# THE 80th ANNUAL ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL – 2026
## DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

**WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS**
Congratulations on having students selected for the 80th All-State Music Festival! Your dedication and preparation have made this achievement possible. We will have three days of disciplined and structured rehearsals. Your continued assistance and leadership are essential. Many of you have been here before; others are here for the first time. The Executive Committee offers the following guidance before you register your students.

**PRIVILEGE**
Participation in the All-State ensembles is a privilege for Iowa's outstanding student musicians. It will be a rewarding experience for you and your students alike.

**LEADERSHIP**
You will notice the growth and leadership your students bring to your own programs after this experience. Take every opportunity in Ames to strengthen your director-student connection. Your involvement and attentiveness to their well-being are appreciated.

**GUIDANCE**
Students respect clear expectations. *You* are their leader during the Festival. Conduct nightly room checks to ensure your students are accounted for and settled. This is your responsibility. Offer guidance on meal choices and safety: walk in pairs, avoid riding with strangers, and remain alert. Your visible presence at rehearsals communicates your investment in their success.

**RULES**
The following pages include the rehearsal schedule and festival regulations. They are reasonable and essential for a smooth event. Review this packet with your students before arrival. Ensure all students understand the curfew hours and behavioral expectations.

**FRIDAY MEALS**
Due to the limited time between rehearsals on Friday, the IHSMA and IMEA Executive Committees have determined that *all student participants* will eat their Friday noon meal on the concourse level of Hilton Coliseum. The registration fee includes the cost of this meal, and students will use their name badge for admittance. If a student has special dietary needs, email **Sam Franzen-Boeck**, ISU Conference Planning and Management, at **sfranzen@iastate.edu** with the student's name, meals they will be eating, and their ensemble (band, choir, or orchestra).

**SUCCESS**
Your cooperation and professionalism are vital to the success of the 80th All-State Festival and Finale Concert. Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to the students and schools of Iowa.

**The Executive Committees**
Iowa High School Music Association
Iowa Music Educators Association

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

**November 19, 20, 21, 2026**
**IOWA STATE CENTER - AMES, IOWA**

## SCHEDULE

### Friday, November 20, 2026

**OPEN REHEARSALS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM | Chorus | C. Y. Stephens |
| 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM | Band | Hilton Coliseum |
| 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Orchestra (11:30 AM "Battle Hymn") | Scheman Building, Room 220-240 |
| | | |
| 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Chorus (1:00 PM "America") | C.Y. Stephens |
| 1:15 PM | Chamber Orchestra | C.Y. Stephens |
| 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM | Band | Hilton Coliseum |
| 2:00 PM - 4:45 PM | Orchestra | Scheman Building, Room 220-240 |
| | | |
| 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Chorus | C.Y. Stephens |
| 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM | Band | Hilton Coliseum |
| 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM | Orchestra | Scheman Building, Room 220-240 |

### Saturday, November 21, 2026

**OPEN REHEARSALS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30 AM - 11:15 AM | Orchestra | Scheman Building, Room 220-240 |
| 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM | Chorus | C.Y. Stephens |
| 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Band | Hilton Coliseum |

**CLOSED REHEARSALS and PHOTOS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 12:45 PM - 12:55 PM | *Orchestra Group Photo* | Hilton Coliseum |
| 12:55 PM - 2:00 PM | Orchestra (closed rehearsal) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 2:00 PM - 2:15 PM | Orchestra and Chorus (closed rehearsal) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM | Chorus (closed rehearsal) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM | *Chorus Group Photo* | Hilton Coliseum |
| 3:45 PM - 4:00 PM | Chorus and Band (closed rehearsal) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 4:00 PM - 5:07 PM | Band (closed rehearsal) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 5:07 PM - 5:15 PM | *Band Group Photo* | Hilton Coliseum |

**IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCERT**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00 PM | All-State Musicians in the Arena (Performance Ready) | Hilton Coliseum |
| 7:15 PM | Pre-Concert Awards Ceremony | Hilton Coliseum |
| **7:30 PM** | **CONCERT** | **HILTON COLISEUM** |

Below you will find a copy of the housing rules and regulations established by the Iowa High School Music Association that will govern your students' stay during the festival. Because this festival brings together students from over 161 different schools, each with their own set of rules and expectations, it is necessary that we have a set of uniform regulations that will govern your students' stay while in Ames. These regulations are in place to ensure that your students are well rested and ready to engage for each rehearsal. Please read these rules and regulations and understand that they will be strictly enforced. Failure to adhere to any of these regulations may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the festival. **Understand also that a high school director or chaperone has no authority to grant exceptions to these rules and regulations.**

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### HOUSING

1. There shall be no playing of instruments or singing from 11:00 PM. to 8:30 AM.
2. Participants may meet only in rooms assigned to them by their director. If this rule is violated, all parties involved will be dismissed from the All-State Festival.
3. Students are not to congregate in rooms other than those billed to their own school.
4. Students **must** be in their rooms no later than **11:00 PM** each night. **Lights out and no noise after 11:30 PM.** All students must remain in their rooms until 6:30 AM.

### GENERAL

Inadequate preparation, poor rehearsal attitudes, and conduct not up to the highest standards of our best high school students will be considered sufficient reason for dismissal from the festival.

Chaperones must be housed in the same hotel as their students.

Members of the Executive Committees are assigned to each of the hotels to help you observe the curfew and regulations. The burden of this responsibility, however, rests with the director and/or chaperone.

## CHAIR PLACEMENT AUDITION PROCEDURES & REHEARSAL INFORMATION

All-State Orchestra and Band students will be auditioned for chair placement on Thursday afternoon. Failure to perform the selections at an All-State level will result in potential dismissal from the group. Students found to be inadequately prepared at the Thursday auditions will be granted a final audition on Friday morning before a panel of auditors whose decision will be final.

**ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA**: All Orchestra string members are to meet in the Scheman Building prior to 3:00 PM Thursday afternoon. Initial announcements and rooms for auditions have been included in the student's folder. Members will be auditioned to the last chair. Members should bring a pencil and a folding music stand to rehearsals. If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Nicole Cody, Decorah (920-517-2623).

**ALL-STATE BAND**: Audition times will be on the IHSMA website approximately four (4) days prior to chair placement auditions in Ames. (www.ihsma.org) Any updates on the day of chair placement will also be posted on the IHSMA website. Members will be auditioned to the last chair. Band members must bring a pencil and a folding stand to rehearsals. If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Russell Kramer, Mason City (641-420-5788).

**ALL-STATE CHORUS**: Seating specifics for the All-State Chorus will be included in the registration packet available in Ames. These must be picked up before the first rehearsal. All chorus members are to report to the C.Y. Stephens auditorium prior to 8:30 AM Friday morning. Move quietly into the area and proceed directly to your assigned seat. Have your music in a 3-ring binder, and have it marked inside with your name and school. No manila folders or envelopes, please. Bring a pencil to all rehearsals. If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Thad Wilkins, Mount Vernon (319-530-3217).

## CONCERT DRESS

**All-State Orchestra CONCERT DRESS**: BLACK suits or Tuxedos, white shirt with black neck/bow tie, BLACK dress suits (below the knee when seated), BLACK pant suits, long black dresses (below the knee when seated), or black tops and long black skirts (below the knee when seated). **Any option should include sleeves past the shoulder.** If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Nicole Cody, Decorah (920-517-2623).

