

MIDFEST

The 32nd Annual University of Georgia Middle School Band Festival



Honor Band Conductor
DR. JACK EADDY
Western Carolina University

Conductors

GABRIEL WOODS

Savannah, GA

EDNA GRACE

Gaffney, SC

RICK RODRIGUEZ

Peachtree Corners, GA

CONNIE MCCARDEL

Kennesaw, GA

KENZA MURRAY

Rincon, GA

MATTHEW PRICE

Canton, GA

JOSEY JIMENEZ

Duluth, GA

Guest Bands

LAKESIDE MS

Reggie Humphrey & Jaron Lehman, Directors

CASS MS

Abigail Russom, Director

MALCOM BRIDGE MS

Wes York, Director

IMPORTANT DATES

NOMINATIONS BEGIN: SEPTEMBER 26TH

NOMINATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 14TH

ACCEPTANCES PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 21ST

CANCELLATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 18TH

VIDEO SUBMISSION DUE: NOVEMBER 28TH

FESTIVAL DATES: DECEMBER 8TH – 10TH



**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 32nd Annual Middle School Band Festival to be held December 8-10, 2022. Students will submit video auditions for band and chair placements. The event begins with registration on the afternoon of December 8 and concludes with concerts by the festival Clinic and Honor Bands on the afternoon of December 11. In addition to the clinic band or honor band experience, the festival will also feature exceptional guest band performances, and clinics designed especially for middle school band directors. Events will be held in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music and at the Foundry St. ballrooms at the Classic Center 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 (up to 10% of band population)* by way of the festival email registration. **Schools whose applications are among the first 80 received are assured of having a minimum of two (2) students selected for participation in the festival.** *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 26th and must be received by **5pm EST on OCTOBER 14TH**. The names of additional students selected will be made available at our website on or about October 21st. All selected students will be auditioned and assigned to either the Honor Band or one of seven Clinic Bands after arriving on campus.

Please do not send \$85.00 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. 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 2022

- Please DO NOT send any payments when you nominate students. Send all payments after acceptances have been announced on or about October 21st.
- Schools must check-in at the festival as a group. 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.**
- ALL students will be asked to audition. The most advanced students (up to 10% of band) should be able to perform scale and sight-reading requirements.
- Wind instrumentalists are requested to prepare two of the four Middle School All-State scales (Concerts F, Bb, Eb, Ab) and submit a YouTube unlisted video link. Instructions for creating videos will be included in student acceptance information.
- Directors are asked to notify us of any accepted students who will not attend by the close of business on November 18th. This will permit us to reach the optimum number of students at the festival without over-accepting. After November 18th, 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 14th through the link provided in the nomination email sent out September 26st.
- ☐ On or about October 21st, 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 18th. After November 18th, schools are responsible for the number of students on their accepted list.
- ☐ Make hotel reservations in Athens for yourself, your chaperones, and your accepted students.
- ☐ Join us for **MidFest** on December 8th! Hear honor and clinic band performances and rehearsals, observe and meet inspiring guest conductors, and directors' clinics, encounter new literature performed by guest and festival bands, and visit and share ideas with colleagues from throughout the region.

PRELIMINARY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 8

2:00-6:30 PM Registration & hotel check-in (on your own)
 7:00-8:00 PM **CONCERT**
 HODGSON HALL, UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Malcom Bridge Middle School
 Bogart, Georgia
 Wes York, Conductors

Cass Middle School
 Cartersville, Georgia
 Abigail Russom, Conductor

Friday, December 9

8:45-Noon Band rehearsals and director hospitality
 Noon Lunch on your own
 2:15-4:30PM Rehearsals
 4:45-7:15PM Dinner on your own
 7:30-8:45 PM **CONCERT**
 HODGSON HALL, UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Lakeside Middle School
 Evans, Georgia
 Reggie Humphrey & Jaron Lehman, Conductors

The University of Georgia Wind Symphony
 Athens, Georgia
 Dr. Jaclyn Hartenberger, Conductor

Saturday, December 10

8:15-10:15 AM Band rehearsals
 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Check-out and lunch on your own
 12:30 PM **Final concerts begin**
 5:00 PM **Festival concludes**

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

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

OUTLYING AREAS WITHIN 15 MINUTES OF CAMPUS

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

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. **Directors are asked to nominate only their most accomplished and motivated performers (up to 10% of band population).**

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 14th. 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 21st. Placement in the festival bands will be made on the basis of video auditions to be submitted by November 28th. Instructions for video submission will be included in student acceptance information.

STUDENT, DIRECTOR & CHAPERONE HOUSING is the responsibility of each director and/or chaperones. We have negotiated special group rates with several local hotels. Ask for the Middle School Band Festival rate when booking. A listing of nearby accommodations is included for your convenience.

MEALS: All meals are the responsibility of directors and/or chaperones. A number of dining establishments are convenient to the University and Classic Center. The UGA East Village Commons (featuring five dining venues) is a three-minute walk from the School of Music. All-you-can-eat lunch at the East Village Commons is \$11.70.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE: Registration will begin at 2:00 PM on Thursday, December 8th. Directors will find out their students' band and chair placement at registration. Saturday concerts begin at 12:30 PM and end at approximately 5:00 PM. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend only the concert featuring their child, as seating is limited.

REGISTRATION: Please register for **MidFest** by completing the link in the student nomination email sent out September 26th. Worksheets are included to assist you in gathering the information you need for online registration.

FESTIVAL AUDITIONS: Accepted students will submit a video audition by November 28th.

Winds: Play 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: Perform audition etude

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.)

Timpanists: Perform audition etude

(Please submit one percussion video if possible. The three videos can be combined into one video – it does not need to be one continuous video.)

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 8th 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 14th.

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 \$85.00 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 14th

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 \$85.00 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 14th

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 18th.

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!