**Online Nominations**

In order to streamline data entry and expedite the notification process, the Tri-State Band Festival will utilize online nominations. Directors may access the Student Nomination Form from the “Documents” menu on the Tri-State Festival website. Before accessing the nomination form, please note the following:

- A separate form must be completed for each student nominated. Only students in the 11th or 12th grade are eligible for participation.
- Director name, school and email must be entered on each form. We apologize for this minor inconvenience.
- Please ensure all data is correct before submitting each nomination. Submitted forms cannot be retrieved or edited online.
- A confirmation message will be sent to the director’s provided email address for each student nomination. Review the submitted information, and contact the FSU Band Office (850-644-3507) to make any changes.

**The deadline for student nominations is October 7, 2014.** Directors will be notified of accepted students by November 4, 2014.

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**Visit the Tri-State Band Festival website:**
http://www.music.fsu.edu/Tri-State-Band-Festival

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**Honors Jazz Ensemble**

The Tri-State Festival is proud to announce the continuation of our recently developed Honors Jazz Ensemble. The Honors Jazz Ensemble will provide a unique opportunity for students seeking to develop their jazz performance skills and work with renowned jazz artists and FSU jazz faculty. Participants will be selected from recorded auditions to complete the instrumentation for a standard big band. The Honors Jazz Ensemble experience will feature multiple performance opportunities, as members take the stage on Sunday afternoon to perform two concerts for directors, family, friends and all 400 Tri-State Band Festival participants.

Students interested in the Honors Jazz Ensemble may also be nominated for the concert band festival. However, if selected, these students must perform with the jazz ensemble in order to allow another concert band member the opportunity to attend the Tri-State Festival. Visit the Tri-State Festival website for audition requirements and other pertinent information.
The 34th annual Florida State University TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL AND CONDUCTING CONFERENCE is designed to provide rewarding musical experiences for high school band students and their directors. Each year the festival features nationally and internationally renowned guest conductors and resident Florida State University faculty in a busy schedule of concerts, master classes, and professional clinics.

The conductors for the 2014 Tri-State Festival are Amy Acklin (University of Louisville), Alfred Watkins (Lassiter High School, retired), John R. Bell (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville), Myron D. Welch, (University of Iowa, retired), and Dick Oatts (Temple University).

Students interested in this year’s Honors Jazz Ensemble must submit a recorded audition. In order to be considered for this ensemble, student recordings must be received by Wednesday, October 1. Visit the Tri-State website (http://www.music.fsu.edu/Tri-State-Band-Festival) for audition requirements and other pertinent information.

Concert band student nominations are due October 7th, and auditions will begin at 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 4th. Chair assignments will be posted in the early evening before rehearsals begin. The initial rehearsal will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evening, and the final concert will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, December 7th in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall.

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

The festival’s concert series begins on Thursday afternoon with a performance by the award-winning FSU Jazz Ensemble in Opperman Music Hall. The Prism Concerts, an annual 90-minute non-stop wind and percussion extravaganza, will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall. The festival concludes on Sunday afternoon with performances by the Honors Jazz Ensemble in Opperman Music Hall and the four concert bands in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall.

Students selected for the Tri-State Festival must provide their own transportation to Tallahassee, as well as meals – with the exception of breakfast and a banquet on Sunday.

The $209 participation fee covers the following:

- Cost of lodging
- Breakfasts
- Transportation to and from rehearsals and concerts
- Banquet
- Souvenir T-shirt
- CD of the finale concert
- All instructional expenses

Students will be chaperoned by FSU faculty, graduate assistants and staff at all times.

It is crucial that everyone follows the deadlines exactly as stated in this brochure. Failure to do so will result in your student(s) being unable to participate in Tri-State.

In addition, please note that this is the only hard copy piece of information you will receive. All future communication will be by email. Please check the Tri-State website (http://www.music.fsu.edu/Tri-State-Band-Festival) regularly for updates.

We look forward to seeing you and your students at this year’s Tri-State Band Festival and Conducting Conference.