**All-State Band CONCERT DRESS**: BLACK suits or Tuxedos, white shirt with black neck/bow tie, BLACK dress suits (below the knee when seated), BLACK pant suits, long black dresses (below the knee when seated), or black tops and long black skirts (below the knee when seated). If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Russell Kramer, Mason City (641-420-5788).

**All-State Chorus CONCERT DRESS:** CHOIR ROBES REQUIRED!! Chorus members **must** wear choir robes. If illness should prevent you from making the trip, telephone Thad Wilkins, Mount Vernon (319-530-3217).

## BUSING INFORMATION

**VERY IMPORTANT!! Students who have reservations for bus transportation at the festival as arranged by the IHSMA MUST interpret all times as exact departure times. *Please be ready at the pick-up location of your hotel at least five (5) minutes early.*** It must be understood the bus may be up to five minutes late as it moves from one hotel to the next; however, students cannot be late and still expect a ride!!

**Friday AM & Saturday AM** departure times must consider whether breakfast will be at the hotel or at ISU.

## IDENTIFICATION OF STUDENTS

An All-State name tag with lanyard will be provided in the registration packet for every student selected to an All-State ensemble. This name tag must be worn for admittance to Hilton Coliseum on Saturday afternoon and evening and for all rehearsals. **Students who lose their initial name tag may purchase a second one for $5.00 at the IHSMA desk, middle floor of the Scheman Building.**

## ATTENDANCE

Rehearsal schedules are interpreted as the actual starting times for rehearsal. Attendance will be checked carefully at each rehearsal. DIRECTORS: bringing students to a rehearsal tardy for any reason is inexcusable!! Failure to attend all rehearsals will eliminate students from participating. Please report any illness to the All-State Chairs immediately.

## ALL-STATE MEAL INFORMATION

*Please refer to the Meal Ticket Request Form found in the PRE All-State Audition Information online*

This information was previously emailed and posted online in October. **ALL All-State students will eat Friday lunch on the concourse level of Hilton Coliseum.** The student's name badge will be their admittance for the Friday noon meal. Directors may purchase a ticket ($13.50) for the Friday lunch. All-State participants and directors may purchase a four-meal ($51.00) or two-meal plan ($22) from the IHSMA office using the meal ticket information sheet to order their tickets/stickers ahead of time, or they may find their own meals in the restaurants of the Ames community. Please plan**!**

One-meal stickers are also available as part of the meal plans:

- A Friday evening meal can be purchased by using the meal ticket information sheet to order the stickers/tickets ahead of time. The cost for that meal is $14.50.
- A Saturday lunch meal can be purchased by using the meal ticket information sheet to order the stickers/tickets ahead of time. The cost for that meal is $14.50.
- A one–meal sticker/ticket for Saturday dinner is available for purchase as well. The cost for this meal is $11.00. It will be a pizza meal in C.Y. Stephens Auditorium. This sticker/ticket must be purchased before the festival and can be ordered on the meal ticket information sheet that was mailed to you before auditions.

## ACCESS TO HILTON COLISEUM

1. The lower west doors of Hilton Coliseum should be used for all rehearsal access and exits.
2. Hilton Coliseum must be cleared by 5:30 PM Saturday and will reopen at 6:00 PM.
3. Admittance at 6:00 PM will be by All-State wristband or ticket only. On Saturday evening, any door may be used as long as you have either a wristband or a ticket.
4. The east end ramp may be used by students for entrance and exit Saturday night **ONLY,** before and after the Concert. Please arrange to meet with your parents after the concert somewhere other than the floor of Hilton Coliseum. Due to a very demanding schedule, the Hilton staff must begin clearing the floor 1/2 hour after the concert.

Students ONLY are to use the East Ramp for exit at the conclusion of the concert. Use the side hallways for this purpose. Iowa PBS and recording equipment prohibit their exiting through the curtain. Students with large instruments should secure help from within the band or orchestra. PARENTS AND DIRECTORS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THIS AREA!!

## DRESSING FACILITIES

- CHORUS: You will use the restrooms located in the Northeast corner of the Hilton Coliseum outer concourse for your dressing rooms. This area will be draped and cordoned off just for this use. You will only be allowed entrance with a wristband.
- BAND WOMEN: Your dressing room (Visiting Team Locker Room) will be located at the east end of the Coliseum, floor level, on the south side. The door will be plainly marked.
- ORCHESTRA WOMEN: Your dressing room (Women's Basketball Locker Room) will be located at the east end of the Coliseum, floor level, on the south side. The door will be plainly marked.
- BAND MEN: Your dressing room (Pete Taylor Media Room) will be located at the east end of the Coliseum, floor level, on the south side. The door will be plainly marked.
- ORCHESTRA MEN: Your dressing room (Men's Basketball Locker Room) will be located at the east end of the Coliseum, floor level, on the north side. The door will be plainly marked.

## T-SHIRTS, DVDs, and CDs

Northwest Designs Inc. will be providing on-site printing of All-State T-shirts and other All-State related clothing merchandise. Their sales will be located on the ground floor of the Scheman Building.

Comprehensive Sound Services has been contracted to provide CD recordings of the 2026 All-State Festival Concert. Order forms for these items will be available at rehearsals, at the IHSMA registration desk, and in the All-State Programs.

Through cooperation with Iowa PBS, DVDs of the entire Finale Festival Concert will be available for sale to interested buyers. Comprehensive Sound will be attending to the duplication and distribution of the DVDs. Order forms for the DVD's will be available at the IHSMA registration desk and in the All-State Programs. The cost is $25.00. Comprehensive Sound will be offering the video in Blu-ray format for $28.00.

These order forms will be available at the IHSMA registration desk at the following times on the Scheman Building, Middle Floor: Thursday, 2:00 - 6:00 PM; Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; and Saturday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

## REGISTRATION

**Please consider pre-payment of registration fees. Send registration form and fees to be received by Tuesday, November 10th to IHSMA, PO Box 10, Boone, IA, 50036. This will speed up registration in Ames significantly.** If prepayment is not possible, please email the Registration form to IHSMA by November 10th. Please work with your business office to have $35.00 per student registration fee sent to the IHSMA as soon as possible. At check-in, you will receive a packet containing identification name tags with lanyards, bumper stickers, meal stickers/tickets, medals, certificates, vocal seating cards and complimentary concert ticket(s). While pre-payment is not required, it is highly encouraged. Students are required to wear name tags for rehearsal attendance and for Friday lunch. The registration desk will be open 2:00 - 6:00 PM on Thursday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Friday and 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Saturday.

## HOUSING

All schools were emailed a housing blank worksheet in the October pre-audition mailing. You must submit both the front and back of this housing information **ONLINE**. Housing cannot be guaranteed after Wednesday, October 28th. Follow the directions carefully. Directors should inform the hotel registration staff at check-in if they wish telephone, movie channels, etc., disconnected from their rooms. Schools are responsible for any charges credited to any of their rooms.

## LODGING INFORMATION

Schools having their room charges billed directly to the school are requested to forward a Purchase Order to that property upon receipt of a confirmation of motel assignment. This will assist greatly with the check-in and check-out procedures.

## DAY OF EVENT - EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

Iowa State University has provided a day-of-event emergency telephone number. This should be used for emergency purposes only. **If parents need to contact their child for emergency reasons, they should call Brooke Mease at 319-350-6217 or Sam Franzen-Boeck at 406-570-9389.**

## FESTIVAL CONCERT TICKETS

All seats are reserved. One complimentary director ticket will be provided in each school's registration packet for each All-State Ensemble (band, chorus, orchestra) student selected into for participation. All other tickets *must* be purchased. Tickets may be purchased online via Ticketmaster.com after 10:00 AM on October 27, 2026, at the cost of $30.00 per ticket, plus fees. Ticketmaster will charge a per-ticket handling fee.

