

University of North Dakota

Honor Band, Choir & Orchestra Festival

The purpose of the UND Honor Band, Choir & Orchestra Festival is to provide an opportunity for talented high school musicians to perform in a select ensemble under the leadership of UND faculty. The ensembles are chosen by live audition from among the finest high school musicians in the region.

Date and Schedule of Events

The Honor Band, Choir & Orchestra Festival will begin on Friday, January 22, 2010, with the first rehearsal scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Rehearsals will continue on Saturday, January 23, with dress rehearsals and the Festival Concert on Sunday afternoon, January 24, in the Chester Fritz Auditorium. One of the highlights again this year will be a grand finale work performed by the combined Honor Ensembles. In addition, students will have the opportunity to interact with UND music students and faculty, as well as hear performances by UND Music Ensembles.

Auditions

The audition fee for the Festival will be **\$10.00**, (make checks payable to UND) for each student **per audition**. These fees must be received by the UND Department of Music prior to October 23.

Regional auditions for Honor Band and Choir will be held in the following communities:

Monday, October 26	Langdon High School	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, October 26	Devils Lake High School	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Monday, October 26	Minot MC High School	6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 27	Williston High School	10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 27	Dickinson Trinity High School	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. MT
Wednesday, October 28	Washburn High School	8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 28	Jamestown High School	1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 28	Fargo South High School	7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 29	Fargo South High School	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday, October 30	UND-Grand Forks	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 31	UND-Grand Forks	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Regional auditions for Honor Orchestra will be held in the following communities (times TBA):

Monday, October 27	Fargo and Moorhead schools
Tuesday, October 28	Jamestown and Bismarck schools
Wednesday, October 29	Minot and Devils Lake schools
Thursday, October 30	Crookston and Thief River Falls schools
Friday, October 31	UND-Grand Forks
Saturday, November 1	UND-Grand Forks

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Honor Band auditionees should play one or two excerpts from appropriate solo literature or etudes that will exhibit both lyrical playing and technical proficiency. Instrumentalists do not need an accompanist. They will also be asked to play a major scale of their choice, as well as a chromatic scale (both scales ascending and descending; students choice of style, tempo, and number of octaves). In addition, each student will also be asked to sight-read. **Percussionists** should be prepared to play **both** snare drum and mallets (they are welcome to audition on timpani as well if they desire). Percussionists will also be asked to sight read on **both** snare drum and mallets. Band auditions will be conducted by Dr. James Popejoy.

Honor Choir auditionees should sing a prepared solo from the solo (ie. non-choral) classical repertoire. Popular or country music should be avoided. Also, sight reading will be an important part of the audition. Students should provide their own accompanist. Please refrain from singing a cappella or using taped accompaniment. Vocal auditions will be conducted by Professor Joshua Bronfman.

Honor Orchestra auditionees should play two contrasting portions of prepared solos that exhibit tone as well as technique. You are encouraged to prepare solo Bach or passages from the standard concerto repertoire. Etudes or passages from the sonata, showpiece or other standard literature are also acceptable. Accompaniment is not required. Students will also be asked to play a scale **with its corresponding set of arpeggios**, and sight-read a short excerpt. 4 octave scales **and arpeggios** are **preferable** for violin (**3 octaves are acceptable**), 3 for viola and cello and 2 for bass, **but not required**. Please be ready to play your scales with varying tempos and bowings to demonstrate different aspects of your playing. **A minimum of 16 notes per bow is expected when playing slurred sixteenths.** String auditions will be conducted by Dr. Alejandro Drago.

Please note that the UND Honor Orchestra is a string orchestra. No wind and percussion players will be auditioned for this ensemble.

It is not possible to perform in more than one ensemble, however students may audition in all three areas if they so desire (\$10.00 per audition). PLEASE MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO ATTEND AUDITIONS AT ONE OF THESE SITES. If you have students who are interested but cannot appear for auditions at these locations and times, we will attempt to make special arrangements.

***NEW REGISTRATION OPTION**

Directors may choose to register their students via online form. Go to <http://www.undmusic.org> and click on **HBCO** for the registration link. Payment for the auditions should be mailed to the address below. A printed audition form is enclosed with this mailing for those who chose to register via mail.

