

# MIDFEST

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual University of Georgia Middle School Band Festival



Honor Symphonic Band Conductor

**DR. JACLYN  
HARTENBERGER**

*University of Georgia*

## Guest Conductors

**SHIREE WILLIAMS**

Athens, GA

**MICHAEL ROBINSON**

Athens, GA

**JAMES SEDA**

Decatur, GA

## Guest Bands

**BUFORD MS**

Kathy Mason, Directors

**EAST COBB MS**

Gregory Denson Valarie Stoney, Directors

**SOUTH FORSYTH MS**

Andrew F. Poor & Nathaniel Hughes, Directors

## IMPORTANT DATES

**NOMINATIONS BEGIN: SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**NOMINATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**ACCEPTANCES PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**CANCELLATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**FESTIVAL DATES: DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup>**



**Hugh Hodgson  
School of Music**  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

Dear Colleagues:

The faculty and staff of the University of Georgia Hugh Hodgson School of Music are delighted to invite you and your most accomplished students to participate in the 31st Annual Middle School Band Festival to be held December 11, 2021. The event begins with registration and student placement auditions in the morning of December 11 and concludes with concerts by the festival Clinic and Honor Bands later that afternoon. Events will be held in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music in Athens.

**MidFest** is designed to provide a rewarding musical experience for advanced middle school band students, grades 6, 7, and 8. Directors are encouraged to nominate their *most advanced students* by way of the festival email registration. *Saxophonists and percussionists are not eligible for automatic acceptance and will not be accepted as one of your first two choices.* More than two students from a school may be selected to participate in the festival depending upon the total number of schools participating and instrumentation needs. Nominations begin on September 21<sup>st</sup> and must be received by **5pm EST on OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**. The names of additional students selected will be made available at our website on or about October 22<sup>nd</sup>. All selected students will be asked to submit a video audition by **11:59 p.m. on November 28<sup>th</sup>** and assigned to either the Honor Band or one of seven Clinic Bands after arriving on campus.

Please do not send \$75.00 festival fees for any students you nominate as Automatic acceptances or Additional Student Applicants. Those fees will be requested after all selections have been made. You have the option of paying by **credit card**. The link to our secure UGA Marketplace credit card processing page will be included in the email announcing acceptances for this year's festival. If you prefer, you may still mail your payment as well.

Students attending the Middle School Festival must be chaperoned by adults from the participating schools. When no director is present, we ask that you assign one chaperone to be the head chaperone to handle all festival matters for your school. Please send head chaperone phone number and email to Rob Akridge at [rakridge@uga.edu](mailto:rakridge@uga.edu). As always, we recommend that you check with your individual school systems and adhere to any policies governing such events. Housing arrangements for are the responsibility of the director and/or chaperones.

We look forward to receiving your students' applications and to seeing you in Athens this December!

Warm regards,

Jaclyn Hartenberger  
Assoc. Director of Bands

Rob Akridge  
Director of Festivals

### IMPORTANT NOTES FOR 2021

- Please DO NOT send any payments when you nominate students. Send all payments after acceptances have been announced on or about October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Schools must check-in at the festival as a group. *Band assignments will be handed out at registration.* If students are being chaperoned by parents without a director present, a head chaperone must be designated to handle registration, audition information, and dispensation of any outstanding financial matters. Directors should send chaperone cell number and email to Rob Akridge (rakridge@uga.edu). **Students who attempt to check-in separate from their school's other participants will be not be checked in until the remainder of the students have arrived.**
- Students will be asked to submit a video audition by November 28<sup>th</sup>. Anyone not submitting a video audition will be placed in a band based on the director's recommendation submitted during the registration process.
- Wind instrument videos submitted should include two of the four Middle School All-State scales (Concerts F, Bb, Eb, Ab).
- Percussion videos submitted should include:
  - Mallets – two of the four Middle School All-State scales
  - Snare – brief etude (to be emailed with acceptances)
  - Timpani – brief etude (to be emailed with acceptances)
- Directors are asked to notify us of any accepted students who will not attend by the close of business on November 19<sup>th</sup>. This will permit us to reach the optimum number of students at the festival without over-accepting. After November 19<sup>th</sup>, each school will be responsible for the number of students on its Accepted list.