**A group rate of $25.00 per ticket, plus fees, for 20 or more tickets sold to a single purchaser is available.** This group rate will be available online at www.ticketmaster.com. Select your quantity from the group rate drop down area. Click the "Buy" button once it appears to see all your seat locations and continue through the

purchasing process. Note: All group rate tickets purchased online must be purchased in the same designated seating areas (Band, Chorus, Orchestra).

**Special need tickets** (wheelchair, sight, hearing, difficulty with stairs) are available to purchase online at www.ticketmaster.com. Click the "Request Accessible Seats" icon, and then answer the questions provided to purchase your tickets. (There is a limit of four (4) special need tickets per order.) Special need tickets are also available to purchase by phone from the ISU Athletics Ticket Office at 888-478-2925 after 10:00 AM, October 27, 2026. There is a limited amount of mobility impaired seating.

Schools can now pre-purchase All-State tickets for other directors (***Directors Only***) in their school district who are chaperoning students and who wish to attend the concert. The order can be placed on the student Registration Form. The fee is $30.00 per ticket. The IHSMA office may have a few additional tickets available in the directors' block. These may be purchased from Mr. Driskell in Ames on a first-come, first-served basis after 2:00 PM Thursday, November 19, 2026.

## PARKING

Iowa State University DOES NOT HAVE a home football game on Saturday, November 21.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON REHEARSAL "CLOSED!!"

Because of past problems with talking and excessive noise during the Saturday afternoon rehearsals in Hilton Coliseum, these rehearsals have been declared "closed" by the Executive Committees of the IHSMA and IMEA. Only the participating students, All-State Chairs and their designated assistants, All-State Conductors, and Executive Committee members will be permitted access to this facility on Saturday afternoon. Directors are encouraged to attend the IMEA conference sessions, which will be occurring during this time.

## IMEA CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The IMEA Conference will be taking place in the Scheman Building on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the All-State Festival. IBA, ICDA, and ISTA members may attend any of the sessions of this conference by paying the IMEA conference registration fee at the IMEA Registration desk, located on the top floor of the Scheman Building.

# 80th ANNUAL IOWA ALL-STATE FESTIVAL CONCERT
## HILTON COLISEUM, IOWA STATE CENTER, AMES, IOWA
## NOVEMBER 21, 2026 – 7:30 PM (Awards – 7:15 PM)

ALL SEATS RESERVED AT **$30.00 plus fees**

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**TICKETMASTER**

**(Tickets on sale: Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 10:00 AM)**

TICKETMASTER ONLY ACCPETS MASTERCARD, VISA, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OR DISCOVER

**TO ORDER TICKETS ONLINE:** www.ticketmaster.com

TICKETMASTER WILL CHARGE A 'PER TICKET' FEE

All tickets are delivered digitally and must be viewed on a mobile device. You will locate your tickets in your Ticketmaster account or in the Ticketmaster app from your smartphone after purchase.

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## GROUP RATE

A group rate of $25.00 per ticket, plus fees, for 20 or more tickets sold to a single purchaser is available. This group rate will be available online at www.ticketmaster.com. Select your quantity from the group rate drop down area. Click the 'Buy' button once it appears to see all of your seat locations and continue through the purchasing process. Note: All group rate tickets purchased online must be purchased in the same designated seating areas (Band, Chorus, Orchestra).

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## SPECIAL NEEDS

Special needs tickets (wheelchair, sight, hearing, difficulty with stairs) are available to purchase online at www.ticketmaster.com. Click the 'Request Accessible Seats' icon, and then answer the questions provided to purchase your tickers. (There is a limit of four (4) special needs tickets per order.) Special needs tickets may also be purchased from the Iowa State Ticket Office by phone at 888-478-2925 after 10:00 AM, October 27, 2026. There is a limited amount of mobility impaired seating.

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 19 - 21, 2026
Iowa State Center – Ames, Iowa

CONGRATULATIONS All-State Band Member!!

WELCOME!! Through a highly competitive audition process, you have been accepted as a member of the FINEST All-State Band in the country! We are confident that your preparation and dedication to excellence will continue the high standards of musical excellence established by previous Iowa All-State Bands.

Our guest conductor for the 2026 All-State Band is Dr. Cynthia Johnston Turner. Dr. Turner received her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, a Master of Education at the University of Victoria, and a Doctor of Musical Arts (Conducting) from the Eastman School of Music. She has received numerous teaching, research, and leadership awards in Canada and the United States. After serving as Director of Bands at the University of Georgia and Cornell University, Dr. Turner was appointed Dean—Faculty of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, in 2021. She leads a school of approximately 400 undergraduate and graduate music majors with programs in traditional conservatory programming coupled with innovative undergraduate specializations in Community Music and Afrodiasporic Music, and graduate degrees such as the MMC3 (Masters of Music in Collaboration, Curation, and Creative Performance). The Faculty of Music at Laurier has the only Bachelors, Masters, and PhD in Music Therapy in Canada. She also oversees the Laurier Academy of Music and the Arts, a community-based school serving approximately 1000 students ranging from 6 months to 95 years old in the region. In the fall of 2025 Laurier Music launched a new curriculum that dismantles the hierarchy between "classical" and "popular" music. Dr. Turner has guest conducted bands, new music ensembles, and orchestras professionally, at several universities and conservatories, and honor bands in the United States, China, Canada, Australia, Latin America, and Europe. She continues to actively promote commissions by today's leading and emerging composers around the world, and has been invited to present her research with teaching and technology, innovative rehearsal techniques, and service-learning and music performance at numerous conferences nationally and internationally.

**2026 IOWA ALL-STATE BAND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19:**

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|---|---|
| 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. | **Chair Placement Auditions** for the Band (see schedule for specific locations and times) Exact times will be posted at **www.IHSMA.org** the week of the auditions on the All-State tab. |
| 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. | Percussion sectional in Hilton Coliseum with Mr. Brian Zeglis |

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20**:

| | |
|---|---|
| 8:45 A.M. –12:00 P.M. | Rehearsal - Hilton Coliseum |
| 1:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. | Rehearsal - Hilton Coliseum |
| 6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. | Rehearsal - Hilton Coliseum |

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. | Rehearsal - Hilton Coliseum |
| 3:45 P.M. - 5:15 P.M. | Rehearsal - Hilton Coliseum…note Band will be in **Concert Dress** for Photo at 5:07 P.M. **Jolesch Photography** will be on hand to photograph the band both as a group and individually. Rehearsal will be in concert dress. Please arrive dressed, as there will be no time to change. *Thanks for your cooperation!* |
| 7:00 P.M. | Assemble at Hilton for the Concert |
| **7:30 P.M.** | **ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCERT - Hilton Coliseum** |

**The music listed below should be in your folder to prepare:**

- *Dream of Oenghus, Part I* by Rolf Rudin
- *Howl's Moving Castle* by Joe Hisaishi/arr. Yo Goto
- *Machu Picchu: City in the Sky* by Satoshi Yagisawa
- *America, the Beautiful* by Samuel Ward/arr. Carmen Dragon

**Some parts may not fit the description of the folder**. This is done to ensure proper balance in the Band. If you have a divisi part or multiple parts in your folder, PRACTICE ALL PARTS! Assignments will be given at the conclusion of chair placement auditions in Ames.

