



October 1, 2022

Dear Colleague,

It is our pleasure to announce —

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL BOCH FESTIVAL

Band, Orchestra, and Choir Honors Festival at the Strauss Performing Arts Center

Friday, January 27th | Saturday, January 28th

<http://music.unomaha.edu/boch>

Conductors

Dr. Joshua Kearney, Wind Ensemble

Prof. Peter Wilger, Band

Dr. Matthew Brooks, String Orchestra

Dr. Derrick Fox, SATB Choir

Dr. Katrina Cox, Treble Choir

This exciting two-day event will include rehearsals of all the honor ensembles, masterclasses with UNO faculty, and performances by UNO faculty. The Bands, Choirs, and String Orchestra will perform their final concerts Saturday afternoon and evening, January 28th, at the newly renovated Strauss Performing Arts Center Concert Hall on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Please see the detailed schedule found on the 2023 BOCH Festival website – music.unomaha.edu/boch.

Applicants must submit audio or video recordings along with the application information via the 2023 BOCH Festival website—music.unomaha.edu/boch. Click the button that says, “Click here to apply for the 2023 BOCH Festival!” See below for specifics regarding the audition requirements for each area.

Timeline

- **The online application must be completed by Monday, November 28, 2022.**
- Accepted students will receive notification via email by December 12, 2022. At that time part assignments and final instructions will be included.
- Students selected for the BOCH Festival should plan to arrive on campus the afternoon of Friday, January 27, 2023.

Band Audition Requirements

All Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Students

Woodwind and Brass:

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

Percussion:

- **Length:** 4 to 5 minutes
- **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.
- These audition recordings will be used for both ensemble selection and part assignments.

Students placed in the Wind Ensemble will re-audition at 2:30 PM on Friday, January 27, 2023 for part assignments. Audition material will be posted on the BOCH website (music.unomaha.edu/boch) and will include sight-reading and scales. All Band members will have their band and chair positions assigned in advance and will not need to re-audition for placement. Any Band/Wind Ensemble flute players that wish to be considered for a piccolo position in their ensemble will audition at 2:30 PM on Friday, January 27, 2023.

String Orchestra Audition Requirements

- **Solo/Etude:** Students who auditioned for their respective all-state orchestra may submit those recordings. All others should play a standard etude or solo (2-3 minutes) that reflects the technical level of the student.
- **Scales:** In addition to the above, each instrument should play one major and one harmonic minor scale (at least 2 octaves, more if possible).

Select students (based on recorded BOCH audition) will be invited to audition for principal or section leader. Principal audition material will be made available on the BOCH Festival website once participant selections are made.

Choir Audition Requirements

- **Introduction:** Student will announce his or her name and voice part.
- **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

- **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 \$50.00 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. Please direct any questions to jskeamey@unomaha.edu.

Sincerely,

The BOCH Festival Organizing Committee
Dr. Matthew Brooks, Chair
Dr. Joshua Kearney
Dr. Derrick Fox
Dr. Katrina Cox