



Finalized August Orff Audition
Thank you for your interest in our
2027 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. 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-Coordinators, 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, 2026**.
- ☐ 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 2027 audition from this **page**.
- ☐ Record video audition using .mov or .mp4 format, in landscape (horizontal) view.
- ☐ Upload your recording(s) by the **September 24th** (Thursday) 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, **Shelly Smith and Kristine Wolfe**. 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, 2026**

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

2027 Audition Material

Please start reading through these directions now to help you become comfortable with the recording process. Decide if you will use the track option or sing with your student on the partner song.

Setting Up the Recording

- Practice with students moving from song to song without stopping or talking. (Having a prompt on a board is allowed.)
- Set up a **cell phone or tablet** to record entire audition video using landscape view,
 - Be sure student is visible for body percussion and mallet hold
 - Watch for any school or teacher names in background, instruments, and/or clothing
 - Check to be sure an ALTO XYLOPHONE is being played
- **Non-Track option:** Teacher will play starting pitch for Part 1 for the student. Student sings only Part 1 one time while the teacher sings Part 2. Be sure the student voice is most prominent during the recording.
- **Track option:** Students will be able to simultaneously **listen** and **record** themselves in order to successfully complete Part 1 of the All-State Orff audition process.
 - **Computer/Laptop/Tablet - use for vocal track ONLY**
 - Download [vocal track](#)
 - Insert wired headphones with working microphone (recommended) or bluetooth headphones.
 - Press record to test that the recording script is playing correctly in the headphones and not aloud over the computer's speakers.

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. Start your audition with the vocal piece.
5. The student will perform the prepared body percussion piece, "Sleep Tight." **First time with speech and body percussion. Second time with body percussion only.**
6. Be sure the student is close to the microphone
7. The final part of the audition is the prepared song on **alto xylophone**.
8. Memorization is not required.
9. **Students' faces are allowed to be seen and mouth MUST be visible for judges. 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/landscape 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. I will not be able to talk during the recording.**"
2. Check to ensure the student can hear the track.
 - a. Be sure the student is wearing headphones or earbuds, if choosing this option.
3. Start the video. Do not talk or prompt student vocally. Keep recording without stopping until the end of the audition.

Part 1: Sing a Partner song – “Shake the Papaya Down”

1. See above for instructions for Non-Track and Track options. Student will only sing Part 1 for both options.

 = 112 - 120 bpm

Part 1



Ma-ma says no play, this is a work day. Up with the bright sun; get all the work done.



If you will help me, climb up the tall tree, shake the pa-pa - ya down.

Part 2



Shake them down, shake them down, climb the tall tree shake them down.

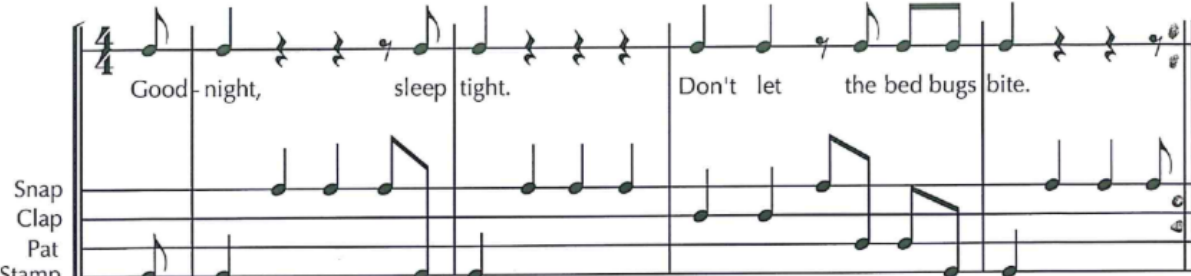


Shake them down, shake them down, shake the pa-pa - ya down.

4. Student performs “Sleep Tight” alone. (Make sure body percussion is visible for judges.)
5. **First time = speech + body percussion. Second time = body percussion only.**

Part 2: Prepared Body Percussion – “Sleep Tight”

 = 112-120 bpm



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

Snap
Clap
Pat
Stamp

continued on the next page...

Part 3: Play with Mallets – “Mallet Piece”

6. Student plays “Mallet Piece” alone.

♩ = 115-130 bpm



7. Teacher turns off the camera.
8. Teacher says “Thank you for auditioning.”
9. Teacher should check the audition recording before uploading to ensure that everything can be seen and heard by the judges.
10. **Do NOT** place emojis over faces or any other edits as this is disqualifying. Faces may be seen.

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

2027 FMEA All-State Orff Audition Scoring Rubrics

Part 1: Partner Song

	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 2: 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 3: 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