1. **Bring your own WIRE music stand** (properly identified) and your instrument in good working order. Also, have any and all mutes your music might require.

2. **Have a pencil with you at all rehearsals.**

3. **Learn all of your music**. Every All-State Band Member has a right to expect that the other members of the Band will be prepared to perform all the music at the first rehearsal. Unprepared students can/will be dismissed from the Band. Flutists, Oboists, Bb Clarinets, Trumpets, and Saxophones, please be certain you are aware of any requirements or opportunities regarding: Piccolo, English Horn, Eb Clarinet, Soprano Saxophone and other color instruments. They are listed in the fall IHSMA Bulletin. **Please work on your parts with your high school director and/or private teacher**. Do not embarrass yourself, your teacher, or your school and community by not being prepared for your chair placement audition. **NOTICE: ANY STUDENT WHO HAS NOT PREPARED THE MUSIC COMPLETELY WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE BAND AND SENT HOME!!**

   Brass players, please bring all mutes indicated in the music. Trumpet & trombone players, if straight mutes are needed, have metal straight mutes for consistency of sound and pitch. Tuba players, be sure you have an upright (not bell front) tuba and a mute if it's called for in your music. Percussionists, please note that your music includes all percussion parts. Part assignments will be made prior to the sectional held on Thursday, November 19. You will also be asked to bring with you any of the smaller percussion equipment assigned to you (i.e., tambourine, triangle, etc.).

4. Audition times will be on the IHSMA website one week prior to the festival at www.ihsma.org. Benton (formerly Benton Auditorium) will be available for warm-ups at 3:20 P.M. for chair placements. Specific audition times for each instrument, part, and student will be posted outside Benton. **Do not do anything in auditions to identify your school.**

**Chair Placement Audition information is as follows: (Please check the IHSMA website the week of the festival for final details.)**

Hilton Coliseum: **Auditions starting at 4:30 PM – Warm-up in Hilton in Pete Taylor Room at 4:00 PM**
There should be NO playing in Hilton (Arena area) due to Percussion Sectional going on at this time.

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|---|---|
| Women's BB | Bb/EbClarinet I (Eb from outside Bb I, will go following completion of the 1st part.) |
| Men's BB Manager | Bb Clarinet III |
| Men's BB Coaches | Bb Clarinet II |

**Auditions starting at 4:30 PM – Warm-up in Hilton Green Room at 4:00 PM**

| | |
|---|---|
| Visiting Team Locker Room | Trombone I, II, III, Bass Trombone |

Scheman Building: **Auditions starting at 4:15 PM – Warm-up in Benton at 3:20 PM**

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|---|---|
| Room 160: | String Bass |

Scheman Building: **Auditions starting at 5:00 PM – Warm-up in Benton at 3:20 PM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Room 179: | Tuba & Baritone Sax | Room 167: | Bass and Contra Clarinet |
| Room 160: | Cornet I, II, III | Room 171: | Flute I (piccolo) |
| Room 150: | Alto & Tenor Sax | Room 154: | Oboe & Bassoon |
| Room 299: | Trumpet I & II, Horn IV | Room 175: | Horn I, II, III |

Scheman Building: **Auditions starting at 5:30 PM – Warm-up in Benton at 3:20 PM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Room 250: | Euphonium | Room 262: | Flute II |

**NOTE:** These are preliminary audition assignments. Be sure to check the IHSMA website prior to traveling to Ames for your audition time. Be sure to check at the wall outside Benton in the Scheman Building for any audition changes as you arrive. Scheman and Hilton building maps can be found on the IHSMA website: www.ihsma.org

5. **Percussion Equipment:** The major percussion instruments are provided by Percussion Source of Iowa City, a division of West Music. We can't thank Percussion Source enough for their continued support of the All-State Music Festival. If you are assigned a tambourine, triangle, or other small percussion equipment, please BRING THESE instruments with you.

6. **Please make arrangements with your director to get your ALL-STATE name tag with lanyard as quickly as possible at the festival site**. NO STUDENT WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE FRIDAY REHEARSAL WITHOUT A NAME TAG!

7. **Individual discipline and responsibility are imperative in a Festival of this size and reputation**. An unexcused absence from any rehearsal automatically removes you from the Band, and you will be sent home immediately. Unexcused tardiness to any rehearsal results in you moving to the end of your section. Any repeated tardiness may result in removal from the Band. This is vital for a successful weekend. **Be in your chair, ready to play, 5 minutes early!**

8. **DRESS – The Iowa All-State Band concert attire** will consist of BLACK suits or Tuxedos, white shirt with black neck/bow tie, BLACK dress suits (below the knee when seated), BLACK pant suits, long BLACK dresses (below the knee when seated) or black tops and long black skirts (below the knee when seated). **Any option should include sleeves past the shoulder.** Rehearsal dress should be clean and reflect good taste. The Saturday afternoon rehearsal is in **CONCERT DRESS** for the professional photo with Jolesch Photography. Also, caps or hats are not appropriate rehearsal attire.

9. **Your director has information regarding requesting housing for the festival through the IHSMA.** Your director must make the proper housing arrangements for you if you stay overnight in Ames. YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF A CHAPERONED GROUP. It is not permissible to attend the festival by yourself.

10. **Arrangements have been made to assist you in obtaining your meals while in Ames**. Note: There are Meal Plans through the IHSMA where you can eat on campus at Hilton. **NO** outside food items will be allowed into Hilton. Please talk to your director about fast, tasty, and convenient meals.

We look forward to meeting with all of you in Ames. In case of any emergency, please contact me at 641-420-5788 (cell) or via email at rkramer.music@gmail.com through Thursday morning, November 19th. After that time, please contact me at the Scheman Building or Hilton Coliseum.

CONGRATULATIONS again, and our best to you in your preparations for an outstanding 2026 Iowa All-State Music Festival!


**Russell Kramer**
All-State Band Chair
Mason City High School (Retired)

**Thad K. Driskell**
Executive Director
Iowa High School Music Association

**Jason Heeren**
Assistant Band Chair
Johnston High School

**Michael Prichard**
Assistant Band Chair
LeMars High School

**Courtney Ridge**
Assistant Band Chair
University of Iowa Grad Student

**Brian Zeglis**
Assistant Band Chair
Iowa City West High School

# Dr. Cynthia Johnston Turner, 2026 All-State Band Conductor



Odds were against **Cynthia Johnston Turner** becoming a musician let alone a professor of music and conductor in higher education. Born in a small town in Ontario, Canada, no one in her family played an instrument or sang, although there were rumors that her great paternal grandfather was an accomplished mandolinist. Cynthia asked for a piano for Christmas when she was 8 years old, and because it was all her parents could afford, she received a toy electric keyboard from which she was pretty much inseparable until she started the ukulele in grade school. When she picked up the clarinet and saxophone in middle school, a love affair and a career were born.

The first in her family to attend university, Cynthia received her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education from Queen's University, a Master of Education at the University of Victoria, and a Doctor of Musical Arts (Conducting) from the Eastman School of Music. She has received numerous teaching, research, and leadership awards in Canada and the United States.

