



Minnesota
Band Directors
Association



To: MBDA North West Region Band Directors
Fr: Tim Johnson, Honor Band Chair
Re: NW Region Honor Bands, January 23, 2010
Nomination Deadline: November 14, 2009
Greetings,

10/14/09

It is my pleasure to invite you and your students to be a part of this year's Minnesota Band Directors Association North West Region Honor Bands. The honor bands will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2010. It has been three years since MBDA restructured our state into 6 regions. The restructuring has provided meaningful musical experiences for hundreds of band students from our northwest region and allowed band directors opportunities to collaborate at a regional level.

The MBDA NW Regional Honor Band date has been set for Saturday, January 23, 2010 for both the 6-8 and 9-10 honor bands. The honor bands will be held simultaneously in the Waage Fine Arts Building at the Fergus Falls Community College. Rehearsals begin at 10:00 am, the 6-8 concert is @ 5:00 pm and the 9-10 concert is @ 6:00 pm. This year's guest conductors are: Martin Seggelke, 9-10 honor band and Nat Dickey, 6-8 honor band.

The NWMBDA leadership has planned for two optional band director session to take place during the rehearsal day:
1. Band director's round table discussion. The topics of this session are lead by you. Our goal is to troubleshoot any band directing issues and to come up with ideas that may help.
2. What to do when you are forced to teach out of your comfort zone. This session will focus on surviving general music and/or Choral assignments. A step-up instrument display will be provided by Eckroth Music during the late afternoon performances.

Students will be chosen for the honor bands based on director nominations. Each honor band will consist of about 75 members; the number of students from each school will depend upon how many schools participate and instrumentation needs. Every school that submits a nomination form will be represented; directors may nominate up to 8 students per group. School districts with more than one site may submit separate nomination forms. Team teaching at one location is one nomination form. Schools with multiple grade levels are encouraged to nominate students for both honor bands. Percussionists are required be efficient on tuned and non-tuned percussion instruments. **Please return student nominees to me at the address below, postmarked by Saturday, November 14** (no fees).

The per student participation fee is \$15 if paid before January 15 and \$20 if paid after January 15; fees include lunch and an afternoon snack. I will email you a list of honor band members and more information by December 5; fees should be mailed to me at that time. Music will be sent to you by December 18. Please note that participating directors must be current members of the Minnesota Band Director's Association. MBDA membership forms, student nomination forms and copies of this letter are available at www.mbda.org.

Contact me if you have any questions or concerns and please take a moment to check out the great resources available to you at www.mbda.org. We look forward to a fantastic musical day on January 23.

Sincerely,

Tim Johnson
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MBDA NW Region Honor Band
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