

November 22, 2013

**Congratulations!** Based on your application and your director's recommendation, you have been selected as a participant in the Twenty-Third Annual Auburn University High School Honor Band Festival. The Festival is sponsored by the Auburn University Bands and the Department of Music and will be held on the Auburn campus the weekend of February 13-15, 2014. The Festival will consist of three bands: one Symphonic and two Concert, which will be conducted by Ginny Markham (Director of Bands, Lassiter HS), Christine Beason (Director of Instrumental Studies, Texas Wesleyan University), and Gary Markham (retired Cobb County Supervisor of Music). We are very excited to announce that our guest conductor and clinician will be composer Timothy Mahr.

**Registration:** In order for you to participate in the Festival, we must receive your festival payment by ***Monday, December 9, 2013***. If we have not received your payment by ***December 9<sup>th</sup>***, we will assume that you do not wish to participate in the Festival and another student will be chosen as a replacement.

**Check-in:** Check-in will be held in the upstairs lobby of the Goodwin Music Building from 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. The Goodwin Music Building is located on Samford Avenue, across the street from Burton Hall (the University Housing Office) on the Auburn Campus.

**Placement auditions:** Auditions for placement and seating in the bands will begin at 2:30 p.m. A list of audition rooms and judges will be posted at the check-in site. You will be assigned an audition time when you check in. The audition music will be posted by on the AU Band website at <http://band.auburn.edu> by December 9th. You also may be asked to play major scales, the chromatic scale, and/or sight-read.

**Organizational Meeting/Host Concert:** After the auditions, all participants will have dinner on their own and then attend an ***Organizational Meeting/Host Concert in the Auburn Performing Arts Center at Auburn High School from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>***. Admission is free and open to the public. During the organizational meeting the Festival Staff will be introduced, audition results will be posted, and information concerning the schedule, activities, and procedures will be announced.

**What to bring:** All participants must provide their own instruments and accessories (mutes, reeds, oil, etc.). ***Everyone must also bring a wire music stand*** and pencils for rehearsals. Percussion instruments will be furnished, but percussionists should bring their own sticks and mallets. Clothing should include casual attire for rehearsals, appropriate gear for inclement weather, and your band uniform for the Festival Finale Concert on Saturday morning. Personal items of value should be labeled with your name, school, address and telephone number. Insurance and records of identification markings (make, model serial number) are a recommended precaution. Auburn University is not liable for loss, theft of, or damage to participants' personal belongings.

**Release Form/Medical information:** The Honor Band Release Form can be found online at <http://band.auburn.edu> under the High School Honor Band page. **It is to be completed, signed by your parent or guardian, and returned to the band office by January 15th.** Parents will be informed of any emergency medical condition which occurs and will be responsible for all medical expenses incurred. Students with special medical needs or problems should provide the Auburn University Band staff with a detailed written account. Auburn University is not liable in the event of an accident or personal injury.

**Rules and regulations:** There will be absolutely no use of tobacco, alcohol, or controlled substances by students while attending the Auburn Honor Band Festival. Prompt attendance at ALL rehearsals and proper behavior will be expected of all participants. (Be sure to read the note at the bottom of this page concerning conflicts.) Rules and regulations pertaining to Auburn University and the Auburn Honor Band Festival will be explained to you at the Thursday evening organizational meeting. Parents of any student in violation of these policies will be notified, and the student may be expelled from the Festival without refund. In case of emergency, participants may be contacted by telephone through the Auburn University Band office at (334) 844-4166.

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**Money:** Your \$55.00 fee covers participation in the Festival only. Also included in that fee is a commemorative Festival T-Shirt and Festival medal. You should bring sufficient money for your hotel room, meals, snacks, souvenirs, etc. CD and DVD orders will be taken during the Finale Concert. (No audio recording equipment will be allowed in the hall during the concert.)

**T-Shirts:** All Festival T-Shirts will be delivered to you at check-in on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Festival Finale Concert:** The Festival will conclude by featuring all three Honor Bands in a Finale Concert in the Auburn Performing Arts Center on the campus of Auburn High School at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the concert, each participant will receive an award medal. Families, friends, and directors of participating students are encouraged to attend this concert. Admission is free.

**Reminder:** *Be sure that you pay the remaining balance of \$55.00 by Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013.* If you are unable to attend the Festival, please notify us immediately so that we can offer the place reserved for you to someone else. (Registration fees cannot be refunded.)

We look forward to having you with us for the Twenty-Third Annual Auburn University High School Honor Band Festival. We believe that it will be an enjoyable and rewarding weekend for everyone involved. If you have any questions, or if we can help you in any way, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rood", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Rick Good  
Auburn University  
Director of Bands

**VERY IMPORTANT:** *To participate in the Auburn Honor Band Festival, you must attend **ALL** of the festival rehearsals, concerts, and other events. If you have any conflict which would necessitate missing any part of the Honor Band Festival, you **MAY NOT** participate in the Festival.*