

MMTA AUDITIONS HANDBOOK

Updated August 9th, 2022

Regulations, Forms and Information

for

MMTA Honors Auditions

MTNA Competitions

District Auditions: Completed by September 24, 2022

State Auditions: November 3-6, 2022

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Find the latest MMTA Audition info online at
<https://missourimta.org/>

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COMPETITIONS / AUDITIONS OVERVIEW

PURPOSE:

One of MMTA's goals is to create the musicians and audiences of the future. Competitions and auditions can play an important role in this process, helping to bring out the best in young musicians by giving them the chance to perform alongside the best young musicians from across the state.

These events are "competitions" in the sense that ratings are given and winners chosen. But they are not competitions in the sense of being confrontational or antagonistic. We do our best to make the events a positive growth experience for *everyone* involved. Making good music is important; in comparison with that, winning a trophy, medal, or certificate isn't very important at all.

There are two distinct types of performance competitions that MMTA runs: MTNA Competitions and MMTA Honors Auditions.

ABOUT THE MTNA COMPETITIONS:

The Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Competitions are national in scope. The Missouri Music Teachers Association (MMTA) runs the Missouri State level MTNA competitions. The winners from the state MTNA competitions proceed to the Division level, which is by video submission; Divisional winners compete at the MTNA National Conference.

The performance level of MTNA entrants is generally very high, and a program of substantial length is required. Because of the high level and large repertoire required, relatively few competitors enter in each age group and medium.

Rules and deadlines for the national MTNA Competitions are set by MTNA. The details are given in the April/May issue of *American Music Teacher* and in the *Competition* section of MTNA's web site, MTNA.org. For the most part, Missouri state MTNA auditions must simply follow the rules, procedures, and deadlines set forth by MTNA. A few specific guidelines and a list of contacts for the Missouri state MTNA competitions are given in the "MTNA Performance and Composition Competitions" (see p. 12 below).

Many of the MTNA competitions are underwritten by corporations and so are named after the sponsor. MTNA competitions are divided into three main levels by age: Junior, Senior, and Young Artist.

ABOUT THE MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS:

MMTA Honors Auditions were created to allow a very broad participation of students. With few restrictions, music students of *any* age, *any* level of experience, and *any* performing medium (instrument or voice, solo or ensemble) are eligible to participate.

Although winners are chosen and ratings given, MMTA Honors Auditions are specifically designed to be a positive experience and a learning opportunity for *all* students who enter them.

Pre-collegiate entrants in MMTA Honors Auditions first play in the District Auditions, which are held in late September. District Audition participants receive a rating of I, II, III, IV, or V. Those receiving a I rating may play in the State Auditions, which are held in late October or early November each year.

There are no District Auditions for Collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions participants. Collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions participants proceed directly to the State Auditions.

Rules and procedures for the MMTA Honors Auditions are given in the section "MMTA DISTRICT and STATE HONORS AUDITIONS" below.

MMTA DISTRICT AND STATE HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Deadlines and audition dates:
District Application Deadlines: Aug 31 (St. Louis), Sept 7 (others)
District Auditions: Varies by district - will be completed by Sept 24
State Application Deadline: Oct 5
State Auditions: Nov 3-6
2. NEW: The student entry fees for both collegiate and pre-collegiate STATE auditions will be \$40.
3. NEW: Auditions fees are \$35 for all districts
4. The memorization requirement for **ALL** levels of the MMTA pre-collegiate auditions is as follows:
All vocal music must be memorized. All piano solo must be memorized except for 20th Century avant-garde piano compositions. Memorization of music for brass, classical guitar, organ, percussion, strings and woodwinds is optional. All ensembles may use music.
5. All auditions information is located at www.missourimta.org. When registration opens in mid-August, online links will be available at this site for registration and payment. Make sure that you fill out the registration information carefully and indicate the correct grade and district to ensure that the competitor is placed in the correct category through all levels of competition.
6. Online payment is preferred, but if needed, a check can instead be mailed to the Executive Secretary. Please email/call in advance so that they know you are doing so.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS:

