

Dear NEMFA members,

Thank you all for your input regarding the vocal adjudication process utilized in the Solo & Ensemble Festivals. We really were able to have some very meaningful discussions at both the General Meeting and the Vocal Forum in Norwalk.

There were many ideas brought forward at the Concert Festival. The top three suggestions along with one Board suggestion are presented to you here. We will tally your responses and bring the data to our June Board meeting where a vote will be taken to amend our vocal adjudication process. Please review these 4 options and reply to this email with your choice. Select the option(s) that you feel will best serve our NEMFA vocal students. Voting deadline is Monday, May 1, 2017 at 5:00PM.

- 1. Revert back to previous system where one adjudicator evaluated the entire ensemble performance and each member received the same rating.**

- 2. Tweak the 2-judge scoring system where one adjudicator evaluates the upper voices (Soprano and Alto in an SATB, Tenor I & Tenor II in a TTBB for example) on the current individual categories while a second adjudicator does the same for the lower voices (Tenor and Bass in an SATB, Bass I & Bass II in a TTBB for example). The two adjudicators would collaborate on one rating for the ensemble categories.**

- 3. Continue with the current process where one adjudicator evaluates each voice's individual categories while the second adjudicator evaluates the entire ensemble.**

- 4. Separate the vocal solos and vocal ensembles into two different categories and then use those performance ratings to select students from each one based on the number of performances by that voice in that category; i.e.,**

if 65% of all tenors performed in ensembles then 65% of the tenors in the chorus would be selected from the ensemble category.

As with most procedural changes, whatever alterations we make to our vocal adjudication process will be done so in a trial period. Thank you all for your participation.

**Tony Brackett
President**