

**WKU HONORS BAND CLINIC, op. 34**  
**January 22, 23, & 24, 2015**

Dear Director,

We cordially invite you and your students to participate in the **Thirty-Fourth Annual WKU Honors Band Clinic**. This mailing includes preliminary information regarding the 2015 clinic, along with instructions for nomination of your students online. PLEASE NOTE THE NOMINATION DEADLINE OF **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 2014**. We must have nomination information by this date in order to notify you in a timely manner of those students who are accepted. Last year, we received more than 725 nominations and selected nearly 400 of the top students from 60 high schools in the region to participate in the event.

We have four outstanding clinician/conductors this year that are well respected for their musicianship and dedication to music education:

**Dr. Mark Walker**, Director of Bands, Troy University  
**Mr. Ricardo Vargas**, Conductor of the National Band of Cartago (Costa Rica)  
**Mr. David Starnes**, Assistant Director of Bands, Western Carolina University  
**Mr. Tom Stites**, Coordinator of Fine Arts, Owensboro City Schools

I am confident that your students will enjoy working with these fine music educators. Please refer to their biographical information provided in this mailing. Each conductor will present clinics for directors during the event. All participating band directors are also invited to a complimentary luncheon on Friday, January 23rd hosted by the WKU Bands.

Students selected to participate in the clinic bands will be provided music to prepare and perform for seating auditions, which begin at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 22nd. The WKU Music Department will present a special 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PRISM concert on Friday, January 23rd, which will highlight a variety of ensembles from the WKU music program. The closing Honors Band concert featuring the four clinic bands will begin at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 24th.

Please give immediate and careful attention to the enclosed information and the nomination process. We have tried to simplify the nomination process for you by reducing the amount of information requested about each student. We look forward to receiving your nominations online and seeing you at this year's clinic!

Sincerely,

Gary Schallert  
Director of Bands  
270-745-5893 - Email: [gary.schallert@wku.edu](mailto:gary.schallert@wku.edu)

**WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
HONORS BAND CLINIC, op. 34  
JANUARY 22-24, 2015**

The clinic begins with registration and auditions for chairs as the participants arrive between the hours of 3:00 and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 22nd. In the case of weather-related travel delays, late-arriving students will be placed in bands by the clinic director according to their previous accomplishments (if auditions are not possible). The first rehearsal will begin at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22nd. The clinic will conclude with a public concert at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 24th in Van Meter Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

In order to maintain the concept of an "Honors" event, each director should nominate **only the most dedicated and accomplished players from their band. Students that are selected typically have previous distinctions as an All-District or All-State level player, or have earned "Distinguished" ratings at Solo and Ensemble festivals.** The players should be listed in order by ability as a performer. We also request that you nominate a "cross section" of instrumentation. We will select as many players as possible from the top of each director's nomination list, and afterwards, select other players according to the instrumentation needs. Of course, the selection process will be sensitive in the areas of achievement (past honors), and then seniority. **PLEASE NOTE: THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE A 9/10 HONOR BAND FOR OUTSTANDING FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES ONLY (formerly the Hilltopper Band).** Please nominate your **TOP** freshmen and sophomore students that would qualify for the top chairs in a 9/10 All-District band, or membership in an All-State Band. The 9/10 Honor Band will perform second on the concert after the Red Band. The White and Gray Bands will be considered equal second bands and students will be assigned to these bands in the same manner as we have done in the past.

WE MUST ASSUME THAT STUDENTS NOMINATED WILL ATTEND IF SELECTED. Please check with them *prior* to nomination. Also, it should be noted that attendance at ALL rehearsals is expected. It would be quite unfair to both the clinician and other students to have someone miss evening rehearsals and concerts for ball games, academic team events, etc.

The **registration fee of \$35.00** for each student will be **payable by a single check from your school or boosters** no later than Friday, January 16th, 2015. There will be no refund for last minute no-shows except for extenuating circumstances. In the case of event cancellation due to bad weather, all fees will be refunded. Each participating student will receive a **2015 WKU Honors Band Clinic T-Shirt, lunch on Friday, and a complimentary ticket to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual PRISM Concert.** The registration fee covers all clinician fees, music expenses and other costs associated with the festival. This event is **NOT a fundraiser for the WKU Band program.** All students must furnish their own instrument; percussionists must furnish their own sticks and mallets.

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 2014.  
NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE WILL BE MAILED & E-MAILED TO ALL PARTICIPATING  
DIRECTORS BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013.**

PLEASE NOTE: Western Kentucky University cannot provide housing for directors or students. Each group will be responsible for their own housing at local motels. Complete information, including motels giving special rates, will be sent with acceptance notices. **Chaperonage is the responsibility of each individual school, not WKU.** There are numerous hotels in Bowling Green but we have arranged a special group rate through the Holiday Inn University Plaza.

The event hotel is the Holiday Inn University Plaza, 270-745-0088.  
(\$99.00 per room and the rate includes a full, cooked to order breakfast for each guest).