Deadlines, fees, applications

Pre-Collegiate

1. Follow online instructions for registering online (<http://www.missourimta.org/www.missourimta.org>) and register by the deadline of August 31, 2022, for Dist. VI (St. Louis) and September 7, 2022, for all other districts.
2. All teachers must pay online at www.missourimta.org OR mail one check (payable to MMTA) to MMTA's Executive Secretary (c/o Erica Manzo, 3409 Longfords Mill Drive, Columbia, MO, 65203) for the District Auditions fees of \$35 per entry. Send one check with all student fees. There is no teacher fee for the district auditions.
3. District Auditions are set by the district chairs and will be completed by Sunday, September 24. Contact your district chair for specific time/venue information. The various district dates will also be published online at www.missourimta.org.
4. **State Auditions:** For students receiving "I" ratings at the district level, follow online instructions for registering online (www.missourimta.org). Then pay online at www.missourimta.org OR send both the student fees (\$40/student) and teacher fee in one check to MMTA's Executive Secretary. Applications after the closing date of October 5 will not be accepted. Teachers that have pre-collegiate and collegiate students participating should only send one teacher fee that covers both.
5. State Honors Piano Auditions (pre-collegiate) are Sunday, November 6, 2022. *Absolutely no exceptions to this date for ANY reason. Please, no requests for special scheduling consideration.* Pre-collegiate brass, woodwind, percussion, voice, and string auditions may be on Nov 4 or 5, 2022 (Fri or Sat).
6. Assist with audition monitoring or other responsibilities at district and state auditions, as assigned by the auditions chair, or find a responsible adult replacement to fulfill these duties.
 - a. **District Auditions.** District Chairs will make assignments to each participating studio. Once the assignments have been made by the District Chair, teachers will then be responsible for completing the given assignment—either by doing it personally or by finding a responsible adult replacement. *Teachers who do not fulfill the assigned duties will not be allowed to have students participate in auditions the following year.*
 - b. **State Auditions.** Every studio with two or more students participating in the state level MMTA Pre-Collegiate Honors Auditions will be given a specific assignment to help during the state auditions. Teachers may switch times with another teacher or find another responsible adult (no students) to fulfill the assigned duty. *Teachers who do not fulfill the assigned duties will not be allowed to have students participate in auditions the following year.*

Collegiate

1. Follow online instructions for registering online (www.missourimta.org).
2. All teachers must pay online at www.missourimta.org OR mail one check (payable to MMTA) to MMTA's Executive Secretary for the State Auditions fees of \$40 per entry. Send one check to cover all students' fees and the teacher registration fee. Teachers that have pre-collegiate and collegiate students participating should only send one teacher fee to cover both.
3. Please be sure to indicate COMPLETE repertoire title information, plus appropriate movement or tempo designations.
4. If participants from only one school are registered in any area (brass, organ, etc.), those participants will be notified and given the option of canceling their auditions.
5. Collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions are TENTATIVELY scheduled for November 4 or 5, 2022 (Thurs or Fri) except strings which are TENTATIVELY scheduled for November 5, 2022 (Sat).

