Congratulations! Based on your application and your director's recommendation, you have been selected as a participant in the Twenty-Seventh 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 8-10, 2018. The Festival will consist of four bands, which will be conducted by Joseph Hermann (Director of Bands, Tennessee Technological University), Linda Moorhouse (Associate Director of the School of Music, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Roy King (Director of Bands, J. M. Tate High School, FL), and Daniel Wooten (Director of Bands, Niceville High School, FL). We are very excited to announce that our guest conductors and clinicians will be composers Johan de Meij and Richard Saucedo.

In order for you to participate in the Festival, we must receive your festival fee of \$65.00 by <u>Monday, January 8, 2018</u>. If we have not received your payment by January 8th, we will assume that you do not wish to participate in the Festival and another student will be chosen as a replacement. You may pay online by clicking the Festival Fee button on the <u>AU Bands website</u>, or pay by check if you prefer (mail checks to 132 Goodwin Music Building, Auburn, AL 36849). For instructions, visit the AU Band website: <u>band.auburn.edu</u>

Release Form: The Honor Band Release Form can be found at band.auburn.edu on the High School Honor Band page (band.auburn.edu). It is to be completed, signed by your parent or guardian, and mailed, emailed, or faxed to the AU Band Office. The mailing address is 132 Goodwin Music Building, Auburn, AL 36849. If mailed release forms must be postmarked by Monday, January 8, 2018. If you prefer email, please send to auhb@auburn.edu, or you may fax to 334-844-3170. Parents will be informed of any medical emergency 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.

Money: Your \$65.00 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. DVD orders will be taken during the Finale Concert and on our website following the festival. (No audio recording equipment will be allowed in the hall during the concert.)

Check-in: Check-in will be held in the band room of the Goodwin Music Building from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8th. 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. This music can be found on the AU Band website at http://band.auburn.edu. You also will be asked to play major scales, the chromatic scale, and 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 at Lakeview Baptist Church in Auburn from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 8th. 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.

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.

T-Shirts: All Festival T-Shirts will be delivered to you at check-in on Thursday, February 8th.

Festival Finale Concert: The Festival will conclude by featuring all four Honor Bands in a Finale Concert in the Auburn Performing Arts Center on the campus of Auburn Junior High School at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2018. 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 \$65.00 by Monday, January 8th, 2018. 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.)

A tentative schedule, parking and hotel information, and the release form have been posted on our website. Please check your email, as we will email you reminders and additional information regarding the festival.

We look forward to having you with us for the Twenty-Seventh 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,

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.