Cynthia was appointed Dean—Faculty of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario July 1, 2021. She leads a school of approximately 400 undergraduate and graduate music majors with programs in traditional conservatory programming coupled with innovative undergraduate specializations in Community Music and Afrodiasporic Music, and graduate degrees such as the MMC3 (Masters of Music in Collaboration, Curation, and Creative Performance). The Faculty of Music at Laurier has the only Bachelors, Masters, and PhD in Music Therapy in the country. She also oversees the Laurier Academy of Music and the Arts, a community-based school serving approximately 1000 students ranging from 6 months to 95 years old in the region. In the fall of 2025 Laurier Music launched a new curriculum that dismantles the hierarchy between "classical" and "popular" music. During her tenure at Laurier Music, enrollment has increased by over 40% and fundraising efforts have approached $11 million.

Before her appointment as Dean, Cynthia was Director of Bands, Professor of Music, and Artistic Director of the Contemporary Chamber Ensemble at the Hodgson School of Music, University of Georgia where she conducted the Hodgson Wind Ensemble, led the Master and Doctoral programs in conducting, provided strategic leadership in diversity, equity, and inclusivity initiatives as well as innovative curriculum, and oversaw the entire band program including the famed 400+ member Redcoat Marching Band. The Hodgson Wind Ensemble performed at the College Band Directors National Association National

Convention in 2017. Prior to UGA, Cynthia was Director of Wind Ensembles at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. The Cornell Wind Ensemble undertook multiple service-learning and performance tours to Costa Rica, Panama, inner-city Washington and Pennsylvania where they donated hundreds of instruments and led workshops with students and band directors. She was recently appointed as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Festival Winds of “Summer Music at Saugeen Shores” and the Wellington Wind Symphony, a semi-professional community band in Waterloo, Ontario.

Cynthia has guest conducted bands, new music ensembles, and orchestras professionally, at several universities and conservatories, and honor bands in the United States, China, Canada, Australia, Latin America, and Europe. She continues to actively promote commissions by today’s leading and emerging composers around the world. She has been invited to present her research with teaching and technology, innovative rehearsal techniques, and service-learning and music performance at numerous conferences nationally and internationally. She is published in such journals as Interdisciplinary Humanities, International Journal of the Humanities, Music Educators Journal, National Association for Music Education "Teaching Music," NewMusicUSA.org, Journal of the World Association of Bands and Ensembles, Fanfare Magazine, and Canadian Winds, and has recorded CDs with the Innova and Albany labels. In 2025, “An Evening with Michael Barry— from Showstopper to Encore” with Budapest Winds was released with Acis Productions. She is a frequent guest on numerous podcasts.

Cynthia has served as a board member with the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) and is a member of College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), Conductor’s Guild, College Music Society, Humanities Education and Research Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Bandmasters Association. She currently serves on the board of the Western International Band Clinic (WIBC) and is faculty at the American Band College (ABC). She serves on the advisory boards of the Institute for Composer Diversity (composerdiversity.com), Lift Music Fund (liftmusicfund.org), and United Sound Music (unitedsoundmusic.org). She is an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi and a National Arts Associate member of Sigma Alpha Iota. Cynthia is a sponsored conducting and music education clinician with Conn-Selmer.

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 19 - 21, 2026
Iowa State Center – Ames, Iowa

## 2026 All-State Chorus Memorandum

***Congratulations!*** You have been selected to be a member of the 2026 Iowa All-State Chorus. This choir is known throughout the nation for its outstanding choral reputation. Being selected is an honor for you and a tribute to the hard work and dedication of you and your director. Don't forget to thank them for all the time they invested in your preparation. This will be a weekend you will never forget. Your parents, family, directors, peers, and community are very proud of you. Please read all the materials in this packet carefully and come to Ames prepared for an unforgettable musical experience.

The Conductor for the 2026 Chorus is Dr. Christopher Aspaas. Dr. Aspaas serves as Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music at TCU. He is very excited to work with 601 of Iowa's finest musicians!

**2026 Festival Instructions**

- ALL MUSIC MUST BE MEMORIZED FOR THE CONCERT
- Bring a pencil to all rehearsals
- Have your music in a 3-ring binder – have it marked inside with your name and school
- I encourage you to bring a bottle of water to rehearsal – no other food or drink
- You will be learning a new piece given out in Ames for the concert on Saturday
- **Rehearsal Saturday afternoon is a FULL-DRESS REHEARSAL. You MUST wear your choir robe to rehearsal on Saturday afternoon in Hilton Coliseum.**
- You will NOT be allowed on the floor of the Hilton Coliseum on Saturday afternoon during rehearsal OR Saturday evening before and after the concert. Do not plan on meeting family and friends on the floor of the Hilton – please plan accordingly.

**Please remember that when spending the night in Ames on Thursday, November 19, all the rules and regulations set forth by IHSMA for the festival are in effect.** These regulations are included in this packet. In the past, we have had students dismissed from the All-State Festival by the IHSMA Executive Committee for violations that occurred before rehearsals for the festival had even started. Curfew violations and occupancy of hotel rooms by members not assigned to those rooms seem to be the two issues most frequently ignored by students and their chaperones. Become familiar with the regulations and remember that these rules are strictly enforced. Your choir director does NOT have the authority to override the IHSMA rules.

Tardiness, talking, chewing gum, and text messaging are unacceptable during rehearsal. Violations will result in you being moved to the end of your row or to the back of the choir. You could be sent home from the festival if violations persist. Self-discipline is essential for a choir of this size to be successful.

Again, congratulations on this great achievement. I look forward to working with you in Ames. We will work together to make the 2026 All-State Chorus an unforgettable musical experience.

Thad Wilkins, Mount Vernon High School, All-State Chorus Chair
Sarah Bouska, Wartburg College, All-State Assistant Chair
Jennifer Gaesser, Creston High School, All-State Assistant Chair
Jason Heitland, Clear Lake High School, All-State Assistant Chair

# Dr. Christopher Aspaas, 2026 All-State Chorus Conductor



Christopher Aspaas serves as Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music at TCU. Christopher received his Ph.D. in Choral Music Education at The Florida State University in Tallahassee, his M.M. in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University in East Lansing, his B.M. in Voice Performance from St. Olaf. Christopher has served on the faculties of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, and Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts.

At TCU, Christopher leads the Concert Chorale, TCU's flagship mixed ensemble as well as the Frog Corps, TCU's premier male vocal ensemble. He also teaches coursework in basic conducting, choral conducting, choral literature, advanced choral conducting, and oversees the graduate choral conducting program. Under his leadership, the Concert Chorale has represented TCU at the 2023 ACDA National Conference, the 2023 TMEA Annual Convention, the 2022 NCCO Conference (virtual), the 2020 SWACDA Regional Conference, and the 2018 TMEA Annual Convention.

Christopher has conducted All-State Choruses in Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Additionally, Christopher led the All-Northwest Mixed Choir in 2015 and ACDA Southern Division Men's Honor Choir in 2016. Internationally, Christopher has conducted Honor Choirs in Australia, British Columbia, Germany, Manitoba, the People's Republic of China, and the Sultanate of Oman.

Christopher has produced more than sixty compositions and arrangements for mixed, tenorbass, and treble choirs. His works are published by Augsburg Fortress, earthsongs, Gentry, Hal Leonard, and Aspen Hill Music, a publishing house founded in 2013 that is now distributed exclusively through ECS Publishing Group. His works have been featured on numerous All-State Choir performances as well as National, Regional Conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and TMEA.

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 19 - 21, 2026
Iowa State Center – Ames, Iowa

Dear 2026 Iowa All-State Orchestra member,

Congratulations! You have been selected to be part of an orchestra composed of the finest high school musicians in the state of Iowa. Our guest conductor this year is Wes Kenney, *Music Director of the Fort Collins Symphony* and *Chair of Conducting Studies at Colorado State University*. He is looking forward to working with you on this exciting music.

