ABOUT THE HONOR BANDS AND THE EVENT…

We are proud to be hosting two honor bands and featuring two world-class conductors for you and your students. There will also be clinic sessions on a variety of topics for all of the directors.

Our intention is to make the Gold Band the finest high school honor band ever assembled in our state. This ensemble will have approximately 65 members. The Cardinal Band will have about 100 members. Both bands have truly exceptional conductors.

The GOLD BAND will be conducted by Frank Ticheli, eminent composer and Professor of Composition at the University of Southern California. Membership in this ensemble will be limited to the finest musicians in the state. Students should be a member of the All-State Band for inclusion in this ensemble. We realize the All-State selection process is not perfect. If you have a student that you feel is truly outstanding you may submit their name(s) but be sure to document the student’s accomplishments. Students not selected for the GOLD BAND will automatically be considered for the CARDINAL BAND, and will take precedence over your nominations for the Cardinal Band.

The CARDINAL BAND will be conducted by James Fritz, Director of Bands at Decorah High School. Recommend your outstanding student musicians for this group; preferably sophomores, juniors and seniors, All-State or Honor Band caliber; serious students in your program who have already achieved success in music or who show outstanding promise and potential. Freshman students who are truly exceptional can also be recommended for this ensemble, but older students are preferred.

MUSIC will be sent to all participants with the acceptance notification – and in your hands by December 9th. A complete schedule will also be sent with this mailing. The festival will begin with registration at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, February 5th – and conclude with the final concert on Saturday, February 6th at 3:00 pm.

There is a charge per student of $18 for participation in the Cyclone Honor Bands. There are no meals provided in the cost of registration. If your student(s) would like to eat dinner on Friday at our University Dining Center (all you can eat – wide variety of food options) – there is an additional charge of $9. If you would like to participate in a “Director’s Only” lunch on Friday at our Memorial Union, know that this optional luncheon will cost $11.

PLEASE NOTE: Once your students are selected (forms are due to us by December 2nd), we ask you to please pay non-refundable participation fees in advance. FEES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 22. Checks should be made payable to ISU Bands, and sent to Music Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.

The honor bands concert will be held at Stephens Auditorium on Saturday, February 6th at 3:00 p.m. Admission to the concert for non-participants is $7 for adults and $5 for children, students, and senior citizens over 65. Each director in attendance will receive one complimentary ticket to this concert.