

Contests and Festivals

Various organizations put on music events for students. Some are actual contests with prizes. Others are “festivals” or “assessments.” Participants are scored on their own merits and not by comparison. These events can motivate your practice and even be a lot of fun!

Event and Sponsoring Organization	Details
<p>Solo & Ensemble</p> <p>WSMA (Wisconsin School Music Association)</p>	<p>This program is run through the school system. You must be enrolled in band or choir to take part. (Homeschool students should contact WSMA to participate.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Events include solos, duets and larger ensembles. ▪ Students may enter a number of events. ▪ Each event has three difficulty levels: A, B, and C. ▪ The list of pieces is available at www.wsmamusic.com. ▪ Students earn ratings from 1-5 and medals.
<p>District Auditions</p> <p>WMTA (Wisconsin Music Teachers Association)</p>	<p>This event is for students of WMTA members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students play two or three pieces from different style periods and take a written musicianship test. ▪ If certain conditions are met, the student may advance to the Badger Competition. ▪ All students accumulate points to earn plaques and bars.
<p>Badger Competition</p> <p>WMTA</p>	<p>Students who take part in the WMTA Auditions and meet certain conditions (three pieces, one memorized, sufficient points, etc.) may qualify for this competition. Entrants compete within age categories for additional WMTA points and trophies.</p>
<p>Jr. Festival</p> <p>NFMC (National Federation of Music Clubs)</p>	<p>Membership is required and may be obtained by having a teacher in a Sr. Club or an individual membership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two pieces are performed. One is from published list. ▪ Points are accumulated to earn gold cups. ▪ There are separate events for ensembles and theory.
<p>Music Development Program</p> <p>The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto</p>	<p>No membership is required. This is an assessment program that checks musicianship against a national standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A typical assessment includes pieces and etudes, scales, sight-reading, and ear tests. ▪ Students are scored on a 100-point system and earn certificates for passing levels. ▪ Information available at www.theachievementprogram.org
<p>Concerto competitions</p> <p>Various</p>	<p>Orchestras such as the Chippewa Valley Symphony and the Chippewa Valley Youth Symphony often sponsor concerto contests. The winners may receive cash prizes or scholarships. The first place winner gets to play the concerto with the orchestra.</p>

All local FluteWild! instructors are members of WMTA and NFMC.

Most area high schools and Regis Catholic High School participate in WSMA festivals.