



12th Annual CSU-Pueblo Festival of Winds & High School Honor Bands February 13-15, 2020

Festival Web Page: <http://chass.csupueblo.edu/fows>

October, 2019

Dear Colleagues:

It is our pleasure to invite you and your students to the 12th Annual Colorado State University-Pueblo Festival of Winds, Colorado's largest High School Honor Band Festival! The 3-day Festival starts Thursday morning and will feature director-recommended High School Honor Bands conducted by special guest clinicians, guest ensemble performances, master classes, graduate credit options for music teachers & participating directors, and much more. All music teachers of all levels are encouraged to attend the Festival regardless of whether or not they have students participating in the High School Honor Bands. Our Festival Honor Bands annually represent over 360 students from more than 45 high schools across Colorado and surrounding states. If you have never attended our annual event, this is going to be a great year to give us a try.

Included in this mailing is an overview of the Festival. However, you do need to consult the **above listed webpage** now and then to obtain additional needed materials for the Festival, such as:

- Any updates to the Festival Schedule of Events
- Chair placement audition excerpts that are required for all honor band participants.
→ Please ask your students to be patient until these excerpts become available, which may not happen until the end of January. Regardless, an email is always sent out to participating directors at the same time to alert you that the excerpts have been posted.
- All Director recommendations are conveniently submitted online at the above listed webpage.

This year will again feature four high school honor bands. While the two Symphonic Bands are open to all students selected for participation, the two Wind Orchestras will be reserved for those students who place highest in the audition process, which takes place on the first day of the Festival. This year's honor band guest clinicians will be **Dr. Kenneth Singleton**, Director of Bands Emeritus, University of Northern Colorado; **Professor Yixin Wan**, Conductor, Symphony Band & Nanchang Philharmonic, Nanchang University, China; **Dr. Patrick Carney**, Director of Bands, Limestone College, South Carolina; **Dr. Nikk Pilato**, Associate Director of Bands, Indiana State University; and our Composer-In-Residence will be **Dr. Roger Zare** from Illinois State University.

This year's concert series will include the **Heritage High School Symphonic Band**, the United States Air Force Academy **Concert Band**, the **Top of the Hill Band** (featuring our participating band directors!), the **CSU-Pueblo Jazz Ensemble I**, the **Pikes Peak Brass Band**, the **CSU-Pueblo Wind Ensemble**, and the **Honor Bands Finalé Concert** that features participating high school students.

We encourage you to submit your recommendations right away. The priority deadline to ensure the highest consideration for your students to participate in the honor bands is **Friday November 22, 2019**. However, recommendations are always accepted up until the week of the Festival. Therefore if you miss the priority deadline, please do not hesitate to submit late recommendations and we will do our best to represent your school. We look forward to hosting you at the CSU-Pueblo FoWs!

Alan W. Mills
Director, Festival of Winds
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Ryan Van Gilder
Assistant Director, Festival of Winds

The 2020 CSU-Pueblo High School Honor Bands (Grades 9-12)

The High School Honor Bands will be made up of students recommended for participation by high school band directors; students do not need to submit audition recordings to be considered for participation in the honor bands. Instead, auditions are completed on the first day of the Festival.

- In the history of the Festival of Winds, we have maintained a policy that any director who submits names for participation in the Honor Bands is assured to have a minimum of 2 students selected. We trust that band directors know who their deserving students are, which might not necessarily be those students who sit at the top of a section in your band. However, we have run into some concerns in the past. As a result, we have modified this policy slightly:
 - If Directors recommend fewer than five students, there is a possibility that students might not be selected due to instrumentation needs and age of students. We will still make every effort possible to include students from every school and we will try to make an effort to contact you if there is a concern with your submissions. To increase the chances that your students will be selected, we encourage you to submit up to 15 names with diverse instrumentation. For example, historically we have always been in need of additional **oboes, bassoons, low brass, string bassists, and piano players**.

