2026

Iowa All-State Band

ACCEPTED



INFORMATIONAL PACKET

Please review carefully prior to your arrival in Ames!

IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

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

Dear All-State Musicians,

Congratulations! You have been selected for one of the finest musical ensembles available to Iowa high school musicians. Only about 25% of those who audition achieve this honor, making you one of 1,092 elite musicians chosen for the 2026 Iowa All-State Music Festival.

Jolesch Enterprises Photography will take formal photographs of the All-State Band, Chorus, and Orchestra during Saturday afternoon dress rehearsals. Individual portraits will also be taken before or after those rehearsals. Please wear your full concert attire, including your All-State medal(s), to the Saturday afternoon dress rehearsal. Photos may be purchased onsite or later by visiting www.joleschenterprises.com.

Below are the **housing rules and regulations** established by the Iowa High School Music Association. Because this festival brings together students from more than 150 schools, it is essential that all participants follow a consistent set of expectations. These rules are designed to ensure you are rested, prepared, and ready to perform at your best. They will be strictly enforced. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the festival. Please note that neither high school directors nor chaperones have the authority to grant exceptions.

Rules and Regulations

Housing

1. No playing of instruments or singing is permitted between **11:00 PM and 8:30 AM.**
2. Students may meet **only in rooms assigned to them by their director.** Violation of this rule will result in dismissal from the festival.
3. Students are not to congregate in rooms billed to schools other than their own.
4. Students must be in their assigned rooms **no later than 11:00 PM** each night. Lights out and quiet by **11:30 PM.** All students must remain in their rooms until **6:30 AM.**

General

Inadequate preparation, poor rehearsal attitude, or conduct that falls short of the high standards expected of All-State musicians will be considered sufficient cause for dismissal.

We look forward to an outstanding musical experience and a memorable festival weekend. Enjoy every moment - you've earned it!

Sincerely,
Thad K. Driskell
Executive Director
Iowa High School Music 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**

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:

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.

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**

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.

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**

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.

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).

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.

OFFICIAL
EVENT MERCHANDISE

Northwest Designs is proud to be the official event merchandiser for the

2026 IHSMA IOWA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Be sure to pickup your official gear onsite at the event or visit us online!



NORTHWEST DESIGNS INK

Iowa All State Music Festival Pre-order Samples

These products as well as many more will be available at www.joleschenterprises.com.



8x16 Memory Mate



6x8 Graphic Portrait



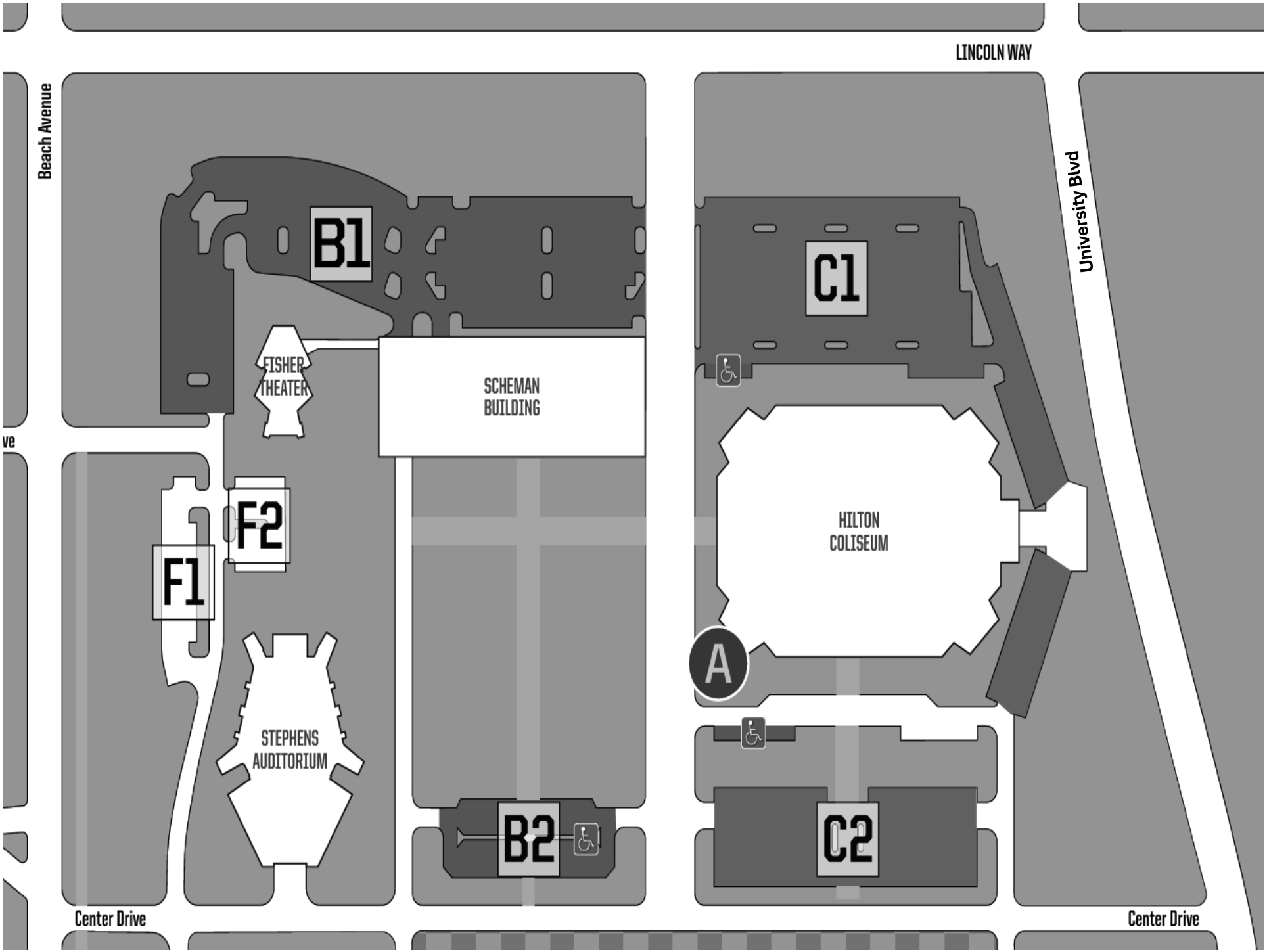
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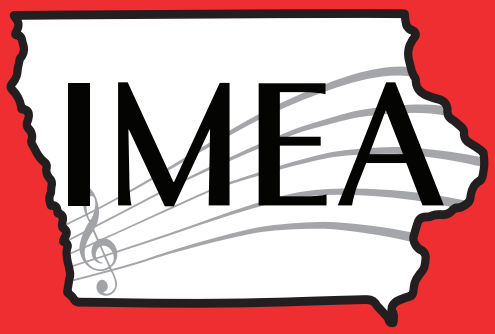
8x12 Group Photo

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO COMPLETE YOUR PRE-ORDER

Jolesch
ENTERPRISES


LINCOLN WAY
Beach Avenue
University Blvd
B1
C1
FISHER THEATER
SCHEMAN BUILDING
F2
F1
HILTON COLISEUM
A
STEPHENS AUDITORIUM
B2
C2
Center Drive
Center Drive


IOWA
HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION


IMEA