

To: Participating Directors
From: Jacob Maurer, Hillwood High School Band
Re: Mid-State Jazz/Orchestra Auditions

On behalf of the students and parents of the Hillwood High School Band, we would like to welcome you to the campus of Hillwood High School for the annual Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association's All-Middle Tennessee Jazz Band and Orchestra Auditions on December 3, 2011. We are glad to host this event and will be glad to help you in any way possible.

Both senior high and junior high auditions for jazz band and orchestra will take place on December 3, 2011. Parking should be plentiful and guides will be on hand to ensure that all students, parents, and directors get to where they need to be. Doors to the school will open at 7:15 AM. Registration will begin at 8:50 AM and conclude at 12:00 PM. Registration will occur in the auditorium lobby on the Davidson Road entrance for all students auditioning for jazz band. Registration for all students auditioning for orchestra will take place in the gym building lobby located on the Hickory Valley Road entrance. Both locations are easily accessible from both the front and rear parking lots.

The Hillwood High School Band will provide concert vibraphones, auxiliary percussion, electronic pianos, and basic drum sets for both junior high and senior high jazz auditions. Drum set players should plan to bring their own cymbals, hardware and other implements as needed. It is assumed that students auditioning for percussion positions will supply their own sticks and mallets. Guitar and bass guitar players should plan to bring their own amplifiers.

For senior high percussionists auditioning for orchestra, we will provide a set of timpani, marimba, xylophone, and orchestra bells. Students are expected to bring their own concert snare drum as well as any necessary mallets, beaters, and sticks.

The judges and monitors meeting for this event will be held in the Media Center at 8:00 AM. Hillwood Band Students and parents will be on hand throughout the day to assist room monitors and visiting directors. Each room will have an assigned monitor. Judges should instruct each monitor as to how you would like the auditions to run.

As in the past, there will be plenty of great food for everyone. A concession stand will be available for both the jazz and orchestra audition wings to serve the needs of students and parents during the day. (Since this is a fundraiser for our booster organization, we would appreciate you encouraging your students to eat at Hillwood.) Directors, please also make plans to stop by the media center for some great food and our signature hospitality. The media center will be open to all MTSBOA visiting directors.

We would like to mention a couple of simple principles of common courtesy to make the audition process as pleasant as possible. Please remind your students to play only in the designated warm-up area and not in the hallways. Also, remind them to eat in the designated concessions areas and to help us keep our facilities neat and clean by keeping trash in the trash can.

Please make sure you have discussed registration times and audition procedures with your students, as well as the process for posting results so they will know what to expect on audition day. As always, the audition results will be posted in both the gym and auditorium lobbies as well as on the MTSBOA website (www.mtsboa.org). Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jacob Maurer
Director of Bands,
Hillwood Comprehensive High School
400 Davidson Road
Nashville, TN 37205
Jacob.Maurer@mnps.org