



November 16, 2018

Congratulations on your selection to participate in the Sixth Annual University of Alabama Middle School Honor Band Festival. To insure your place in this year's event, please carefully read and attend to the following instructions regarding the festival.

I. RESPONSE

If you are unable to accept our invitation to participate in this year's event, please email Heath Nails (jhnails@ua.edu) and notify him that you will not be able to attend. Please note that attendance for the entire event (Thursday – Friday) is required. Please take care of this **TODAY** so that an alternate may be contacted.

II. PARTICIPATION FEES and ACCEPTANCE

A \$85.00 **non-refundable** Participation Fee is required of all participants. By submitting this fee, you are accepting our invitation to participate. This fee includes admission to clinics and concerts as well as the Honor Band t-shirt, name-tag, and lapel pin. Participants can submit your fee payment via checks, money orders or online using a credit card (the online link will be sent via email within the coming days).

Checks or money orders should be made payable to: **THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**. **Please mail your check or money order payment to the address below. Checks or money orders MUST include the STUDENT'S NAME and INSTRUMENT in the memo line.** This is very important as we will need to apply the fee to the correct student. Checks should be mailed to the following address:

University of Alabama Middle School Honor Band
ATTN: Heath Nails, Coordinator of Band Operations
2007 Moody Music Building, Box 870368
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0368

Participation fees should be paid no later than **Friday, November 30, 2018**. If we do not receive payment by this date, students **WILL BE** replaced with alternate members. **Once we receive your payment, we will email a confirmation to the email address used in your child's application.**

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III. HOUSING AND CHAPERONES

The Alabama Middle School Honor Band does not provide housing or chaperones for the festival. Participants, parents and/or directors are responsible for making housing and chaperone arrangements. **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE CHAPERONED BY AN ADULT CHAPERONE IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL.** Students without adult chaperones will not be allowed to participate in the festival. ***Chaperones are only needed to transport students to and from campus; they do not have to stay on campus with the students during rehearsals, classes, etc.*** Below is a listing of hotels in the Tuscaloosa area. You are certainly free to choose any hotel for your housing. The ***Hotel Capstone*** will be the official Honor Band hotel and a room block of 50 rooms has been set aside at a discounted rate. These are a first come, first serve basis. This is an excellent location as it is directly across from the Moody Music Building. Participants/parents/guests can walk to the Moody Music Building from this property. The link to reserve your room at the ***Hotel Capstone*** is below. ***The cutoff date for booking at the Hotel Capstone is November 28, 2018.***

HOTEL CAPSTONE – OFFICIAL HONOR BAND HOTEL

320 Paul W. Bryant Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 205.752.3200

Booking Link: [UA Middle School Honor Band – CLICK HERE](#)

HAMPTON INN

600 Harper Lee Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 205.553.9800

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

1120 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Tuscaloosa, AL 800.465.4329

HILTON GARDEN INN

800 Hollywood Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 205.722.0360

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

4115 Courtney Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 205.750.8384

FAIRFIELD INN

4101 Courtney Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 205.366.0900



IV. CHECK-IN

Check-in will be from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM on **Thursday, December 13, 2018**. Check-in will take place in the new addition of the Moody Music Building, Room 1000. At check in, each participant will be assigned an audition time for chair placement in one of the two Honor Bands. Those students who reside within a 60-mile radius of Tuscaloosa are encouraged to check-in at 9:00 AM.

V. CHAIR PLACEMENT AUDITIONS

Chairs placement etudes may be downloaded from the Middle School Honor Band webpage: bands.ua.edu/programs/mshb. Auditions will be held between 9:30 AM and 12:00 PM. Your audition will consist of the 2018 Alabama Middle School Honor Band etude and a brief sightreading exercise. These auditions are used to determine chair placement in one of the two Honor Bands.

PERCUSSIONISTS ARE REQUIRED TO AUDITION ON ALL THREE AREAS (snare, timpani and keyboards). In addition to the etudes, percussionists will be asked to perform a tuning exercise and sightread on timpani and sightread on snare drum and keyboards.

VI. WHAT TO BRING

- A. Your band's normal concert or performance uniform/attire (what you would wear for your band's concert/performance)
- B. Appropriate clothing for attending concerts and rehearsals
- C. Reed players should bring plenty of extra reeds
- D. Brass players (except euphonium and tuba) should bring any available mutes if you have them – NOT REQUIRED
- E. Flutists interested in auditioning for piccolo parts should bring a piccolo
- F. Percussionists should bring all necessary mallets and sticks for the instruments on which you audition; **PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED BUT STICKS AND MALLETS WILL NOT**

VII. FINALE CONCERT

The Finale Concert will be held on **Friday, December 14, 2018** beginning at 4:00 PM in the Concert Hall of the Moody Music Building. The concert is open to the public, free of charge and should conclude by 5:00 PM.



College of
Arts & Sciences
University Bands

We are excited to bring this musical opportunity to your middle school students and look forward to hosting you on our campus. If you should have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Again, congratulations on being selected for membership in the 2018 Alabama Middle School Honor Band Festival. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Roll Tide,

Heath Nails

Coordinator of Band Operations

Associate Coordinator of Camps and Festivals

University of Alabama

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