



MARIACHI EXTRAVAGANZA

National Group Competition Rules and Regulations - 2023

Any line highlighted indicates a new rule or change.

Rules for All Participants

- All participants must be registered for the conference.
- Registration fee is non-refundable and registration cannot be canceled after the late registration deadline of October 15, 2023.
- Student participants must be in good academic standing and be no more than 27 years old.
- Registrants are allowed entry into all events listed on the schedule of events, except the Mariachi Extravaganza Concert.
- A live drawing on the Mariachi Extravaganza Facebook page will determine the order of competition. Vocal and songwriting competition drawing: November 1st @ 6:00 PM.
Group competition drawing: November 15th @ 6:00 PM.
- National Group Competition Rules and Regulations

Rules by category

- Grade levels will determine the category each group will compete in.
- Middle School – 6th, 7th, 8th.
- High School – 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th.
- College / University – Must be enrolled in the current academic year and be 27 years old or younger.
- The grade level of the oldest student in the group determines the category for the entire ensemble. For example, if a high school or middle school group has one member who is in college, then that group must compete at the college/university level.
- ALL college/university students MUST have a CURRENT STUDENT ID on hand with them the day of the competition.

Performance Rules:

- A minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 musicians are required to compete in the group competition. The following instrumentation is recommended, but not required: Six violins, two trumpets, one vihuela, one guitar, one guitarrón, one harp (optional).
- ALL directors MUST submit their group's performance set list on their registration forms. It is important that the judges have the correct names of the songs the group will perform.



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- Middle school and high school groups may not perform any popurrís or medleys in the competition set.
- Popurrís are only allowed at the college/university level.
- A short tema or theme introducing a song may be included.
- If there is any question or uncertainty by the judges as to whether a performance has included a popurrí, that group will be DISQUALIFIED at the judges discretion.
- Each student on stage must play an instrument during the performance.
- Only students who are competing are allowed on stage during the competitions.
- High School and college/university directors are not allowed on stage during competitions or during the concert.
- If a high school or college/university group's director walks on stage during the competition, that group will be DISQUALIFIED at the judges discretion.
- Only Middle school directors are allowed on stage during the competition to help set up the microphones and must leave before the performance begins.
- Competing groups must adhere to the following time limits:
 - Middle School: 3-5 minutes
 - High School: 5-7 minutes
 - College/University: 7-10 minutes
- Time will begin after the first note is played regardless of whether or not that note is part of the performance. (Ex: Speaking "test" into the microphone, playing a note to check if the microphone is on, any word spoken into the microphone by a member of the group).
- Groups competing under or over the allotted time limits will have points deducted from their overall score.

Audio production rules:

- Microphones will be placed on stage in the same position as they are for a live concert (see diagram below).
- Armonía Section Microphones will be labeled
- Microphone stand height can be adjusted for performance.
- Any instrumental wired microphones CANNOT be moved from its designated spot. Points will be deducted at the discretion of the judges.
- Only the 4 vocal wireless microphones and the single wireless vocal microphone located in the armonía section can be moved around the stage.
- All groups will play using the sound levels set during Mariachi Aztlán's sound check the day prior. Sound technicians can adjust levels accordingly during performance if necessary.
- Sound levels will be reset back to Mariachi Aztlán's sound check levels at the end of every performance.

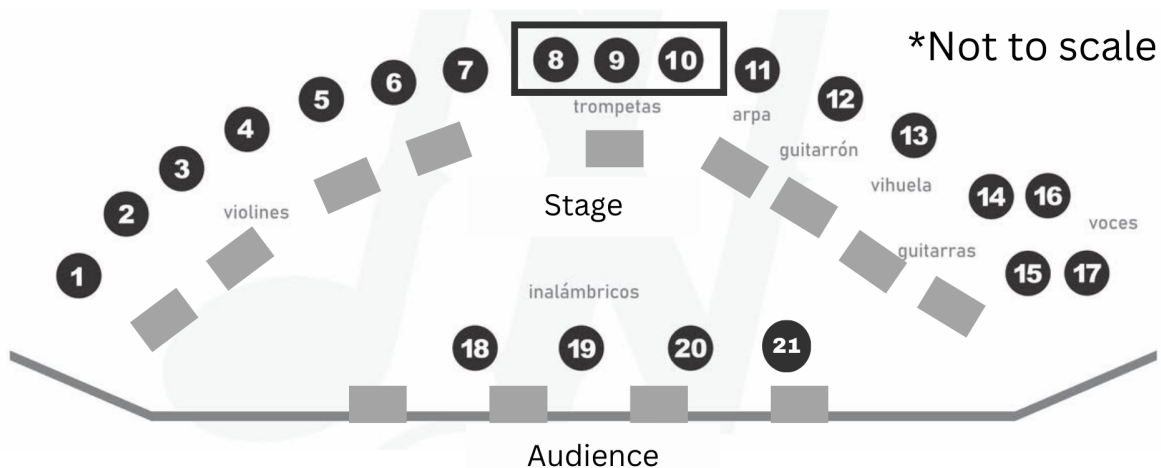
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- No one is allowed in the sound booth except approved staff and audio technicians.
- Any one found in the sound booth related to a group without authorization may jeopardize the group's ability to compete or place during the competition.

High School Finals Rules:

- The National Mariachi High School competition is the largest of the Mariachi Extravaganza group competitions. Because of this, the top high school performing groups will be selected and announced following the group competition. These top high school groups will compete in "High School Finals" on Saturday following the vocal competition.
- All rules stated prior apply to the High School Finals.
- The order of performance for "High School Finals" will be determined in a blind drawing following the group competition.
- First, second and third place winners will be announced following the finals.
- The first place winner of "High School Finals" will get to perform in the Mariachi Extravaganza Concert that same night.

Stage plot



Microphones 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 are wireless and can be moved around the stage. Any wired microphone should not be moved from its designated spot.