REGISTRATION DATES & DEADLINES TO KNOW:

- **Friday, November 22, 2019:** Recommendations received by this date are insured the highest level of consideration for participation in the honor bands. Recommendations received after this date will still be considered on a space-available basis or at the discretion of the Festival Director up until the start of the festival.
 - *Don't forget to submit your recommendations online at <http://chass.csupueblo.edu/fows>*
- **Friday, December 20, 2019 or sooner: Initial Roster notification** is sent to high school band directors with the posting of students selected for participation. If a director does not receive notification by this date, please e-mail the Festival Director.
 - Student names that do not appear on the Initial Roster Posting are automatically held on the **Alternate List**. These students should **still keep the Festival dates reserved** as cancellations do happen, sometimes very close to the start of the Festival, often due to illnesses or family emergencies. We would like to point out that each year we make Alternate offerings that are subsequently turned down because students who did not make it on the **Initial Roster Posting** assumed that they did not make it into the Festival and made other plans for the weekend. Please keep your alternates on alert for Alternate Offerings all the way up until the start of the Festival. Thank you!
 - **A Note about Alternates** are welcome to join us for the weekend (attend all concerts, participate in master classes, observe rehearsals, etc.) even if they are not ultimately selected to participate in the honor bands. The student Alternate cost for attending the Festival is just **\$30**, which will include a Festival T-Shirt and dinner at the Friday night Banquet. Please contact the Festival Director no later than the Late Registration Deadline (see below) prior to making arrangements to bring Alternates to the Festival so that we know to expect them. Alternates who show up to the Festival also have the best chance to take advantage of last minute cancellations. If selected to participate, the Early Registration fee rate will apply to Alternates.
- **Friday, January 17, 2020: Early Registration Deadline.** \$40 per student if received or postmarked by this date. Thank you for submitting on-time payments.
- **Friday, January 31, 2020: Late Registration Deadline.** \$45 per student if received by this date.
 - Please note that students may be subject to being dropped from the Festival if a registration fee has not been received by the Late Registration date. An email notification will be sent out to the recommending director prior to any action being taken.
- **Monday, February 3, 2020: Cancellation Deadline.** All cancellations received on or after this date are subject to a \$25.00 late cancellation fee, which is an increase of \$5 from last year.
- **Thursday, February 13, 2020: On-site registration. 1st Day of the Festival** \$50 per student.

Special date to note: Due to financial losses associated with late cancellations, we will be assessing a late cancellation fee of \$25.00 for each student who cancels within 10 days of the 1st day of the Festival. Cancellation fees only apply to students who did not otherwise pay a registration fee. Directors should make very clear to their students the importance of following through with their commitment to participate in the Festival. Please communicate the dates of the Festival with your students and discuss the importance of attending all scheduled honor band rehearsals, master classes, sectionals, the Friday night banquet, and all Festival performances **prior to recommending them** for participation. Thank you for your understanding.

○ **Payment Options:**

▪ **Mail Checks to:**

- Alan Mills A/M 171
CSU-Pueblo
2200 Bonforte Blvd
Pueblo, CO 81001

Checks should be made payable to "CSU-Pueblo Music"

Please make certain that the outside address of the envelop is addressed to "Alan Mills A/M 171" as checks can inadvertently be sent to the wrong building on campus and get lost.

▪ **Telephone payments:**

- Call Alan Mills to make a payment by credit card
(719) 549-2521

Note: a 3% convenience fee will be added to credit card payments

▪ **Onsite Registrations:**

- Will be accepted via check, cash, or credit card

Note: a 3% convenience fee will be added to credit card payments

→ Please do not submit registration fees until you are notified as to how many of your students have been selected for participation. Please make checks payable to "**CSU-Pueblo Bands**." Invoices can be made available upon request.

Additional Festival of Winds Information

- When recommending students, please keep in mind that not all 1st and 2nd choices will automatically be selected for participation. However, less popular instruments (such as double reeds, string bass, and piano) might be more likely to be selected. Recommending students from all sections is encouraged and may result in more students being selected from your school.
- All standard concert band instrumentalists should be considered for inclusion in the honor bands, including **string bassists**. If there is another teacher at your school who teaches strings, we would be most appreciative if you would alert your colleague of our String Bass opportunities.

