

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009



Instrumental Music Colleagues of South-Eastern MN,

We had a successful first round of offering 2 levels for the SEMBDA Honor Band. This year we are hoping to have more schools participate in the 6-8 and 9-10 level Honor Bands! Please consider nominating students for both Honor Bands!

### **ABOUT MBDA**

The Minnesota Band Directors Association is an organization assisting in the development of band directors and band programs in schools, colleges, and communities throughout Minnesota. It is an organization founded with a genuine spirit of dedication, and with the intent to work cooperatively with other organizations.

A membership MBDA allows your students access to honor band and festival opportunities. For you, being a part of MBDA includes participating in festivals, honor bands and featured resources online. As a special feature this year, a membership in MENC will not be required! It simply costs \$30 to join! For more information see enclosed MEMBERSHIP DRIVE POSTCARD INFO, or visit [www.mbda.org](http://www.mbda.org)

### **ABOUT THE 6-8 & 9-10 HONOR BANDS**

The 2009-2010 South East MBDA 6-8 and 9-10 level Honor Bands are an opportunity for talented young musicians from the South East region of MN to join together in the performance of quality concert band literature. The entire experience will take place at Rochester Century High School. For anyone in our region, this should be no more than a 90 minute drive. The bands will rehearse from 9-4 on **Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**, with the performance taking place at 4 pm.

Students in grades 6-8 and 9-10 must be involved in their school band program during the time of participation and have directors who are current members of MBDA. Students will be nominated by their directors, and entry will be granted based on number of schools nominating, number of students nominated and balanced instrumentation. Please keep this in mind when nominating students.

If selected, students will be expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals and activities on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A participation fee of **\$30.00** per student will cover expenses, including the cost of lunch on Saturday and a t-shirt. Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from Century High School on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- ***NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>! See attached sheet.***

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- **STATE MBDA HONOR BANDS** continue to exist in their current audition format. See [www.mbda.org](http://www.mbda.org) for more details

### **ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS**

#### **6-8 Honor Band Conductor –**

Dave Mendenhall received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota. He has spent the last 33 years as a music educator in Apple Valley, MN. Dave has taught at Scott Highlands Middle School since 1982. His school jazz ensembles and bands have played at numerous festivals and conventions (MMEA in 1994), earning outstanding recognition by educators and clinicians alike. Many of his original band methods are in publication.

#### **9-10 Honor Band Conductor-**

Lee Kjesbo is currently retired from his Director of Bands position at Buffalo High School. Lee has been named Minnesota Music Educator of the year in 2006 while at Buffalo High School. Lee also has been a part of the MBDA Honor Bands before. In 2009 he served as the Honor Band Conductor for the State MBDA 6-8 Honor Band in Red Wing.

- **NOMINATIONS and MEMBERSHIP materials can be sent together to LEVI LUNDAK at ROCHESTER CENTURY HS (see nomination form for address)**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the SEMBDA board members (listed below). We hope you continue your membership or consider joining MBDA this year. See you and your students in January!

### **South – East MBDA Board**

6-8 Honor Band **Matt Dockendorf** ~ Lakeville South [mpdockendorf@isd194.k12.mn.us](mailto:mpdockendorf@isd194.k12.mn.us)

9-10 Honor Band **Levi Lundak** ~ Rochester Century [LELUNDAK@rochester.k12.mn.us](mailto:LELUNDAK@rochester.k12.mn.us)

Membership **Peter Gepson** ~ Albert Lea [pgepson@albertlea.k12.mn.us](mailto:pgepson@albertlea.k12.mn.us)

President **Chuck Weise** ~ Farmington [cweise@farmington.k12.mn.us](mailto:cweise@farmington.k12.mn.us)

Treasurer **Christine Gustafson** ~ Houston [chris.gustafson@houston.k12.mn.us](mailto:chris.gustafson@houston.k12.mn.us)

Secretary **Burt Svendsen** ~ Rushford-Peterson [burtsonsvendsen@r-pschools.com](mailto:burtsonsvendsen@r-pschools.com)

Beginning Band Festival **Beth Tradup** ~ St. Bernard School [btradup@saintbernards-school.org](mailto:btradup@saintbernards-school.org)