rhythmic errors OR does not maintain steady tempo
Independence		Maintains own part throughout	Maintains own part throughout most of the song	Does not maintain own part OR teacher-caused error; is not performed as written

Part 3: Play Mallets

	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Playing Technique	Mallets held with pinch and wrap grip, palms down, elbows relaxed and slightly bent at the side of the body Posture is upright Mallets lightly bounce creating clear tone Correct sticking as prescribed	Mallets held with pinch and wrap grip, palms down, elbows relaxed and slightly bent at the side of the body Posture is slouched Mallets lightly bounce creating clear tone 1 - 2 errors in prescribed sticking	Mallets held with pinch and wrap grip, palms turned, elbows hyper extended or too close to body or on knees Posture is slouched Mallets lightly bounce creating clear tone 3 - 4 errors in prescribed sticking	Mallets held incorrectly Mallets do not bounce creating inappropriate tone (thunky) 5 or more errors in prescribed sticking Incorrect instrument
Rhythmic Accuracy		Accurate rhythm throughout maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	1 - 2 rhythmic errors maintaining prescribed steady tempo throughout	3 or more rhythmic errors OR does not maintain steady tempo
Melodic Accuracy		Accurate pitch as written throughout	1 - 2 pitch errors	3 or more pitch errors