• **Don't Forget about PIANO** opportunities in the Festival of Winds! While there is always a chance that one or more honor bands may be in need of a piano player, we will also be providing additional activities for those pianists who are selected for participation in this year's festival, including a performance Saturday morning at the Festival. Those who are selected for participation will be provided with music *in advance* of their arrival on campus to help them prepare.

- All **meals** are the responsibility of the student/director/school with the exception of the Friday night Banquet, which is hosted by the CSU-Pueblo Department of Music.
- All Honor Band Participants will receive a Festival T-shirt, including participating Band Directors.
- Directors are encouraged to **contact hotels** immediately upon notification of the number of participants to secure lodging. Costs associated with lodging are the responsibility of the school or participating students. (See the Festival web page for more information.)
- All High School Honor Band participants should bring along "**Concert Blacks**" for their final performance attire. This can include: Black Tuxedos/Dark Suits, Black Shirts, Black Blouses, Black Dresses, Black Skirts (below knee length), Black Pants, Black Shoes, Black Socks, etc.

- High School Festival participants are encouraged to bring along solos that may be used in the Master Classes. Each Applied instructor will determine the content of their respective master class, which may or may not include opportunities to work on solos.
- Festival participants may be requested to sign a media release form in the event that promotional photos, video, or audio recordings are produced during the Festival. If there are any concerns, please contact the Festival Director.
- CSU-Pueblo does not provide chaperons or housing, therefore students/parents/directors should plan accordingly.
- Festival participants must be accompanied by an adult escort throughout the entire Festival. Students should not arrive alone or be dropped off for festival activities without proper supervision during all Festival activities. In some cases, arrangements can be made for students to be supervised by adults/directors from a different school.
- There are no costs for accompanying music teachers, with the exception of those enrolling in the graduate credit option. In the absence of an accompanying music teacher, 1 adult chaperon will be allowed to accompany students to the Friday night banquet and enter the Finalé Concert free of charge. If more than 1 adult chaperon (non-music teacher) desires to attend the Friday night banquet, please contact the Festival Director for pricing information.
- All participating students need to bring along a wire or portable music stand. We encourage you to make sure the student's name and school name are clearly identified on all parts of the stand so that misplaced items can be identified for retrieval.
- All Festival Concerts are free of charge, with the exception of the Finalé Honor Band concert. All concerts are open to the public.

Music Teacher Graduate Credit Enrollment Information

Participating Music Teachers or those who have completed an undergraduate degree may elect to enroll in Graduate Credit for attending the Festival of Winds and completing the required class assignments. This credit may assist with teacher recertification credit, professional advancement, or used to transfer into a Masters degree program, such as the CSU-Pueblo Master in Education with Music Emphasis degree program. Those who plan to apply the credit to a degree program should consult the degree requirements pertaining to your respective degree program to ensure successful application to degree requirements. This is strictly an optional course offering for those who wish to enroll. There will again be two levels of credits offerings and teachers may register on the first day of the festival with a credit card, cash, or check. A course syllabus will also be made available soon after the start of spring semester so that you can prepare for the class in advance, including copies of scores that will be used for the conducting master class on Friday. Please contact the Festival Director if you plan to register for this offering. Enrollment pricing T.B.A., but are estimated to be less than \$110 per credit.

Top of The Hill Band!!

It is officially a tradition! The Top of The Hill Band is our "Band Director's Band." Please plan to bring along your "axe" to the Festival so that we can put on another concert for our students. If you have some literature suggestions that you'd like to bring along, contact the festival director in advance.

"I haven't played my instrument in a while, so I don't think I'll play this year."

Bring your instrument anyway, we want you in the band.

Your students want to see you in the band!

"I won't have time to practice ahead of time, so I don't think I'll play this year."

Bring your instrument anyway, we want you in the band.

Your students want to see you in the band.

"I don't think I can make it through a full concert because I'm so out of shape."

Bring your instrument anyway, we want you in the band.

Your students want to see you in the band.

We'll call the paramedics if you go down on stage... promise.