### DIRECTOR'S CHECKLIST

- Gather the information requested on the School/Director Registration Worksheet, Student Registration Worksheet #1, and Student Registration Worksheet #2. **Please remember that these two students must not be saxophonists or percussionists.** Also gather the information requested on the Additional Student Applicants Worksheet (all of your accomplished band students are eligible for this).
- Submit this information by October 15<sup>th</sup> through the link provided in the nomination email sent out September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- On or about October 22<sup>nd</sup>, an email will be sent announcing which students have been accepted to the festival.
- Pay registration fees (by credit card via the website or mail a check) for your accepted students and notify our office of any accepted students who decide not to attend by November 19<sup>th</sup>. After November 19<sup>th</sup>, schools are responsible for the number of students on their accepted list.
- Join us for **MidFest** on December 11<sup>th</sup>!

**PRELIMINARY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

**Thursday, December 9**

7:00-7:30 PM                   **CONCERT**  
HODGSON HALL, UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**Buford Middle School**  
                          Buford, Georgia  
                          Kathy Mason, Conductors

**Friday, December 10**

7:00-8:0 PM                   **CONCERT**  
HODGSON HALL, UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**East Cobb Middle School**  
                          Marietta, Georgia  
                          Gregory Denson & Valarie Stoney, Conductors

**South Forsyth Middle School**  
                          Cumming, Georgia  
                          Andrew F. Poor & Nathaniel Hastings, Conductors

**Saturday, December 11**

8:00-9:00 AM	Registration
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Band rehearsals
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch (catered, included in price)
1:00-3:00 PM	Band Rehearsals
3:30 PM	<b>Final concerts begin</b>
6:00 PM	<b>Festival concludes</b>

**ATHENS HOTEL INFORMATION**

Many local hotels are offering special **MidFest** rates for participating schools. When making hotel reservations, ask to see if there is a UGA Middle School Band Festival rate to receive this discount.

Directors are strongly encouraged to make reservations for accommodations as soon as the list of accepted students is published. Though there are more than enough hotel rooms in the area to serve festival students, the more economical and convenient lodging options will be reserved quickly.

The list below represents properties that university guests have utilized in the past. This list is for the convenience of directors only, and does not imply an endorsement by the University of Georgia.

**DOWNTOWN/CAMPUS AREA**

<b>Best Western</b>	<b>(706) 546-7311</b>
<b>Comfort Suites</b>	<b>(706) 995-4000</b>
<b>Courtyard by Marriott</b>	<b>(706) 369-7000</b>
<b>Georgia Gameday Center</b>	<b>(706) 583-4500</b>
<b>Hilton Garden Inn</b>	<b>(706) 353-6800</b>
<b>Holiday Inn</b>	<b>(706) 549-4433</b>
<b>Holiday Inn Express</b>	<b>(706) 546-8122</b>
<b>Hyatt Place</b>	<b>(706) 357-4523</b>
<b>Hotel Indigo</b>	<b>(706) 546-0430</b>
<b>The Graduate – Athens</b>	<b>(706) 549-7020</b>
<b>Wingate by Wyndham Athens</b>	<b>(706) 995-4000</b>

**OUTLYING AREAS WITHIN 15 MINUTES OF CAMPUS**

<b>Best Inn</b>	<b>(706) 549-1530</b>
<b>Comfort Inn</b>	<b>(706) 227-9700</b>
<b>Country Inn &amp; Suites</b>	<b>(706) 612-9100</b>
<b>Hampton Inn</b>	<b>(706) 548-9600</b>
<b>Howard Johnson</b>	<b>(706) 548-1111</b>
<b>Microtel Inn</b>	<b>(706) 389-4836</b>
<b>Perimeter Inn</b>	<b>(706) 548-3000</b>
<b>Quality Inn</b>	<b>(706) 549-1530</b>
<b>Sleep Inn and Suites</b>	<b>(706) 850-1261</b>
<b>Spring Hill Suites</b>	<b>(706) 353-8484</b>

## **INFORMATION FOR DIRECTORS AND STUDENTS**

**ELIGIBILITY:** Students enrolled in grades 6, 7, and 8, recommended by their middle school director are eligible. Saxophonists and percussionists are only eligible for consideration as Additional Student Applicants, and will not be admitted as automatic acceptances.

**APPLICATIONS:** Application worksheets to help you gather the appropriate information are enclosed. Registration takes place online. Please submit the information from Student Registration Worksheets #1 and 2 for the first two nominees at our website. Also submit the information from Additional Student Applicants Worksheet and the School/Director Registration Worksheet. Please submit this information by October 15<sup>th</sup>. We will request payment for all student applicants after students have been selected.

**STUDENT SELECTION:** The first two nominees (**except saxophones and percussion**) will be accepted automatically for the first 80 completed applications. Additional students from each school may be accepted on the basis of:

1. The order in which you submit them.
2. The instrumentation needs of the festival bands.
3. The accomplishments of the students indicated in the registration process.