ELIGIBILITY FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Students in all performing media are eligible, including ensembles. Piano ensembles must use a single piano only.
2. Students must be studying with a teacher whose MMTA-MTNA dues are paid by the District Audition deadline date for pre-collegiate entries OR by the State Audition deadline date for collegiate entries. Teachers who are not MMTA members may enter students if they pay the Non-member Teacher Fee of \$100 by the same deadlines.
3. Collegiate members of MTNA/MMTA may enter students in the MMTA district and state Honors Auditions if they have paid the collegiate student membership for both state and national organizations by the deadline for the auditions entry. These collegiate members will be expected to pay the registration fee for the state auditions at the collegiate student rate in order to be eligible to enter students in the state auditions. Collegiate students may enter collegiate-level MMTA Honors Auditions or MTNA Competitions themselves and still be eligible to enter their own students in the MMTA Honors Auditions. (Please note this rule applies to MMTA Honors Auditions only—because of MTNA rules, collegiate members are NOT eligible to enter students in the MTNA competitions.)
4. To meet the Missouri residency requirement, one or more of the following must be true:
 - a) The teacher resides in the state of Missouri
 - b) The student resides in the state of Missouri
 - c) The place of music study is in Missouri (for instance, at a Missouri college or university).
5. Collegiate contestants must be Senior High graduates, but they need not be enrolled in a college or university.
6. Students entering MTNA Competitions may not enter the MMTA Honors Auditions in the same performing medium (Please note—this includes both District and State MMTA auditions—MTNA competitors may not enter *either* level of MMTA auditions, in the same medium).
7. All pre-collegiate MMTA Honors Audition entries MUST begin at the District Auditions. Pre-collegiate students receiving a "I" rating at the District Auditions are eligible to enter the State Auditions in November.
8. All collegiate MMTA Honors Auditions entrants proceed directly to the State Auditions; for collegiate students there are no District Auditions.
9. In the event that a member of an ensemble is not able to perform at the state or district auditions, the ensemble may play with a substitute member (i.e., a teacher or older student) for comments but not for a rating.

GENERAL REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. The general repertoire requirement is for the performance of two or three compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods. The specific number of compositions and the audition length vary by age group and medium; see below.

NOTE: for the Pre-School and Elementary levels, the two contrasting pieces must be chosen from DIFFERENT method books or DIFFERENT editors. Any questions regarding repertoire should be directed to the District Chair or State competition officials BEFORE the registration deadline

2. Memorization is required for some age groups and mediums and is optional for others; see below.
3. Concertos are not allowed in piano auditions; however, concertos are allowed in the brass, percussion, string, and woodwind auditions.

4. Simplified arrangements will not be accepted for piano solos.
5. Sets of variations or multi-movement sonatas or sonatinas may be used as one of the compositions.
6. For pre-collegiate entrants, repertoire may *not* be changed between District and State Auditions.
7. For collegiate entrants, repertoire may *not* be changed following submission of application.
8. Students are to provide a reasonably clean copy of the music for the adjudicator WITH MEASURES NUMBERED. Pertinent names (teacher, student, school names) must be removed or concealed.
9. All entrants and accompanists must abide by the federal copyright law in providing scores used by the performer, accompanist, and/or adjudicator.

SPECIFIC REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Pre-school (including kindergarten):
Two compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods chosen from different method books or different editors. See memorization requirements, below.
2. Elementary Level (1st through 6th grade):
Two compositions by different composers in contrasting styles or periods chosen from different method books or different editors. See memorization requirements, below.
3. Junior High Level (7th, 8th, 9th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.
4. Senior High Level (10th, 11th, 12th grade):
Three compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.
5. Collegiate Level (Undergraduate and Graduate):
Three compositions in contrasting styles or periods. See memorization requirements, below.

MMTA CHAMBER MUSIC AUDITIONS – NEW

3. Junior High Level (7th, 8th, 9th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 8 minutes - no memorization requirement.
4. Senior High Level (10th, 11th, 12th grade):
Two compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 10 minutes - no memorization requirement.
5. Collegiate Level (Undergraduate and Graduate):
NEW – ONLY TWO compositions in contrasting styles or periods. Time limit is 12 minutes - no memorization requirement.

MEMORIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

Pre-Collegiate and Collegiate Levels

All vocal music must be memorized. All piano solo must be memorized except for 20th Century avant-garde piano compositions. Memorization of music for brass, classical guitar, organ, percussion, strings and woodwinds is optional. All ensembles may use music.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS TIME LIMITS

Class	Performance Time	Audition Time
Pre-school thru Elementary 3	5 minutes	7 minutes
Elementary 4-6	7 minutes	9 minutes
Junior High 7-9	8 minutes	10 minutes
Senior High 10-12	12 minutes	15 minutes
Senior High Voice	10 minutes	12 minutes
Collegiate	12 minutes	15 minutes
Collegiate Voice, undergrad.	10 minutes	12 minutes
Collegiate Voice, grad.	12 minutes	15 minutes

If the program exceeds the time frame it may be interrupted. It is recommended that in choosing repertoire, competitors adhere closely to audition times so that judges can hear most, if not all, of the student's program. These time limits apply for both District and State Auditions.

