

Dear Director,

I hope you are well and have had a fantastic year. We are excited to announce the date for our 66<sup>th</sup> Annual JR/SR Honor Band this fall on **November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**. This two-day event provides participants with a musically diverse and fulfilling experience. Your students will have the opportunity to study their all-region etudes with our distinguished applied faculty and perform in the clinic honor bands. This year I am pleased to share the podium with Garth Gundersen, our new Associate Director of Bands, Jeff Bradford, Director of Fine Arts in Richardson I.S.D., and to welcome **WILLIAM OWENS** as our guest composer for the weekend!! All students in the honor bands will have the opportunity to work with Mr. Owens, one of the most popular modern band composers. Other unique musical events are scheduled throughout the weekend, including a performance by our Wind Ensemble and many of our applied faculty.

The participants of this year's Junior/Senior Honor Band Weekend will again be chosen solely from director recommendations. I am asking that each director select a maximum of *TEN* deserving upperclassmen to participate in the event. (I would encourage you to nominate a percussionist as part of the ten since Mr. Owen's music is often very percussion intensive). Positions in the honor bands are limited and will be filled in the order the nominations are received. REGISTRATION FOR NOMINATIONS WILL OPEN ON AUGUST 15th.

To register your students and for additional information, please click HERE or scan the QR Code below. Availability is limited so please choose your students as soon as possible when school resumes and CONFIRM THEIR ABILITY TO ATTEND prior to registering them. The registration fee, which includes a T-shirt, is \$40.00 per student. To celebrate the musical accomplishments of your students, we are pleased to offer discounts to your students who achieved the following status during the past year (2023-2024). All-Region members may register for \$30.00, All-Area members may register for \$20.00, and All-State members may attend the Junior/Senior Honor Band Weekend free of charge. Students involved in performing at playoff football games on Friday night are still strongly encouraged to participate.

All payments will be due on or before Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. For directors, students, and parents that would like to spend Friday and/or Saturday night near campus, a select rate has been established with several local hotels in Commerce and Greenville and information is available on the website. If you have any questions, please contact me via email at <a href="mailto:tamucbands@tamuc.edu">tamucbands@tamuc.edu</a> or by phone at 903.886.5248. Have a wonderful, restful summer and I look forward to seeing you and your students in November!

Sincerely,

Phillip Clements

Director of Bands & Instrumental Activities

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Past President - Texas Bandmasters Association

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