



The Florida State University
College of Music
Tri-State Band Festival
and Conducting Conference

Dear Director,

The Florida State University TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL and CONDUCTING CONFERENCE is designed to provide rewarding musical experiences for high school band students and their band directors. This annual festival features nationally- and internationally-recognized guest conductors and resident Florida State University faculty in a busy schedule of concerts, master classes, and professional clinics. The honors bands are comprised of 400 outstanding high school musicians from Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. Selection is based on band director recommendations, past musical honors, and instrumentation. Every effort is made to select at least one student from each nominating high school.

The guest conductors this year are **CYNTHIA BERRY** (Lake Brantley High School), **BRANT KARRICK** (Northern Kentucky University), **TIMOTHY W. OLIVER** (Arkansas State University), and **JOSEPH PARISI** (University of Missouri-Kansas City).

The Conducting Conference has become an eagerly anticipated event for band directors in the Tri-State area. This year's conducting conference includes clinic sessions with each of the four guest conductors, Dr. Patrick Dunnigan, Director of Bands at FSU, and Prof. Richard Clary, Director of Wind Studies and Senior Band Director at FSU.

The Festival Concert Series begins on Thursday afternoon, December 3, with a performance by the award-winning FSU Jazz Ensemble in Opperman Music Hall. The Prism Concert, the annual 90-minute nonstop band extravaganza, is scheduled for Thursday, Friday, and Sunday evenings at Godby High School due to the current renovations of Ruby Diamond Auditorium. Therefore, tickets are even more limited than usual. Seating at Godby is extremely limited and we have **NO** extra tickets for Friday night beyond those for students and registered Band Directors who will receive one (we do not have extras). Anybody who needs extra tickets for the Friday night PRISM Concert should contact the FSU Music Box Office immediately at (850) 645-7949.

Due to the Ruby Diamond renovations, we have split the Sunday morning Finale Concert in two. The first concert, featuring the **PARISI** and **OLIVER** bands, will begin at 10:00 am. The second concert, featuring



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the **BERRY** and **KARRICK** bands, will begin at noon. The students will not know which band they are in until they audition on Thursday, so parents will need to contact their children after that time to get the appropriate starting time. Because there is limited seating in Opperman, parents and directors will only be allowed to attend the concert that involves their child/student. Registered directors will be admitted into the final concert for free with a Tri-State Director's ID badge. Additional tickets for directors and parents can be purchased for \$4 at registration or \$5 at the door.

Seating auditions begin at 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 3rd. Chair Assignments are posted late that afternoon, and the first rehearsal begins at 7:30 pm.

Students selected for the Tri-State Festival are responsible only for their transportation to Tallahassee, and the cost of two lunches and three dinners. The \$199 participation fee (\$149 for local students not staying in the hotel) covers the cost of lodging at the Holiday Inn Capitol East, a hot breakfast buffet each morning at the hotel, all transportation to and from rehearsal and concert sites, a banquet luncheon on Saturday, a souvenir t-shirt, a highlights CD from the Finale Concert, and all instruction expenses. Students are expertly chaperoned by FSU faculty, graduate assistants, and staff at all times.

While we understand it is difficult to take time off from your teaching duties, we hope you will make a real effort to attend the Festival this year. Remember, the conducting clinics qualify for in-service credits toward recertification. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions. I hope to see in Tallahassee in December.

Matt Thomas, Tri-State Festival Coordinator

OFC (850) 644-3507

FAX (850) 644-2928

fsumjt@gmail.com