The Honors Auditions Time Limits are guidelines and final discretion as to the exact amount of performance time allowed lies with the adjudicator(s) in consultation with competition officials.

COPIED MUSIC IN MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

All entrants and accompanists must abide by the federal copyright law. **Photocopies are strongly discouraged.** Photocopies may not be made in order to avoid purchasing scores needed for performers or adjudicators. A Music Release Form must be signed for any photocopies being used. The form can be found here: http://members.mtna.org/competition_handbook/media/77709/ReleaseForm.pdf

In specific instances where a piece may be out of print or is ONLY published online as a digital download, contact the specific chair of the competition or VP Auditions IN ADVANCE in order for this to be cleared. In this instance, copies will be allowed when proof of permission is provided from the composer/publisher. **Decisions based on eligibility of pieces and/or the use of copies in an audition will be made by competition officials, rather than by adjudicators.**

ACCOMPANISTS FOR MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

Students must provide their own accompanists at the District and State Auditions. Teachers are allowed to accompany their students in the MMTA Honors Auditions.

CLASSIFICATION OF MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS

1. Pre-collegiate piano: Students are grouped by grade (pre-school, kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, etc.)
2. All other pre-collegiate (all media except piano solo, including piano duets): Students are grouped into these classifications:

Pre-school	Grades 7-9 (Junior High)
Grades 1-3	Grades 10-12 (Senior High)
Grades 4-6	

3. Collegiate undergraduate: College undergraduates are grouped into lower and upper divisions. If a certain division has only one entry, competition officials may, at their discretion, choose to combine the lower and upper divisions in that category.
4. Graduate: Graduate students in a particular medium are grouped together.
5. If ensembles have students in different grade levels, place ensembles in the level where the majority of the students are. If an equal number of students are from each level, the ensemble must be placed in the highest level. Examples:

Grade Levels of Students	Ensemble Grade Level
4 th , 5 th , 5 th , 5 th	5 th
5 th , 8 th , 8 th , 9 th	8 th
7 th , 7 th , 9 th , 9 th	9 th
9 th , 11 th	11 th

Collegiate ensembles must be composed entirely of college students.

6. Any classification with 30 or more entries will be randomly divided into two groups for adjudication.
7. For classifications that include different instruments or mediums (ie, voice, brass, woodwinds), any classification judged sufficiently large by competition officials may be divided into smaller categories according to medium. For instance, upper collegiate voice may be divided into upper collegiate men's and upper collegiate women's voice, lower collegiate brass into upper collegiate high and upper collegiate low brass, and so on. The decision to subdivide a classification in this way shall be at the sole discretion of competition officials.

OPEN AUDITIONS

All MMTA District and State Auditions are open to anyone who wishes to attend and listen.

OUR GOAL—ON TIME AUDITIONS

Our goal for auditions is to have them run on time – neither early or late. Many times “dead time” is purposefully scheduled between performers. Performers cannot perform before the scheduled time, even if there appears to be dead time between performers. In addition, judges cannot request students to perform ahead of schedule. Many teachers, parents, friends, or relatives – some you may not even know are planning to attend auditions—have missed hearing an audition because a student or a whole room was running many minutes ahead of the published schedule.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS ADJUDICATION

1. **Decisions of judges are final and may not be questioned by participants, parents, or teachers.** Please explain this rule in advance to students and parents and abide by it carefully. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find adjudicators for MMTA Honors Auditions, and one reason is because of too-frequent violation of this rule.
2. Judges will write an evaluation sheet for each student.
3. Pre-collegiate students will be assigned a rating of I, II, III, IV, or V. At District Auditions no plus or minus ratings will be used. At State Auditions, plus and minus ratings may be used.
4. In all classifications at the state level, judges may select a Winner, Runner-Up, and one or more Honorable Mentions. A judge may also opt to declare no winner, runner-up, or honorable mentions within a given category.
5. Teachers and students should, insofar as reasonable, avoid meeting with adjudicators immediately prior to the auditions or making any comment or taking any action that might bias the adjudicator or have the appearance of doing so.

