September 22, 2017

Dear Middle School/Jr. High Band Teaching Colleagues:

Greetings! On behalf of the UWM Bands, we surely hope your 2017-18 school year is off to a fantastic start.

Once again, we are glad to offer the Middle School Honor Bands Festival and the concurrent Milwaukee Music Festival (high school) Honor Band events, and this year marks the 51st year of honor band activities at UWM. The continued success of these programs is simply not possible without your enthusiastic support – thank you!

The UWM Middle School Honor Bands Festival dates are:  
Friday, November 17 through Sunday, November 19, 2017

We ask you to please consider nominating your best students; it would be our honor to work with them on campus during the festival weekend. The remaining portion of this mailing includes information related to the Middle School Honor Bands Festival, the nomination process, and how you may be involved with your students. Please go to: arts.uwm.edu/honorbands to begin the student nomination process – the nomination period is October 2-16, 2017.

This year, the Middle School Honor Bands Festival registration fee is $95.00 per student. While this amount represents a $20.00 increase, we have also eliminated the step of separate ticket purchases for the final Sunday concerts. Admission to the final concerts will be free with general admission seating and no ticket necessary. We hope this will not only allow more friends and family members to share in their student’s accomplishment, but to also avoid the hassle of keeping up with physical tickets.

Lastly, we are always eager to connect with you and your students. Please let us know if you would like us to visit your rehearsals, or if we can be of service to your band program in any way.

Sincerely,

John A. Climer, DMA  
Director of University Bands

Scott R. Corley, DMA  
Assistant Director of University Bands  
Music Director, UWM Youth Wind Ensembles
UW-MILWAUKEE Middle School HONOR BANDS FESTIVAL
November 17-19, 2017
Director's Guide

Festival description
During the festival, students rehearse with regionally and nationally recognized conductors/educators, make contact with UWM performance faculty/staff in small group sectional sessions, attend concerts by our university ensembles, and participate in festival finale performances on Sunday, November 19.

Festival Hosts
John Climer, Director of University Bands and Professor of Music/Conducting
Scott Corley, Assistant Director of University Bands and Music Director, UWM Youth Wind Ensembles (UWAY)

Festival Conductors – ensemble nicknames are based on the home state of each guest conductor
Cheryl Miracle (Franklin, WI Public Schools), “Wisconsin” Middle School Honors Band
Jeff North (Logan, OH High School - Retired), “Ohio” Middle School Honors Band
Glen Schneider (Metea Valley, IL High School) “Illinois” Middle School Honors Band

Nomination procedure for band directors
Please nominate your finest band students for the UWM Middle School HONOR BANDS FESTIVAL.
- Festival website: arts.uwm.edu/honorsband
- The nomination period is October 2-16, 2017

1. You may use the enclosed “Student Information Tool” to gather information and data regarding student nominations. Some teachers copy and distribute this blank form to interested students and then complete the bottom portion in preparation for the on-line nomination process. DO NOT RETURN these paper forms to UWM.
2. Visit arts.uwm.edu/honorsband to access the Director Nomination Online Application.
3. Click the “New User” button even if you had a profile last year. As a registered user, you will be able to use your user name and PIN to log in to your account as often as necessary to complete your nominations.
4. Once you have registered, you will be asked to create a profile for each of your schools (if applicable). By clicking on the “Add Nominations” link within each school + director profile, you will be able to nominate students.
5. Complete your nominations by entering the student data you previously collected. You will be asked to save each nomination you enter, and nominations can be edited and deleted after they have been entered.
6. IMPORTANT: Due to a policy change in the UW System, we are no longer able to hear individual student auditions. We will use the information contained the students’ nomination records to form the three equal and randomly assigned festival bands and create chair rankings.
7. If you discover that you must revise your nominations after you have submitted them, you may log back in with your user name and PIN and follow the instructions for making revisions.
8. The nomination deadline is October 16, 2017.
9. Directors will be notified of their accepted students around Oct. 25. Please help and encourage them to complete the student pre-registration by the November 10 deadline.

Directors Involvement
All rehearsals, master class sessions, and UWM ensemble performances are free and open to band directors. We hope you will join us for some or all of these activities!

