



**South Dakota Music Educators Association
2025 SDMEA MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL-STATE BAND**

General Information Letter

Mitchell Performing Arts Center - March 7th & 8th, 2025

Guest Directors:

Dr. Kevin Kessler - Honor Band

Dr. Bethany Amundsen - Festival Band

This year marks the 26th Annual South Dakota Music Educators Association Middle School All-State Band. SDMEA takes great pride in this event as a way to provide an opportunity for students who thrive on challenge and expertise.

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/Private Instructor MUST be a current member of SDMEA/NAfME)
2. Selected participants are required to be in attendance for ALL rehearsals of Middle School All-State Band. Please check your calendars to avoid conflicts. *In most cases, 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 using Google Forms. A link and directions for uploading will be sent in an email to directors. Make sure the Event Chair (listed below) has your email address!
2. Each scale & etude will be uploaded *individually*, **in MP3 OR MP4 format**, in the following order:
 - a. Winds: chromatic, major, minor, 6/8, 4/4 (5 recordings to upload)
 - b. Percussion: mallet etude, timpani etude, rudiment 1, rudiment 2, snare etude (5 recordings to upload)
3. The scales and etudes should be played as written, at the marked tempos.
4. Please do not have the students identify themselves when recording.
5. The individual scales and etudes must be recorded in one take. **Any evidence of editing will result in disqualification.** Directors are to be especially aware of this and make it clear to students if they do any of their recordings at home. We highly recommend directors review ALL recordings and clarify any discrepancies with their students, BEFORE submission.

Audition Information

1. **Audition deadline is December 6th, 2024**
2. The ability to upload audition material to the website will be unavailable after 11:59 PM CDT on December 6th, 2024. This will allow for a prompt adjudication, with notification to the director's email by January 15th, 2025 and on the SDMEA website soon after.
3. There is a \$15 audition fee (per audition).
 - **Checks need to be made payable to SDMEA.** (ONE check per school please - do NOT send cash)
 - **Checks need to be mailed to Julie Berger** at Huron Middle School (address below)
 - **Checks need to be postmarked by December 18th, 2024. Please plan ahead!**
 - **Please note:** you will be charged for all auditions complete and incomplete if you have uploaded audition materials.
4. The SDMEA board has voted to institute a \$25 late fee per school when payment is not received by two weeks from the deadline for all events.
5. **Submitted auditions that do not meet the eligibility and/or audition requirements will not be adjudicated.**

Chair – Julie Berger (Julie.Berger@k12.sd.us), 1045 18th St. SW, Huron, SD 57350