MMTA HONORS STATE AUDITIONS AWARDS

1. Pre-Collegiate: All students will receive a certificate. Medals will be awarded to students receiving Runner-Up, Honorable Mentions, or I ratings. The Winner will receive a trophy.
2. Collegiate: Students selected as Winner, Runner-Up or Honorable Mention will receive a certificate.

POLICY ON PICKING UP AWARDS/COMMENT SHEETS FOR STATE AUDITIONS

1. Pre-Collegiate: If a teacher has not made arrangements for the comment sheets/certificates/awards to be picked up (i.e. making arrangements through parents or other teachers), the teacher must email the Executive Secretary at: manzoe@missouri.edu and request them. Then, the teacher has 2 options:
The teacher pays \$5 (online using Stripe at missourimta.org). Please notify Payment must be made first, and the awards will be mailed all at the same time to the teachers sometime during the week following auditions;
OR you can request to have them scanned/emailed to you (for free). Trophies/medals will not be mailed; the only option is to pick them up in person--or find someone else to pick them up for you.
2. Collegiate: Students selected as Winner, Runner-Up or Honorable Mention will receive a certificate. Contact the Collegiate Auditions Chair for comments and certificate.

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS STATE CHAIRS

MMTA State Honors Auditions Chair (Pre-school thru Senior High)

Jennifer McAtee
417-425-9977
jmcaatee@gulfcoast.edu

MMTA Collegiate Honors Auditions Chair

Chris Madden
University of Missouri - Kansas City
Conservatory of Music and Dance
4949 Cherry Street
Kansas City, MO 64110
(816)-235-2917
cmadden@umkc.edu

MMTA HONORS AUDITIONS DISTRICT CHAIRS

District	Chair	Phone	Email
I	Michelle Rautmann 511 N 25th St. Saint Joseph, MO 64501	816-341-9860	rautmannstudioofmusic@gmail.com
II	Xin Gao School of Arts & Letters Truman State University 100 E. Normal Ave. Kirksville, MO 63501	660-785-4440	xingao@truman.edu
III	TBA		
IV	Nancy Dreier 4413 Rockhampton Cir. Columbia, MO 65203	573-445-8344	njdreier@gmail.com
V	Wei-Han Su Missouri State University Department of Music 901 S National Ave. Springfield, MO 65897	417-836-6850	WeiHanSu@missouristate.edu
VI	Becky Lee 7611 Alicia Ave. Maplewood, MO 63143	725-502-6147	districtaudition6@gmail.com
VII	Emily Parker 133 N. Main St.	573-546-0202	eparker@arcadianacademyofmusic.com

MMTA DISTRICTS

District I (Northwest) Buchanan Caldwell	Andrew Atchinson DeKalb Gentry	Clinton Daviess Holt Livingston	Grundy Harrison Worth	Mercer Nodaway
District II (Northeast) Knox	Adair Clark Macon	Lewis Linn Schuyler	Marion Putnam Sullivan	Scotland Shelby
District III (West Central) Cass	Bates Carroll Jackson	Clay Henry Platte	Johnson Lafayette	Ray St. Clair
District IV (Central) Boone Callaway Camden Chariton	Audrain Benton Gasconade Howard Maries Miller	Cole Cooper Montgomery Morgan Osage	Moniteau Monroe Ralls Randolph Saline	Pettis Phelps
District V (Southwest) Cedar Christian Dade Dallas Douglas	Barry Barton Howell Jasper Laclede Lawrence McDonald	Greene Hickory Ozark Polk Pulaski Shannon	Newton Oregon Texas Vernon Webster Wright	Stone Taney
District VI (East) Franklin Wash.	Crawford Dent Pike	Jefferson Lincoln Ste. Genevieve	St. Charles St. Francois	St. Louis Warren
District VII Butler Cape Girardeau Carter	Bollinger Iron Madison Mississippi	Dunklin Pemiscot Perry Reynolds	New Madrid Scott Stoddard Wayne	Ripley

MTNA PERFORMANCE AND COMPOSITION COMPETITIONS

MTNA RULES, REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION

All information and application forms will be found in the April-May issue of *American Music Teacher* or at <http://www.mtna.org/www.mtna.org> under the subheadings of Engage and Competitions.

