



September 11, 2017

Junior High Band Director,

The North Dakota chapter of the National Band Association is pleased to announce the Twenty-Third Annual Junior High All-State Band Festival to be held March 9 & 10, 2017, at Mandan High School. Brian Balmages has been hired to serve as the guest conductor for this special event. The mission of the NDNBA Junior High All-State Band Festival is to provide:

- ❖ a unique educational experience and musical opportunity for exceptional junior high band students.
- ❖ an opportunity for students to work with a noted guest conductor as well as other talented instrumentalists.
- ❖ acknowledgment of student achievement at the junior high level.
- ❖ motivation at this crucial stage of development.
- ❖ Exposure for the North Dakota National Band Association



Brian Balmages, guest conductor

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. His music for winds, brass, and orchestra has been performed throughout the world with commissions ranging from elementary schools to professional orchestras. World premieres have included prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. His music was also performed as part of the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service, which was attended by both President Obama and Vice President Biden. He received his bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and his master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. He is a recipient of the prestigious A. Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors

Association and in 2016 was awarded the James Madison University Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Visual and Performing Arts (the first year the award was given). In the same year, he was commissioned by his other alma mater, the University of Miami, to compose music for the inauguration of the institution's 6th president, Dr. Julio Frenk.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys regular engagements with all-state and region bands and orchestras, as well as university and professional ensembles throughout the world. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, College Band Directors Conference, American School Band Directors Association National Conference and others. Additional conducting appearances have included the Kennedy Center and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall as well as engagements in Australia, Canada and Italy. Currently, he is Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company and Assistant Director of Bands and Orchestras at Towson University.

Eligibility: The NDNBA Junior High All-State Band Festival is open to all Seventh and Eighth grade band students in the state of North Dakota.

Tentative Schedule: Friday, March 9

1:30 – 2:00	Registration
2:00 – 5:00	Rehearsal
5:00 – 5:45	Pizza Party Supper at Mandan High (included in registration fee)
5:45 – 6:45	Clinics
6:45 – 8:30	Rehearsal

Saturday, March 10

8:30 – 12:00	Rehearsal
12:00 – 2:30	Lunch and break
3:00	Concert in Mandan High School Auditorium featuring the NDNBA JH All-State Band and Bismarck-Mandan Wind Ensemble

Fees:

Audition fee:	\$10.00 if director is NDNBA member \$15.00 if director is not NDNBA member
Registration fee:	\$40.00 if director is NDNBA member \$45.00 if director is not NDNBA member (Please note that the registration fee includes the evening meal on Friday.)

NBA Membership is available online. A link is provided on the NDNBA website for registration and payment.

Time Line:	September 11	Information packet and audition materials available to all ND junior high band directors via the NDNBA website
	December 4	Audition recordings submitted/fees postmarked by this date
	December 6	Audition recordings submitted/fees postmarked by this date with a \$50 late fee received by December 13.
	January 8	Audition results posted on the NDNBA website
	March 9 & 10	NDNBA Junior High All-State Band Festival

For more information regarding the festival and auditions contact:

Festival

Verlene “Beanie” Stotts
Discovery Middle School
1717 40th Ave So
Fargo, ND 58104
446-3405
stottsv@fargo.k12.nd.us

Auditions

Sara Baumann
Mandan Middle School
2901 12th Ave NW
Mandan, ND 58554
751-6502
Sara.Baumann@msd1.org

Directors will be responsible for taking their students to lunch on Saturday. Your registration fee covers the Friday night pizza party, which will be served in the Mandan High School cafeteria. No meals will be served at Mandan High School on Saturday. There are numerous restaurants in Mandan to choose from that are only a short distance from Mandan High School. Directors are also responsible for housing on Friday night. All students must be accompanied by their director or chaperone. Each student will receive a medical release form to be completed and turned in with the registration fee prior to Friday, March 2.

Audition Materials

Audition materials will consist of the:

- 1) Major scale etude (to be played without break)
- 2) Chromatic scale
- 3) Short etude

NDNBA JH All State Band is only accepting auditions by digital submission. We have detailed the process below to assist you.

You will record and document each student that you have auditioning for NDNBA JH All-State Band. When you are ready to send the recordings:

1. Create and email an Excel File (or google spreadsheet) to include a header/title with band director(s) name, contact phone #, email address, and NDNBA membership number of each director submitting recordings. If no current membership number is listed, it will be assumed that you will be paying the non-member audition fee. List each auditions with the following columns:

First Name Last Name Instrument Grade School Band Director(s)

First Name	Last Name	Instrument	Grade	School	Band Director(s)
Sally	Smith	Alto Sax	7	South Park	Joe Shmoe

2. In addition to the email, send a paper copy of the excel file along with a check payable to NDNBA to:
Sara Baumann
Mandan Middle School
2901 12th Ave NW
Mandan, ND 58554

The check must be dated prior to December 4 or you will be assessed a late fee

For the recording process:

3. Record/save auditions in an mp3 or wav format as 3 separate files. One labeled Major Scales, one Chromatic Scale, and one Etude (or Snare and Mallet for percussion). Each student will have their own folder labeled with name and instrument: Ex. Sally Smith Alto Sax
4. Create a folder for each instrument section. Label the folders with your school name and instrument section. Ex. South Park Alto Sax
5. Email instrument folders to NDNBAJHAS@gmail.com **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE/CREATE A GMAIL ACCOUNT SO YOU WILL HAVE THE GOOGLE SUPPORTED PROGRAMS.** Most of the materials and music will be shared through google drive.
6. If the folder is too large, choose to "compress" and create a zip file.
7. If the folder is too large after compressing, you may need to create more than one folder for those instruments. (You will be able to send larger files through google.)
8. When sending multiple emails please label in the subject line the total number of emails you plan to send and which email you are on. For ex. 1 of 2, 2 of 2 so that we are sure we receive all audition folders.
9. If your school E-mail is housed by Google, and it asks if you want to send a google drive file, this will work as well.
10. You will receive a confirmation email stating the number of each instrument auditions that are received.

Students may audition on more than one instrument (clarinet and bass clarinet, for example). However, two separate audition fees must be enclosed and the auditions must be recorded in two separate files. *No auditions will be accepted for piccolo or Eb soprano clarinet.* All auditions will be judged anonymously. No splicing or audio manipulation of any kind is acceptable. **If a judge suspects that an audition has been digitally adjusted, all recordings from that school are subject to disqualification.** The audition materials are available on the NDNBA website. Please feel free to make copies of the audition sheet for each of your students. The etudes were composed specifically for the NDNBA Junior High All-State Band Festival. **Audition recordings must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM (CST) December 5th to be considered for the festival. A \$50.00 late fee will be assessed if the recordings are not submitted and/or payment is not postmarked by December 4th. The late auditions will not be accepted after December 6th. The late fee must be postmarked by December 13th in order for the late auditions to be considered. Audition fees must be included with the paper excel file (google spreadsheet).** Please send one check per school. Please send audition fees (checks payable to NDNBA) and a copy of your excel file (or google spreadsheet) to:

Sara Baumann
Mandan Middle School
2901 12th Ave NW
Mandan, ND 58554

Before you submit your recordings, please check to see if you have enclosed the following items:

1. audition file for each student
2. audition fees (one check per school, payable to NDNBA)
3. excel or google spreadsheet with a current email address for each director sending recordings