**CHAIR PLACEMENTS: Thursday, November 19, beginning at 3:00pm in the Scheman Building.**
***Chair placement auditions are required for ALL musicians in order to participate in this festival.***
Room 4, which is on the ground floor of the Scheman Building, will be available beginning at 2:00 for warming up. Only the concert music in this folder will be used for the seating auditions. Specific instructions for your section are on a separate sheet in this folder. Note: **Be certain that you practice *all* of the music in this folder. Students who are inadequately prepared for chair placement auditions can, and will, be dismissed from the festival.**

**REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS**
Bring your folder, music, a pencil and a music stand to all rehearsals. Label all parts of your stand and folder with your name and school. Tape any loose pages of music together to simplify page turns. Leave all backpacks on the side of the room and store cases under your chair. Be in your chair (look for your chair number) and be ready to play ***before*** the start time of each rehearsal. ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN. **Late students will be moved to the back of the section**. **On the second violation, you will be dismissed.**
Absolutely no cell phones or headphones are to be used by students during rehearsals (except on breaks). **Any visible headphones or cell phones may be confiscated by directors and held until they can be picked up by your guardian or director. This may also apply to smart watches if issues arise.** Unprofessional behavior or failure to abide by these rules will result in the loss of your seat or dismissal from the All-State Orchestra.

**TEMPI**
Please take the time to write approximate tempi in your parts. Make sure you have listened to the Gershwin. There are a few tempo markers listed below, but the tempo changes frequently.

Higdon: *City Scape* from *Skyline,* quarter=128
Williams: The March from "1941", quarter=124
Gershwin: *An American in Paris*
- Beginning: quarter=116 with many adjustments along the way, such as the Vivo after 78 which is quarter=130
- Rehearsal 19: quarter=96
- Rehearsal 20: quarter= 112
- Rehearsal 22: quarter= 130
- Rehearsal 23: quarter= 90
- Rehearsal 25: quarter= 120
- Rehearsal 28: quarter= 100
- Rehearsal 29: quarter= 124
- Rehearsal 40: quarter=104
- Rehearsal 41: quarter= 120
- Rehearsal 42: quarter= 80
- Andante after rehearsal 45: quarter = 60
- Con moto after rehearsal 52: 104
- Rehearsal 55: quarter=92
- Rehearsal 56: quarter=76
- Rehearsal 57: quarter=150
- Rehearsal 65: quarter= 80
- Rehearsal 66: quarter= 60
- Rehearsal 69: quarter=124

Haydn: *The Heavens are Telling from the Creation*, quarter=100

**CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

The Chamber Orchestra, which will accompany the choir at the concert, will consist of 2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, 2 Clarinets, 2 Bassoons, 2 Horns, 2 Trumpets, 2 Trombones, 1 Bass Trombone, Timpani, 16 Violin 1, 16 Violin II, 8 Viola, 5 Cello and 3 Bass. Chamber Orchestra students will be required to attend the rehearsal Thursday evening and Friday after lunch (see rehearsal schedule on reverse side of this memo).

**DRESS**

Dress during rehearsals should be "nice school clothing", with nothing that distracts others or takes away from your ability to appropriately play your instrument. **Concert Attire** will consist of BLACK suits or Tuxedos, white shirt with black neck/bow tie, BLACK dress suits (below the knee when seated), BLACK pant suits, long black dresses (below the knee when seated), or black tops and long black skirts/pants (below the knee when seated). **Important: For the Saturday afternoon rehearsal at Hilton, students must wear their concert attire. A group photo will be taken at 12:45. All orchestra members are required to have an individual photo taken; at which time a wristband will be put on your wrist. This wristband is your pass into Hilton Coliseum Saturday evening.**

Sincerely,

Nicole Cody
Iowa All-State Orchestra Chair

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 19 - 21, 2026
Iowa State Center – Ames, Iowa

## WIND AND BRASS PART ASSIGNMENT AUDITION
## due by 11:59 pm on Friday, November 6th.

Congratulations! You have been selected to be part of an orchestra composed of the finest high school musicians in the state of Iowa. Our guest conductor this year is Wes Kenney, *Music Director of the Fort Collins Symphony* and *Chair of Conducting Studies at Colorado State University*. He is looking forward to working with you on this exciting music.

You have been given all possible parts for your instrument on this year's All State Orchestra music, and **you must submit a video recording of your part-assignment audition in order to receive your official part assignment.**

**Part Assignments should be announced by Monday, November 9, 2026. The audition recording is for part assignment ONLY - chair placement within each part will take place at your required seating auditions on Thursday, November 19.**

**Q: WHY IS THIS A REQUIREMENT?**
A: Previously, students were required to learn 2-4 parts for 2-4 pieces of music. They were not assigned a part until the first day of the festival. This meant that these students were required to prepare an inequitable amount of music. By having this audition to assign parts, students will get more time to practice their specific part before the festival starts.

**AUDITION EXCERPTS (all parts taken from part I for the instrument)**
Flute: Gershwin- Rehearsal 54 to 55 and Higdon m. 100-108
*Piccolo: Gershwin- 3 before rehearsal 21 to rehearsal 23
Oboe: Gershwin- Rehearsal 20 to 23 and Higdon m. 194-209
**English Horn: Gershwin- 4 after rehearsal 50- rehearsal 52
Clarinet: Gershwin- Rehearsal 15-Rehearsal 18 and Higdon- m. 100-106
***E-flat Clarinet: Williams: pick-ups to m. 45-58
Bassoon: Gershwin- Grandioso after rehearsal 54- 4 after 56 and Higdon- m. 89-93
Trumpet: Gershwin- Rehearsal 74- rehearsal 76 and Higdon- m. 121-133
Trombone: Gershwin- Grandioso after rehearsal 54- 4 after 56 and Higdon- m. 231-end

*Piccolo parts for the Orchestra: music will be provided in each flute folder. Students wanting to be considered for a Piccolo position must prepare a piccolo audition mp4 recording and email it to ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com by Friday, November 6. Finalists will be posted online by Monday, November 9 and will audition for selection as part of the regular chair placement proceedings in Ames, Thursday, November 19, 2026. Students selected to play piccolo will still be considered to play the flute 1 part in passages without piccolo parts.

**English Horn parts for the Orchestra: music will be provided in each oboe folder. Students wanting to be considered for the English Horn position must prepare an English Horn audition mp4 recording and email it to ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com by Friday, November 6. Finalists will be posted online by Monday, November 9 and will audition for selection as part of the regular chair placement proceedings in Ames, Thursday, November 19, 2026. Students selected to play English Horn will still be considered to play the oboe 1 part in passages without English Horn parts.

***Eb Clarinet parts for the Orchestra: music will be provided in each clarinet folder. Students wanting to be considered for the Eb Clarinet position must prepare an Eb Clarinet audition mp4 recording and email it to ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com by Friday, November 6. Finalists will be posted online by Monday, November 9 and will audition for selection as part of the regular chair placement proceedings in Ames, Thursday, November 19, 2026. Students selected to play Eb Clarinet will still be considered to play the clarinet 1 part in passages without Eb Clarinet parts.

**PART-ASSIGNMENT AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:**
Audition must be video recorded in ONE take with a visible working clock (digital or analog) in the frame to show continuity. The student and instrument should be fully visible in the recording. Students should clearly state their name at the beginning of the video.