MTNA competition application forms are available online only and must be submitted electronically. The application forms will *not* be printed in *American Music Teacher*.

In addition to the information given in the rules for each specific competition, there are general rules that apply to *all* competitions given at the beginning of the MTNA Student Competitions insert in *AMT* and on the MTNA web site under the title “General Competition Guidelines”. Please make your students aware of these general guidelines, as well as the specific rules for the student’s division and age group.

MTNA TEACHER DUES

The teacher’s MMTA/MTNA dues must be paid according to the deadlines listed on MTNA’s website in order for a student to be eligible. Generally the teacher dues deadline for MTNA competitions is the second Wednesday after Labor Day and the same date as the MTNA competition application deadline.

Teachers who are not MTNA members may enter students in MTNA competitions by paying a non-member teacher fee.

MTNA CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION

MTNA Chamber Music competitions have a new format with a later entry deadline and NO state competitions. The entry deadline will be Wednesday, December 7, 2022, with applications available Wednesday, November 1, 2021. For more information, please visit: https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/Chamber_Music.aspx

STATE WINNERS OF MTNA COMPETITIONS

1. **It is important for all students to stay until the winner is selected for their competition.** Much information is needed from each winner immediately after each competition.
2. Students who enter the MTNA competitions have assumed financial and personal responsibility to continue through each of the remaining levels.
3. **Division competitions will be an ONLINE-ONLY VIDEO round. [Click here](#) for the details of the Division competitions process. An additional division video submission fee of \$20 will be required for those advancing to the division level**
4. State winners will required to submit their videos by Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at 3pm EST
5. If the state winners have not submitted their video by the deadline, we will contact the alternate immediately. They will have until December 10 to submit their video for the division competitions.
6. Division winners will be the national finalists at the National Conference in Reno, March 25-29, 2023.

MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS

Reminder: All applications must be submitted to the appropriate national chairman before the student competes, by the published deadline (See April/May issue of *AMT*). The deadline for performance competitions is Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Be sure to keep a copy of the application for yourself.

Teachers must verify the accuracy of all information submitted in the application before submitting to national coordinators. Correcting mistakes in applications has been a major cause of delay in scheduling your state auditions.

Tentative audition dates for Missouri state MTNA competitions:

MTNA Collegiate piano: Thursday, Nov 3 OR Friday, Nov 4

MTNA Collegiate brass, woodwinds: Thursday, Nov 3 OR Friday, Nov 4

MTNA Collegiate voice: Thursday, Nov 3 OR Friday, Nov 4

MTNA Collegiate strings: Friday, Nov 4 OR Saturday, Nov 5

MTNA Pre-Collegiate piano, voice, strings: Saturday, Nov 5

MTNA Pre-Collegiate brass, woodwinds: Thursday, Nov 3 OR Friday, Nov 4 (in the late afternoon, after the corresponding Collegiate competitions end)

MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Please check with the MTNA website (www.mtna.org) for correct information. All entries are submitted on-line.

STATE MTNA AUDITIONS CHAIRS

MTNA Student Composition Competitions

Luke Carlson
P.O. BOX 17
Point Lookout, MO 65726
(417)-690-2367
lcarlson@cofo.edu

MTNA Pre-Collegiate Competitions

Daniel Ketter
Missouri State University
Department of Music
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897
(417)-836-5435
dketter@missouristate.edu

MTNA Young Artist Competitions

Sophia Han
Southeast State University
Department of Music
One University Plaza, MS 7800
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 651-2346
shan@semo.edu

MMTA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MMTA Executive Secretary

Erica Manzo
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manzoe@missouri.edu