



South Dakota Music Educators Association

General Information Letter

2018 SDMEA MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL-STATE JAZZ BAND

Mitchell Performing Arts Center, Mitchell, SD - February 2-3, 2018

Clinicians: Dr. Christopher Kocher

For the second year, we are excited to offer South Dakota Middle School All-State Jazz Band! We believe this will offer a unique and valuable experience to young jazz musicians in our state. We hope your students will find this to be a challenging and musically fulfilling experience.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Students in grades 6-8 who are currently enrolled in a South Dakota public or private school band program are eligible to audition. Audition recordings must be submitted by the band director or the student's private lesson instructor. (Band Director/ Instructor MUST be a current member of SDMEA.)
2. Selected participants are required to be in attendance for ALL rehearsals. Please check your calendars to avoid conflicts. **No alternates will be placed for those students that are selected and choose not to attend the event.**

Audition Requirements

1. All auditions will be submitted online. We will use Music Festival Software Solutions to upload auditions. Please follow the link provided at www.sdmea.net. You will be asked for a username & password. (Those will be sent out in the fall.)
2. Each scale & etude will be uploaded individually in MP3 format only. Please use the following order:
 - a. Chromatic, Major, Blues, Etude 1, Etude 2, Improv (optional) (5-6 files)
 - b. Drum Set: 30 seconds each: Swing pattern, Latin pattern, and Rock pattern, Etude (4 files)
3. Each etude should be played as written with appropriate style as indicated.
4. Please do not have the students identify themselves when recording.

Audition Information

1. **Audition deadline is Friday, January 5th, 2018**
The audition window will open on the Music Festival Software Solutions website on December 4th. MP3 recordings may be uploaded at any time during the open window. The window will close at 11:59 PM CDT on January 5th. This will allow for a prompt adjudication, with notification to the director's email by January 8th, 2018 and on the SDMEA website soon after.
2. **There is a \$9 audition fee** (per audition). Audition fees may be paid by credit card on the Music Festival Software Solutions website or by sending ONE check to Spencer Wahl. (Do NOT send cash.)
 - a. **Checks need to be made payable to SDMEA.** (ONE check per school please)
 - b. Please print the summary of auditions page and send it with your check.
 - c. Checks need to be postmarked by **January 5th, 2018.**
3. There will be an *additional* registration fee of \$9 per student selected to the festival or honor band. That registration fee will be due **January 19th, 2018.**
4. **Auditions that do not meet the eligibility and/or audition requirements will not be adjudicated.**

Spencer Wahl (Spencer.Wahl@k12.sd.us) 1201 S Main, Lennox, SD 57039 – 605-553-0729