

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus

Department of Music
School of Fine Arts

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Dear UMD Student,

Well, this has been a very interesting summer, to say the least! For some I'm sure it has passed quickly and for others, maybe not. For sure, this COVID – 19 virus has upended and drastically changed our somewhat regular and predictable lives. Many of us are asking the question, "When will things get back to normal?" Well, it will take time but the first step for many of us is to get ready for the fall and realize that it is time to think about the beginning of the school year and the Fall Semester of 2020 at the University of Minnesota Duluth!

If you have played a band instrument in high school then this letter is to invite you to become a member of the UMD band program. As always, we are as excited as ever for this year and have some great plans for the UMD Bands! For those of you who already have plans to participate in our program or are still thinking about joining the bands, information concerning auditions, instrument checkout, lockers and the various bands is listed below. If after reading this information you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call us here at the UMD Band office or send an email.

Instruments and Lockers:

Those of you who need to use a UMD instrument may check out an instrument and/or personal locker for your instrument according to the following schedule:

Monday, August 31 - Friday, September 4 - by appointment. - Room - Chester Park Rehearsal Room (CP B13) You will find out more details at the first rehearsals.

Please see UMD Band bulletin board for additional times. (Located outside Humanities 226)

Auditions for UMD Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band – LIVE OR ZOOM

Symphonic Wind Ensemble:

Auditions for the Symphonic Wind Ensemble will begin Monday, August 31 and **will be held in Humanities 226.**

If you wish to play in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble we would like to hear you that week. There will be a sign-up sheet outside the office. (Humanities 226) Please make every effort to sign-up early for your audition. Do not wait for the last available time if possible. z.umn.edu/umdbands

Also, if you would like to do your audition remotely, please let me know and I'll be happy to do one over Zoom.

Audition Material:

The audition material is available for you on the UMD Bands Web Site and will also be on the UMD Bands Bulletin Board located in the Humanities Hall close to Humanities 226. The UMD Bands Web Site is z.umn.edu/umdbands

You should have prepared the following for your audition:

1 – The music is located on the UMD Bands Web Site **OR** the UMD Bands Bulletin Board located in the Humanities Hall close to Humanities 226.

IN PLACE OF PLAYING THE PREPARED MUSIC, You may also prepare a portion(s) of a solo and/or etude representing your best playing. A selection of contrasting styles would be preferred. This is not required!

2 - Several scales and/or arpeggios.

3 - Some basic sight-reading.

4 - Don't worry!!!!

As was just mentioned, please don't worry about the audition. We just want to hear you play music at your best. So

pick a piece(s) for music with which you feel comfortable.

UMD Concert Band

Hearings for Concert Band:

Hearings for the Concert Band will be held in conjunction with the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and **will also be held in Humanities 226**. The Concert Band is a unit comprised primarily of non-music majors and performs the finest in band literature. The group performs a campus concert every semester. **No audition is required for participation**, although we would like to hear members play the first week of classes for chair placement only.

There will be a sign-up sheet outside the office. (Humanities 226) Please help speed up the process of auditions by not waiting to the last minute for your hearing.

Hearing Material

The hearing material is available for you on the UMD Bands Web Site and will also be on the UMD Bands Bulletin Board located in the Humanities Hall close to Humanities 226. The UMD Bands Web Site is z.umn.edu/umdbands

1 – The music is located on the UMD Bands Web Site (z.umn.edu/umdbands) or the UMD Bands Bulletin Board located in the Humanities Hall close to Humanities 226.

You may also prepare a portion(s) of a solo and/or etude representing your best playing. A selection of contrasting styles would be preferred. This is not required! **IN PLACE OF PLAYING THE PREPARED MUSIC**, You may also prepare a portion(s) of a solo and/or etude representing your best playing. A selection of contrasting styles would be preferred. This is not required!

2 - Several scales and/or arpeggios.

3 - Some basic sight-reading.

4 - Don't worry!!!!

As was just mentioned, please don't worry about the hearing. We just want to hear you play music at your best. So pick a piece(s) for music with which you feel comfortable or you may get audition material from us.

The First Rehearsal – ZOOM!

The first rehearsals will begin on Monday, August 31 for Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. We will do this meeting Via ZOOM. We would like to get us all together as soon as possible to discuss the auditions for Wind Ensemble and hearings for Concert Band. Also, we would like to finish the auditions/hearings first week of classes. As was mentioned above, please help speed up the process of auditions by not waiting to the last minute for your audition. We would like to get on with the real reason we are in music - **that is to make music!!!**

The Bulldog Athletic Bands

The UMD Athletic Bands have two main purposes. First, to provide support for the University of Minnesota Duluth's Men's and Women's athletic teams through the playing of fight songs, participation in cheers, and enhancing the overall school spirit. Second, to enrich the University and community spirit, through participation in events such as parades and community sponsored activities. - **No Experience Necessary!**

For those of you who are interested in performing in one of our excellent Athletic Bands you can find that information at the following web site: z.umn.edu/umdashbands

We are looking forward to an exciting year and hope you will take advantage of the tremendous opportunities for your growth both musically and personally.

Yours musically,



Memorandum
Page 3

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