Additional student selections will be emailed to directors on or about October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Placement in the festival bands will be made on the basis of video auditions to be submitted by November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MEALS:** Lunch will be catered and delivered to each band rehearsal site.

**ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE:** Registration will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Concerts begin at 3:30 PM and end at approximately 6:00 PM. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend only the concert featuring their child. Audience will need to social distance and be masked.

**REGISTRATION:** Please register for **MidFest** by completing the link in the student nomination email sent out September 21<sup>st</sup>. Worksheets are included to assist you in gathering the information you need for online registration.

**FESTIVAL AUDITIONS:** Accepted students will submit video auditions prior their arrival to determine band assignment and seating.

**Winds:** Play up two scales/arpeggios (taken from the Georgia Music Educators Association Middle School All-State requirements). G.M.E.A. scale requirements for middle school students may be found at gmea.org. The chromatic scale will not be a part of any audition.

**Snare Drummers:** Brief etude (will be emailed to directors along with student acceptances on or around October 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**Timpanists:** Brief etude (will be emailed to directors along with student acceptances on or around October 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**Keyboard Percussionists:** Perform two GMEA required scales and arpeggios of your choice. (G.M.E.A. scale requirements for middle school students may be found at gmea.org.)

*Strongest consideration will be given to those percussion students who audition on more than one percussion instrument.*

**WHAT TO BRING:** Wind players must bring a **folding music stand** (make sure student name is on stand), their instrument and supplies (i.e., reeds, neck strap, etc.), and a pencil. **Percussionists, please bring sticks & mallets only.** Concert black dress is preferred for the concert, but students' normal school concert dress is acceptable.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Participating directors will be able to access final information during the week before the festival. A program including rehearsal schedules, clinics, and concerts will be available at registration on December 11<sup>th</sup> and at the UGA Bands website.

UGA Band Office  
Phone: (706) 542-1505  
Fax: (706) 542-0124  
Email: rakridge@uga.edu

**SCHOOL/DIRECTOR REGISTRATION WORKSHEET**

(PLEASE SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION FOR EACH DIRECTOR)

Director Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Will be used only for emergencies while your students are attending the festival

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to call: (work) \_\_\_\_\_

(home) \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT REGISTRATION WORKSHEET #1**

Use for your first automatically accepted student. Please do not nominate saxophonists or percussionists for either of your first two nominees.

**Please submit this information ONLINE by Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL STATE? (YES / NO)

INSTRUMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE :(     ) \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN FIRST AND LAST NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN WORK PHONE :(     ) \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF MIDDLE SCHOOL:

\_\_\_\_\_

*The student festival fee of \$75.00 per automatically accepted student must be received with your receipt from the online registration form. Please make all checks payable to:*

*UGA Middle School Festival*

*Students paying as individuals should be registered online by their band director and submit this completed form with payment.*

**STUDENT REGISTRATION WORKSHEET #2**

Use for your second automatically accepted student. Please do not nominate saxophonists or percussionists for either of your first two nominees.  
Please submit this information ONLINE by Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL STATE? (YES / NO)

INSTRUMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN FIRST AND LAST NAME:  
\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN WORK PHONE:( ) \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF MIDDLE SCHOOL:  
\_\_\_\_\_

*The student festival fee of \$75.00 per automatically accepted student must be received with your receipt from the online registration form. Please make all checks payable to:*

*UGA Middle School Festival*

*Students paying as individuals should be registered online by their band director and submit this completed form with payment.*

**ADDITIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS WORKSHEET**

**Please submit this information online by Friday October 15<sup>th</sup>**

**LIST OF ADDITIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS FOR THE FESTIVAL:**

Please list wind and percussion players wishing to participate **in order of overall ability** beginning with the most advanced player. Activity codes are listed below. Please insert all appropriate letter codes in the activities blank for each student. Also, please indicate the chair held by the student in middle school band, i.e., (1st I = 1st chair, 1st part: 1st II = 1st chair second part, etc.) You will be notified which students have been selected on or about than October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

NAME	M/F	GRADE	INSTRUMENT	ACTIVITIES	CHAIR

- AS = Accepted to All-State Band
- UGA = Attended Previous UGA MidFest
- UGASC = UGA Summer Music Camp
- YCBA = Youth Concert Band of Atlanta
- EC = Encore Band Camp
- S&E = Solo and Ensemble Superior
- PL = Private Lessons

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND A FEE FOR STUDENTS LISTED ON THIS FORM UNTIL YOU RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO DO SO. THANK YOU!**