Audition video must be uploaded online by YOU/ YOUR DIRECTOR (google drive, dropbox, unlisted youtube video, etc.) and made viewable to ANYONE with the link. Note: DO NOT MAKE THE VIDEO PRIVATE, or the judge will not be able to watch it. Please title the video with your name and instrument.

Video link must be emailed directly to Nicole Cody at ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com

**CHAIR PLACEMENTS: Thursday, November 19, beginning at 3:00pm in the Scheman Building** ***Chair placement auditions are required for ALL musicians in order to participate in this festival.***
Room 4, which is on the ground level of the Scheman building, will be available beginning at 2:00 for warming up.

Only the concert music in this folder will be used for the seating auditions.
Note: **Be certain that you practice *all* of the music in this folder. Students who are inadequately prepared for chair placement auditions can, and will, be dismissed from the festival.**

Questions may be sent to the All-State Orchestra Chair, Nicole Cody at ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Nicole Cody
Iowa All-State Orchestra Chair

# IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

November 19 - 21, 2026
Iowa State Center – Ames, Iowa

## PERCUSSION ASSIGNMENT AUDITION
## due by 11:59 pm on Friday, November 6th.

Congratulations! You have been selected to be part of an orchestra composed of the finest high school musicians in the state of Iowa. Our guest conductor this year is Wes Kenney, *Music Director of the Fort Collins Symphony* and *Chair of Conducting Studies at Colorado State University*. He is looking forward to working with you on this exciting music.

You have been given all possible percussion parts for this year's All State Orchestra music, and **you must submit a video recording of your part-assignment audition in order to receive your official part assignments. Part Assignments should be announced by Monday, November 9, 2026.**

**Q: WHY IS THIS A REQUIREMENT?**
A: Previously, students were required to learn all the parts for 2-4 pieces of music. They were not assigned a part until the first day of the festival. This meant that these students were required to prepare an inequitable amount of music. By having this audition to assign parts, students will get more time to practice their specific parts before the festival starts.

**AUDITION EXCERPTS (Please prepare all of the following excerpts)**

### Snare:
Battle Hymn: m. 21-30 (start at mf, then drop to mp @ m29 to account for the large performance space)
Gershwin: Rehearsal 62 - 2 after Rehearsal 63, Rehearsal 65 - Rehearsal 66
Williams: m. 3-6, m. 27-30

### Xylophone:
Gershwin: 5 measures at Rehearsal 6, 6 after Rehearsal 20 - Rehearsal 21, 2 before Rehearsal 33

### Vibraphone:
Higdon: m. 225-end

### Timpani:
Gershwin: Rehearsal 74 - 2 after rehearsal 76
Williams: m. 125-130
Higdon: m. 81-83, m. 127-133, and m. 179-185

**PART-ASSIGNMENT AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:**
Audition must be video recorded in ONE take, in this order, with a visible working clock (digital or analog) in the frame to show continuity. The student and instrument should be fully visible in the recording. Students should clearly state their name at the beginning of the video.

Audition video must be uploaded online by YOU/ YOUR DIRECTOR (google drive, dropbox, unlisted youtube video, etc.) and made viewable to ANYONE with the link. Note: DO NOT MAKE THE VIDEO PRIVATE, or the judge will not be able to watch it. Please title the video with your name and instrument and provide your email address and a phone number as contact information in the email.

Video link must be emailed directly to Nicole Cody at ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com

**PERCUSSION SECTIONAL:** Thursday, November 19, beginning at 5:00pm in the Scheman Building, room 220. ***Percussion sectional is required for ALL musicians in order to participate in this festival.***

Note: Be certain that you practice your assigned music. Students who are inadequately prepared for chair placement auditions can, and will, be dismissed from the festival.

Questions may be sent to the All-State Orchestra Chair, Nicole Cody at ia.allstateorch.cody@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Nicole Cody
Iowa All-State Orchestra Chair

# All-State Orchestra
# STRING SEATING AUDITIONS
# Scheman Building
# Thursday, November 19, 2026

- Be prepared to play both parts of any divisi sections.

At 2:00, musical selections for seating auditions will be posted:

- on the ground floor outside Room 4

Beginning at 2:00, the warm-up room for all string instruments is Room 4.

At 2:45, individual audition times will be posted outside of both warm-up rooms. The first audition time is 3:00.

To ensure that you are on time for your audition, leave the warm-up room at least 10 minutes before your scheduled audition time.

The audition rooms are on the first and second floors of Scheman.

| | |
|---|---|
| **VIOLIN I** | **Room 254** |
| **VIOLIN II** | **Room 262** |
| **VIOLA** | **Room 250** |
| **CELLO** | **Room 175** |
| **STRING BASS** | **Room 160** |

## (4:15) Band STRING BASS Room 160

Please do not tune or play outside the audition rooms. Adjudicators need quiet in the hallways in order to complete auditions.

String auditions are “blind.” Auditors do not see you; they make their evaluations based only on what they hear.

## After the last audition, all students return to the audition room to receive their chair placement card.

## Chamber Orchestra tonight 7 – 8:30 Stephens Stage

# All-State Orchestra

# WIND AND BRASS SEATING AUDITIONS

## Scheman Building

## Thursday, November 19, 2026

## 3:00 pm

### No excerpts are posted for this audition.
### This audition is required for participation in the All-State Orchestra.

All instrumental players audition for seating. You need to be in the room listed below for your instrument, ready to play by **3:00 p.m.** You have sectional rehearsals with your auditor after the seating audition. Do not leave until dismissed by your auditor.

Be ready to play all parts of all the music you are assigned.

**Chamber Orchestra:** Two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, two trombones, one bass trombone and one Percussionist will play in the Chamber Orchestra. If you are selected for the Chamber Orchestra, be sure that you attend all rehearsals (see other letter for rehearsal times). The 1st rehearsal is tonight 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm on the Stephens stage.

**SOLOS**
The player who is selected for first chair will perform any solos in the parts.

**FRENCH HORNS**
Horns are assigned a part after the initial auditions and will audition for chair placement within their assigned section.

**ALL - Please bring a music stand with you to the festival, labeled with your name and school's name.**
**(black Manhasset or similar preferred)**

| | |
|---|---|
| **FLUTE/PICCOLO** | **Room 80** |
| **OBOE/ENGLISH HORN** | **Room 171** |
| **CLARINET & BASS CLARINET** | **Room 167** |
| **BASSOON** | **Room 154** |
| **FRENCH HORN** | **Room 150** |
| **TRUMPET** | **Room 179** |
| **TROMBONE & TUBA** | **Room 299** |
| **SAXOPHONE** | **Room 088** |

# Wes Kenney, 2026 All-State Orchestra Conductor



Wes Kenney is in his 24th season as Music Director of the Fort Collins (Colorado) Symphony. In May 2023 he retired after 20 years as Director of Orchestras and chair of conducting studies at Colorado State University. Maestro Kenney completed his tenure at CSU with two critically acclaimed performances of the Mahler Symphony No. 3. In 2022 he was named a University Distinguished Professor, the highest honor the university can award and has also been given the title of Professor Emeritus He is the 2007 Grand Prize Winner of the Varna (Bulgaria) International Conducting Competition, a 2020 Honored Artist from the American Prize, a winner of the American Prize for programming in 2020, a winner of the Ernst Bacon Memorial Prize for excellence in performance of American Music, and the 2020 American Prize Winner for best orchestral performance in the Professional Orchestra Division. In June 2023 Mr. Kenney completed his 10th and final season with Denver Young Artist Orchestra, the premier youth orchestra in the state of Colorado. DYAO has been recognized by the city of Denver for outreach and as an ambassador for Colorado. He has led that orchestra on two European tours and anchored two festivals at Carnegie Hall. In June of 2023 he led that orchestra on tour to Southern California where the audience responded with a standing ovation at Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Mr. Kenney's guest conducting activities include the Acadiana Symphony (LA), Alabama Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, Colorado Symphony, Dubuque Symphony, Lafayette (IN) Symphony, Long Beach Symphony, New Mexico Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Riverside Symphonia, Savannah Symphony, and the Virginia Symphony. International guest conducting includes performances with the Liev (Ukraine) Philharmonic, Changwon (South Korea) Philharmonic, Vietnam National Symphony (Hanoi), Vidin State Philharmonic (Bulgaria), Stara Zagora Opera Company in Bulgaria as well as the Edinburgh (Scotland) Music Festival.

