



South Dakota Music Educators Association
General Information Letter
2020 MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL-STATE BAND
Mitchell HS Performing Arts Center, Mitchell, SD
March 6-7, 2020

Honor Band – Dr. Haley Armstong

Festival Band – Dr. Cassandra Bechard

This year marks the 21st Annual South Dakota Music Educators Association Middle School All-State Band. The past twenty years have presented the opportunity to grow in our service to young musicians across the state. SDMEA takes great pride in this event as a way to provide an opportunity for students who thrive on challenge and expertise.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Students in grades 6-8 who are currently enrolled in a South Dakota public or private school band program are eligible to audition. Audition recordings must be submitted by the band director or the student's private lesson instructor. (Band Director/Private Instructor MUST be a current member of SDMEA)
2. Selected participants are required to be in attendance for ALL rehearsals of Middle School All-State Band. Please check your calendars to avoid conflicts. **In most cases, no alternates will be placed for those students that are selected and choose not to attend the event.**

Audition Requirements

1. All auditions will be submitted online. We will use Music Festival Software Solutions to upload auditions. You will be sent an email with directions on how to access the audition site. You will also be asked for a username & password, those will also be sent in an email.
2. Each scale & etude will be uploaded *individually*, **in Mp3 format only**, in the following order:
 - a. Winds: chromatic, major, minor, 6/8, 4/4 (5 recordings to upload)
 - b. Percussion: Major scale, minor scale, mallet etude, timpani etude, rudiment 1, rudiment 2, snare etude (7 recordings to upload)
3. The scales and etudes should be played as written.
4. Please do not have the students identify themselves when recording.

Audition Information

1. **Audition deadline is December 13th, 2019**
The ability to upload audition material to the website will be unavailable after 11:59 PM CDT on December 13th, 2019. This will allow for a prompt adjudication, with notification to the director's email by January 13th, 2020 and on the SDMEA website soon after.
2. There is a \$9 audition fee (per audition). Audition fees may be paid by credit card on the Music Festival Software Solutions website or by sending a check to Kristen Dunlap. (please do NOT send cash)
 - a. **Checks need to be made payable to SDMEA.** (ONE check per school please)
 - b. Please print the summary of auditions page and send it with the check.
 - c. Checks need to be postmarked by **December 20th, 2019**
 - d. **Please note:** you will be charged for all auditions complete and incomplete if you have uploaded audition materials. NO refunds will be issued for incomplete auditions.
3. There will be an *additional* registration fee of \$9 per student selected to the festival or honor band. That registration fee will be due **January 31, 2020**
4. **Submitted auditions that do not meet the eligibility and/or audition requirements will not be adjudicated.**

Chair – Kristen Dunlap (Kristen.Dunlap@k12.sd.us), 800 N. Main, Canton SD, 57013, 764-2706
Co-Chair – Daniel Eye (Daniel.Eye@k12.sd.us), 705 E 2nd St, Hartford, SD 57033, (605) 528-6236 ext. 1119