

October 09, 2024

Dear Music Teachers,

Thank you for encouraging your students to audition for the 2024 Northwest Festival of Music. We received many quality auditions this year! Please take a few moments to go through the information contained in this letter to ensure that you (and your students) are prepared for the festival.

1. Please make sure that you have submitted payment for students' auditions. Remember, every student who **auditioned** for a concert band or choir is responsible for paying a **\$7.00** audition fee, not just those students who were accepted. Students who auditioned for multiple groups are only responsible for one **\$7.00** audition fee. If you have not yet submitted payment for the auditions, please make sure it is processed promptly.
2. Each student who was **accepted** into a concert band or choir is responsible for a **\$25.00** participation fee due at the time of registration. If you send payment ahead of time, please make sure the payment is on a district issued check or that it is accompanied by some other "identifiable marker." All checks should be made out to **MSU**. Those mailing checks can send them to:

Minot State University
Department of Fine and Performing Arts
500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58707

3. Carefully examine the ensemble rosters posted on the NW Festival Website and contact Savannah Wateland, Fine and Performing Arts Administrative Assistant, with any necessary **spelling corrections**. Rosters are located here: <http://www.minotstateu.edu/nwmusic/>. Savannah can be contacted at: savannah.wateland@minotstateu.edu
4. Please email a list of any students who should be receiving **4-year or 5-year participation awards** to Savannah Wateland no later than 10/21/2024. Although we have a general idea of who should be receiving awards, we want to be certain that no students are forgotten.
5. Remind students that the two-day festival is very intense, and it is imperative that all participants come well-prepared. There will not be time to learn the parts during rehearsals. All music should be prepared prior to arriving at our festival.
6. Any students who wish to withdraw from participation should contact Savannah Wateland no later than 10/21/2024. We ask that students who withdraw after this date still pay the **\$25.00** participation fee as the festival budget is based on a certain projected income.
7. NW Festival T-shirts will be on sale this year for \$12.00. Those wishing to purchase t-shirts should bring **cash**.
8. The Minot State University Department of Fine and Performing Arts will be holding **scholarship auditions** for High School Seniors during the Northwest Festival of Music. Minot State University offers significant scholarship opportunities to students majoring or minoring in music. In

addition, non-majors are eligible to receive scholarship awards for participation in large ensembles (e.g., band, choir, orchestra) while attending MSU.

- A. This year, we plan to pull interested students briefly out of large group/sectional rehearsals on Friday to complete scholarship auditions.
- B. To schedule a scholarship audition, contact the Department of Performing Arts Chair David Rolandson via email at david.rolandson@minotstateu.edu.

9. Concert Attire for NW Festival:

- A. **Men:** Dress Pants, Dress Shoes, Dress Socks, Collared Long-Sleeve Shirt, Neck/Straight Tie
- B. **Women:** Long Dress Pants or Skirt (at least knee length), Tops with sleeves (at least $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve length), Closed-toe shoes (no sandals/flip flops)
- C. **ALL:** When in doubt "concert black" looks fabulous!

10. Live Audience: MSU welcomes live audiences to attend our musical performances. Music teachers will be admitted free-of-charge to NW Festival concerts by showing their NW Festival name tag. Saturday concert tickets will be sold at the door prior to each concert. Single concert tickets are \$5.00. Tickets are \$8.00 to attend both the Band and the Choir Concerts. **Cash only** is accepted for ticket sales.

11. If you are planning on eating lunch on campus (Beaver Creek Cafe) on Friday and/or Saturday, please email Savannah Wateland by 10/21/2024 with the specific day(s) and the number of people who plan to eat. Dining Services requests an approximate headcount so that they can be prepared.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or concerns regarding our upcoming NW Festival of Music. We are excited to work with your students and look forward to seeing you on Friday, November 01, 2024!

Sincerely,



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