Regards,

Dr. Patrick Dunnigan, Director of Bands

Prof. Richard Clary, Director of Wind Studies

Thomas Singletary, Tri-State Festival Administrator

For more information contact:

Thomas Singletary
tsingletary2@fsu.edu
Amy Acklin serves as the Associate Director of Bands and Marching Band Director at the University of Louisville. She also directs the UofL Symphonic Band and Concert Band and teaching courses in undergraduate conducting and music education. Previously, Acklin taught instrumental music in the California public schools for six years. She is an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator and presents research regularly at national, regional and state conferences. Acklin currently serves as the KMEA Intercollegiate Band Coordinator and the KMEA District 12 University Chair and as past KMEA State Advisor for NAfME Collegiate. Acklin has articles published or forthcoming in UPDATE: Applications of Research in Music Education, The Journal of Band Research, Florida Music Director, and GIA’s “Teaching Music Through Performance in Band” series. She is a member of KMEA, NAfME, and CBDNA and an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. Dr. Acklin holds B.M. and M.M. degrees from the University of Louisville and a Ph.D. from Florida State University.

Dr. John Bell was appointed Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in 1990. He conducts the Wind Symphony and Chamber Winds, teaches conducting and music education courses, and coordinates recruiting and auditions for the Department of Music. Dr. Bell earned Doctors and Masters degrees in Music Education from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Louisiana State University where he served on the LSU Golden Band From Tigerland staff. Under Dr. Bell’s direction, The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Wind Symphony has premiered 16 works for band, appeared as the only American collegiate wind ensemble to perform at the 2011 WASBE conference in Chiayi City, Taiwan, toured Europe, performed twice in New York City's Carnegie Hall, performed for state meetings of the Illinois Music Educators Association and divisional conferences of the North Central Division of the College Band Directors National Association. Additionally, they have mounted eight compact disc recording projects. All recordings are available on the Mark Masters recording label. Bell’s research interests lie in the work of famed choreographer Rudolph Laban and the application of his theory of movement to conducting pedagogy.

Mr. Alfred L. Watkins is the recently retired Director of Bands at Lassiter High School (2013), a position he held since 1982, completing a 37-year career as a high school Director of Bands. Ensembles under Watkins’ direction have performed in nearly every major invitational venue in America including six times at the Midwest Band Clinic, eight performances at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, seven performances at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) and Winter Guard International “Scholastic A” and “Scholastic Open” World Champions. Mr. Watkins was selected as a member of the Florida A & M Gallery of Distinguished Alumni, Bands of America Hall of Fame, American Bandmasters Association, Georgia Bandmasters Hall of Fame, Phi Beta Mu Educator of the Year and recently received the Georgia Music Educators Association Distinguished Career Award. He has received fifteen Certificates of Excellence from the National Band Association, the Sudler Order of Merit from the John Philip Sousa Foundation and the Band World Magazine Legion of Honor, for significant contributions to bands and band music.

Myron Welch retired as Professor of Music and Director of Bands at The University of Iowa in 2008. During his twenty-eight year tenure at Iowa he conducted the Symphony Band and Chamber Wind Ensemble, coordinated the graduate program in band conducting, and taught courses in instrumental methods, conducting and band literature. In 2001, Dr. Welch was named a Collegiate Fellow in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for his years of outstanding teaching, service and dedication to the college. Ensembles under his direction have performed at many state and national music conventions. Dr. Welch was a reviewer of new music for The Instrumentalist and is a frequent guest conductor, adjudicator and clinician. He has appeared with the Goldman Band of New York City, numerous all-state bands and honor bands, and served on the conducting faculties of Interlochen Center for the Arts, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp and music camps throughout the country.

Born and raised in the state of Iowa, Dick Oatts was brought up in a musical family. He was introduced to the saxophone by his father Jack Oatts, a respected jazz educator and saxophonist. In 1977, Oatts moved to New York City and became a member of the Thad Jones - Mel Lewis Orchestra. His big band and larger group experiences include performances with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Mel Lewis, Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, Lester Bowie, Joe Lovano, Sam Jones-Tom Harrell, Paquito D’Rivera, Jim McNeely, Tito Puente, Kenny Wheeler, and Gunther Schuller. He has accompanied such vocalists as Joe Williams, Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Neene Freelon, Mel Torme, and Milton Nascimento. For 30 years, Mr. Oatts has appeared at college jazz festivals as a soloist and clinician throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, Canada, South America, and the Middle East. Oatts is a professor of Jazz Studies at the Boyer School of Music at Temple University and has been an artist-in-residence at the Amsterdam Conservatory since 1997.
Tri-State Band Festival and Conducting Conference
Florida State University
College of Music
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1180