To secure audition times, please register for auditions by **Friday, October 2, 2009.**

Honor Band, Choir & Orchestra
UND Department of Music
3350 Campus Road, Stop 7125
Grand Forks, ND 58202
or fax to: **701-777-3320**

If you have any questions or concerns call: **UND Music at 701-777-2644**

Upon receipt of the registration form, your students will be assigned audition times (please note the column asking for "preferred time"). We plan to mail the master audition schedule to you by October 15th. We will work very hard to schedule your students as closely as possible to their preferred time.

Housing/Meals

As with the All-State ensembles and State Music Contest, participating students must make their own housing arrangements. After the selections for this year's ensembles have been made, you and your students will receive a list of hotels in the area. High school students are responsible for their transportation to and from Grand Forks. To avoid increasing audition fees to help cover expenses, we are asking students to assume the responsibility of paying for meals. Please note that the University of North Dakota bears no responsibility for supervision of the students away from the University. **There is no participation fee for students that are selected.**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2010

11:00 - 11:45 am	Honor Band dress rehearsal - Chester Fritz Auditorium
11:45 - 12:00 pm	Honor Band picture (wear concert dress) - Chester Fritz Auditorium
12:00 - 12:15 pm	Honor Choir picture (wear concert dress) - Chester Fritz Auditorium
12:15 - 1:00 pm	Honor Choir dress rehearsal - Chester Fritz Auditorium
1:00 - 1:15 pm	Honor Orchestra picture (wear concert dress) - Chester Fritz Auditorium
1:15 - 2:00 pm	Honor Orchestra dress rehearsal - Chester Fritz Auditorium
2:30 – 4:30 pm	CONCERT - Chester Fritz Auditorium

About the Conductors

Joshua Bronfman is Director of Choral Activities at the University of North Dakota where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in choral conducting, choral literature and choral methods. He is the director for Concert Choir, Varsity Bards and the Grand Forks Master Chorale. He is an active clinician in the region, and his published articles and presentations on choral music and choral music education have reached state, regional, and national audiences. In 2005, Joshua was selected as a Conducting Fellow for the Eric Ericson Master Class in the Netherlands, where he directed the Netherlands Chamber Choir and Netherlands Radio Choir. Prior to coming to UND, Joshua was a music specialist in Oregon where he taught at the elementary and middle levels.

Dr. Alejandro Drago holds a Violin Performance and Pedagogy degree from the Moscow State Conservatory "Tchaikovsky", Russia (combined BM - MFA), as well as degrees in Violin Performance (MM) and Orchestral Conducting and Pedagogy (DMA) from the University of Southern Mississippi, and is the recipient of international awards in Argentina, Italy and Yugoslavia. His string expertise has allowed him to work regularly with a number of youth and professional ensembles, including Guayaquil Symphony Orchestra in Ecuador and the MERCOSUR Youth Symphony Orchestra. He has been a guest conductor with the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, Tandil Chamber Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of the Argentine Library of Congress and the MERCOSUR Academic Camerata. After serving as Chief Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Chamber Orchestra and Assistant Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Drago is presently the Director of Orchestra and String Studies at the University of North Dakota and serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Greater Grand Forks Youth Symphony.

Dr. James Popejoy is Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at the University of North Dakota, where he conducts the Wind Ensemble and University Band. In addition, he instructs courses in graduate and undergraduate conducting, as well as a rotation of classes including instrumental literature, rehearsal techniques, and jazz pedagogy. Under his direction, the UND Wind Ensemble has been selected to present performances at the 2001, 2005 & 2008 North Dakota Music Educators Association Conferences, and the 2006 College Band Directors National Association North Central Division Conference. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Central Missouri State University; the Master of Arts degree in Conducting from the University of Iowa; and earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting with a minor in Jazz Studies from the University of North Texas. Dr. Popejoy served as Director of Bands and Percussion Studies at McLennan Community College in Texas for five years; was a public school music educator in Missouri for nine years; and has founded and conducted numerous adult and student community ensembles. He has been selected for numerous awards and honors, most recently the 2003 "Outstanding Faculty Award" from the UND chapter of Gamma Sigma Alpha; the 2005 "Distinguished Alumnus Award" from the CMSU Department of Music; and as the 2006 North Dakota Music Educators Association "Educator of the Year."