Mr. Kenney has also enjoyed success directing opera, ballet, and musical theater. Previous positions include Music Director of Opera Fort Collins, Music Director of the Virginia Ballet Theater, Co-Principal Conductor of the Oakland Lyric Opera, and Guest Conductor with Universal Ballet Korea. Since 2004 he has conducted productions of *Carmen, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Sweeney Todd, Turn of the Screw, Barber of Seville, Madama Butterfly, Cenerentola, Rigoletto, Tosca, Otello, Die Zauberflote, Die Fledermaus, La Traviata, Il Trovatore, Street Scene, La Boheme, Orfeo, Pagliacci, Cavelleria Rusticana, Falstaff, Turandot, Marriage of Figaro, Serse, The Merry Widow, Aida, Don Giovanni, and Tenderland.* In addition, he has conducted over two hundred performances of *The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, The Firebird,* and many other dance works.

In six seasons as the Virginia Symphony's Associate Conductor, Mr. Kenney appeared more than 350 times with that orchestra where he was responsible for programming and conducting Pops, Family and Young People's Concerts. During his tenure with the Virginia Symphony, he was also invited to guest conduct the Williamsburg Symphonia, Virginia Chorale, Norfolk Chamber Consort and Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival.

Named Educator of the Year by the Colorado Chapter of the American String Teachers Association in 2008, Mr. Kenney enjoyed working with talented young people in his position as Director of Orchestras at Colorado State University and has served as Guest Conductor with the Alabama, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Virginia All-State Orchestras. This fall he will conduct the Iowa All-State Orchestra. Awarded the prestigious Carmen Dragon Conducting Prize in 1992, Wes Kenney is a founder of the CSU Summer Master of Music Education with an emphasis in conducting program, now in its 14th year.

He was recently a guest lecturer at the Conductor's Institute held at Bard College in upstate New York, teaching alongside the late Harold Farberman and American Symphony Orchestra Music Director Leon Botstein.

Mr. Kenney is a past president of the Conductors Guild, a 2000-member service organization to the conducting profession. He currently is on the Guild's advisory board. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and San Francisco State University. Additional studies include three years as a fellow at the Conductors Institute, several American Symphony Orchestra League and Conductors Guild Workshops, and the Sandpoint Festival. His teachers include Harold Farberman, Hans Beer, Gunther Schuller, Hans Swarovsky and Miltiardes Carides.

# OFFICIAL
## EVENT MERCHANDISE

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## 2026 IHSMA IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

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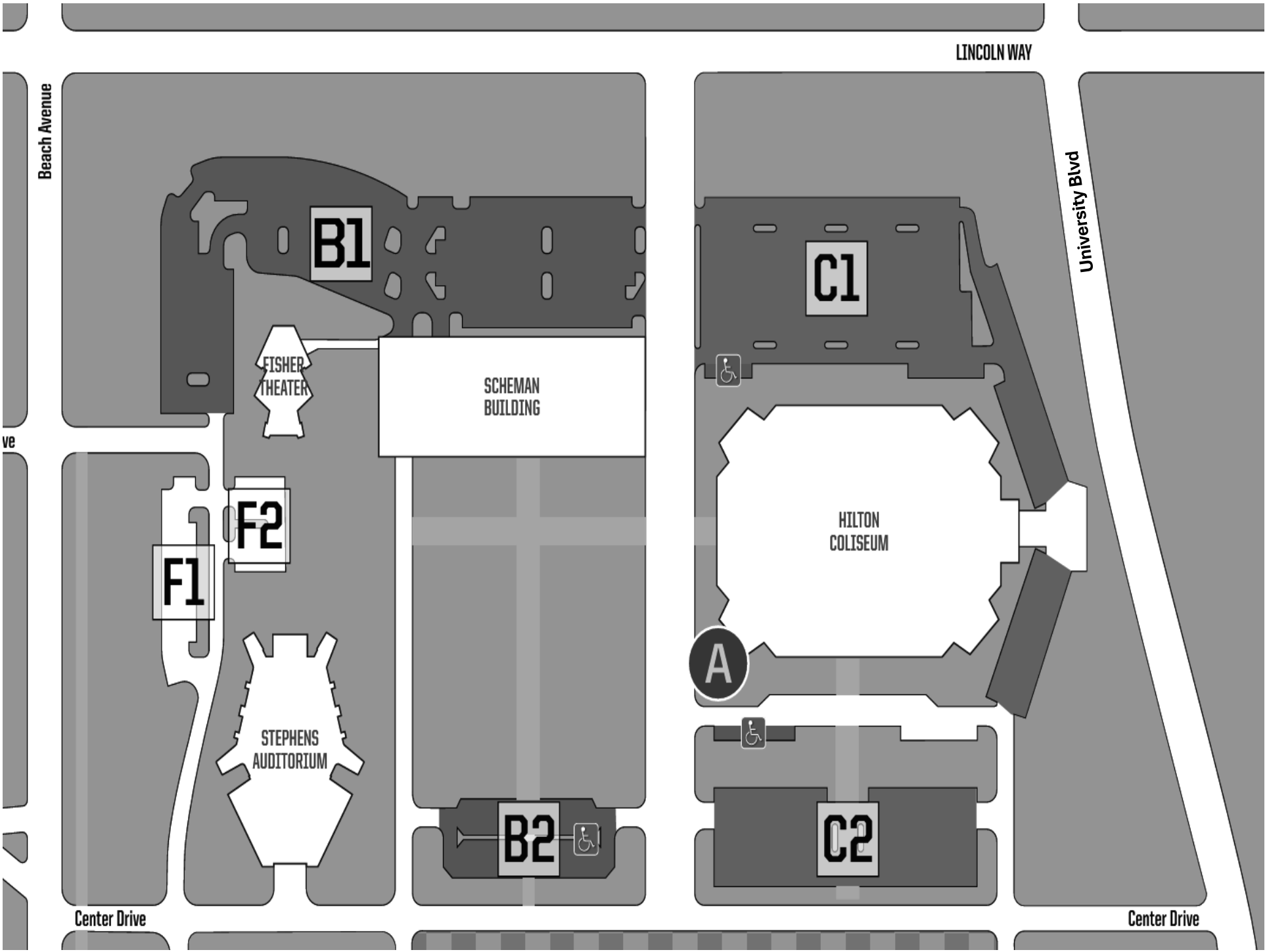
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FISHER THEATER
SCHEMAN BUILDING
F2
F1
HILTON COLISEUM
A
STEPHENS AUDITORIUM
B2
C2
Center Drive
Center Drive