

October 1, 2019

Dear Colleague,

It is our pleasure to announce —

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL BOCH FESTIVAL

Band, Orchestra, and Choir Honors Festival at the Strauss Performing Arts Center
Friday, January 24th | Saturday, January 25th | Sunday, January 26th
<http://music.unomaha.edu/boch>

Conductors

Dr. Karen Fannin, Honor Wind Ensemble
Dr. Joshua Kearney, Honor Band
Dr. Matthew Brooks, Honor String Orchestra
Dr. Derrick Fox, Honor Choir

This exciting three-day event will include rehearsals of all the honor ensembles, a UNO Faculty Showcase recital, masterclasses with UNO faculty, and concerts featuring several UNO ensembles. The Honor Bands, Honor Choir, and Honor String Orchestra will perform their final concerts Sunday afternoon, January 26th, at the newly-renovated Strauss Performing Arts Center Concert Hall on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Applicants must submit audio or video recordings along with the application information via the 2020 BOCH Festival website—music.unomaha.edu/boch. Click the button that says, "Click here to apply for the 2020 BOCH Festival!" See below for specifics regarding the audition requirements for each area.

Timeline

1. **The online application must be completed by Monday, November 25, 2019.**
2. Accepted students will receive notification via email by December 10, 2019. At that time part assignments and final instructions will be included.
3. Students selected for the BOCH Festival should plan to arrive on campus the afternoon of Friday, January 24, 2020.

Band Audition Requirements ***All Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Students***

Woodwind and Brass:

1. **Length:** 4 to 5 minutes.
2. **Scales:** Chromatic scale covering the entire range of the instrument and one major scale.
3. **Solo repertoire:** Chosen from standard solos or standard etudes written for the instrument (or a combination of both). All-state etudes are acceptable.
 1. Repertoire selected should include at least two contrasting styles and tempo changes.

Percussion:

1. **Length:** 4 to 5 minutes
2. **Solo repertoire:** chosen from standard solo repertoire with contrasting sections, or contrasting etudes that are written for the instrument from *at least two of the following areas:* snare, keyboard percussion (mallets), and timpani. All-state etudes are acceptable.
 1. These audition recordings will be used for both ensemble selection and part assignments.

Students placed in the Wind Ensemble will re-audition at 3:00pm on Friday, January 24, 2020 for part assignments. Audition material will be posted on the BOCH website (music.unomaha.edu/boch) and will include sight-reading and scales. All Honor Band players will have their band and chair positions assigned in advance and will not need to re-

audition for placement. Any Honor Band/Honor Wind Ensemble flute players that wish to be considered for a piccolo position in their ensemble will audition at 3:00pm on Friday, January 24, 2020.

String Orchestra Audition Requirements

1. **Solo/Etude:** Standard solo or etude with contrasting sections, or two contrasting works (3-5 minutes)
2. **Scales:** Two scales that demonstrate the range/ability of a student (2 octaves or more)

****Students who prepared audition recordings for all-state orchestra may submit those recordings****

Select students will be invited to audition for principal parts at 3:00pm on Friday, January 24, 2020. Principal audition material will be made available on the BOCH Festival website after initial review of recorded auditions.

Choir Audition Requirements

1. **Introduction:** Student will announce his or her name and voice part.
2. **Scales:** Sing the ascending and descending major scales appropriate to voice part. Scales should be sung unaccompanied on the vowel "ah" as in "father." Only the starting pitch should be played.

<u>Voice Part</u>	<u>Starting Pitch Ascending Scale</u>	<u>Starting Pitch Descending Scale</u>
Soprano I	B-flat above Middle C	C above Middle C
Soprano II	A above Middle C	B above Middle C
Alto I	E above Middle C	A above Middle C
Alto II	D above Middle C	G above Middle C
Tenor I	A-flat below Middle C	E above Middle C
Tenor II	F-sharp below Middle C	Middle C
Bass I	E-flat below Middle C	G below Middle C
Bass II	C-sharp below Middle C	E below Middle C

3. **Solo:** Sing one minute of a range-appropriate folk song, art song, or aria—accompanied or unaccompanied. The solo piece should be carefully chosen to demonstrate tone quality and musicality required of a choral singer. If accompaniment is used, please limit the intro to five seconds or less. Clearly state the title of the prepared solo and the name of the composer/arranger.

Festival Participation Fees

Each accepted student will be charged a \$45.00 participation fee.

The UNO BOCH Festival has become one of the largest and most successful in the region. We hope you will encourage your students to audition for the festival, and we look forward to receiving your students' audition materials.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joshua Kearney
BOCH Festival Co-Coordinator
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