STUDENT NOTIFICATION: Students who are accepted/selected to the festival will be notified by email only this year. In the acceptance email, students will receive festival information and instructions for how to access the online student pre-registration system. The student pre-registration period is Oct. 25-Nov. 10. The registration fee is $95.00 per student, and this includes all materials, instruction, and admission to the final concert for their family members. Students assigned to the alternate/wait list will be notified around the same time.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS: Students will be responsible for the cost of all local transportation needs, meals, and housing. If necessary, we suggest that students make hotel reservations as soon as they receive their invitation notice from our office. Please do not hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns.
UWM HONORS BAND FESTIVAL (Nov. 17-19, 2017)
Student Information Tool

This optional form is used to help band directors gather student information for the on-line nomination system.
Interested students, please return this to your band director. DO NOT return this form to UWM.

STUDENT INFORMATION
The student must be able to participate in the entire event, Nov. 17-19, 2017 (see schedule on other side).

First name: __________________________________________ Last name: ________________________________

Email address: ____________________________________________________________ (Required for all nominations.)
(All official correspondence will be sent via email – please use an email address that is accurate and frequently used.)

Postal address:

________________________________________________________

Street

________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State ________ Zip ______

Home phone: (____)________________________ Other/cell phone: (____)____________________

If known – only one phone is required at this time

Parent name(s):

_______________________________

GRADE: 6 7 8 ____________________ INSTRUMENT: ____________________________

Preference is given to 8th & 7th graders. ____________________________ Number of years playing this instrument? ______

Member of WSMA State Honors Project? YES NO Previous UWM Honors Band attendee? YES NO

Enrolled in private lessons? YES NO

Only Director’s comments below this line
School name:

_______________________________

(Specific to this student nominee)

Band Director name:

_______________________________

STUDENT’S OVERALL PERFORMANCE RATING:

1 – OUTSTANDING performer 2 – VERY GOOD performer 3 – GOOD performer

4 – FAIR performer 5 – BELOW AVERAGE performer

RANKING AMONG DIRECTOR’S OTHER NOMINEES: Please assign one unique numeric value per student from the same school. From all of the nominations from any one school, give your best overall musician a ranking of “1,” the next best musician a “2,” and so on.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Additional comments about the student’s performance ability (awards, other musical activities, etc.):
UWM Middle School Honor Bands Festival Schedule
The (*) below indicates portions of the festival schedule that are optional.

Friday, November 17
4:00-5:00pm  On-site Check-In: UWM Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd
Be sure to have a snack before you check-in!

5:15pm  Seating of the ensembles (UWM Union)

5:30-7:30pm  Rehearsal segment #1 (UWM Union)
Short breaks at the conductors’ discretion

*8:15-9:00pm  UWM Symphony Band concert
Bader Concert Hall: Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.
Free and open to middle school festival participants and band directors.

Saturday, November 18
8:00-11:00am  Rehearsals resume (UWM Union)
Short breaks at the conductors’ discretion
Wisconsin Band: Take instruments to Sectional locations (1pm)

11:00am-12:15pm  Lunch break
Bring a bag lunch – or limited UWM Union food court options available

12:15-1:00pm  UWM Jazz Ensemble concert (UWM Union – Wisconsin Room)

1:00-1:45pm  Wisconsin Band sectionals – other bands continue full band rehearsals
2:00-2:45pm  Illinois Band sectionals – other bands continue full band rehearsals
3:00-3:45pm  Ohio Band sectionals – other bands continue full band rehearsals

3:45-5:00pm  Rehearsals continue
Short breaks at the conductors’ discretion

*5:00-7:00pm  Dinner Break

*7:00-8:30pm  UWM Wind Ensemble & Milwaukee Music Festival High School Honor Band concert
Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.
Free and open to middle school festival participants and band directors.

Sunday, November 19
8:30-10:30am  Ohio Band rehearsal in Union Fireside Lounge

10:30am-12:00pm  Ohio Band lunch break

9:30-11:30am  Illinois Band rehearsal in Union Ballroom

11:30am-1:00pm  Illinois Band lunch break

10:30am-12:30pm  Wisconsin Band rehearsal in Union Wisconsin Room

12:30-2:00pm  Wisconsin Band lunch break

12:00-12:45pm  Ohio Band return from lunch & warm-up (Bader Concert Hall stage)
Ohio Band Final concert. Students dismissed immediately following their concert.
Illinois Band return from lunch & warm-up (Zelazo Center Room 250)

2:00-2:45pm  Illinois Band Final concert. Students dismissed immediately following their concert.
Wisconsin Band return & warm-up (Zelazo Center Room 250)

3:00-3:45pm  Wisconsin Band Final concert. Students dismissed immediately following their concert.