



2025 All-Northwest

Honor Groups – Accepted Students Information Packet



Teachers: Please distribute to each All-Northwest student.

Congratulations! Your outstanding audition has earned you a spot in one of the NAFME All-Northwest Honor Groups in Spokane! As a member of one of these select groups, you must take several steps to secure your spot. Please carefully review this information with your family and teacher, paying particular attention to the registration and fee payment deadlines.

Registration and Payment of Fees

Carefully complete your registration form, obtain all required signatures, and return it to your school music teacher immediately.

The registration fee is **\$340.**

Many schools assist students with the cost of participation. ASBs, booster clubs, or other local organizations may be willing to help you. If you are a Washington student and have applied for a scholarship from the Young Musicians Excelling fund, that scholarship has been applied to your account, and your teacher will tell you how much remains to be paid.

All fees must be paid in one of the following ways:

1. Processed through your school or district by Check, Purchase Order, or purchasing card;
2. Paid by credit card through a link your teacher can send to your parents/guardians.

If you are expected to fund *part* of your participation expense personally, you must pay the school, which will then pay WMEA. WMEA will not accept partial or split payments.

Registration and payment must be postmarked by December 6. Late registrations will be charged an additional \$20 per student.

If a student has to withdraw after payment of registration fees, a progressive refund policy is in place: \$220 if withdrawn between December 1 and 31; \$120 if withdrawn between January 1 and 31.

No refunds will be given after February 1.

Music

The music you are to play will be mailed to your school music teacher beginning in the first week of January. Note: We will not mail music until all registrations are received and your school pays all fees.

Once your music has arrived, label all loose pages in pencil with your name and school. Contact your school music teacher immediately if you believe you have received the wrong music or parts.

Once you receive your music, your job is to **practice!** You will have one and a half days of rehearsal before the performance, so you must know your part well by the time you arrive in mid-February.

Groups and Conductors

You have been placed in one of the following groups. Your registration form, which your teacher will provide you with this packet, lists the ensemble you have been placed in at the top.

All-Northwest Jazz Band	Ayn Inserto , Berklee College of Music
All-Northwest Jazz Choir	Christine Guter , California State University Long Beach
All-Northwest Band	Rebecca Phillips , Colorado State University
All-Northwest Wind Symphony	Tiffany Hitz , Robinson Secondary School
All-Northwest Orchestra	Mark Laycock , Wichita State University
All-Northwest Treble Choir	Shekela Wanyama , Hamline University
All-Northwest Mixed Choir	John Byun , Riverside City College

Special Accommodations

The safety and well-being of all students is our highest priority. If special accommodations are needed for any student (accommodations they regularly receive at school), please contact studentevents@wmea.org.

For needs that arise during the conference, we encourage students to contact their site managers or chaperones immediately.

Contact Information

If a problem arises before the weekend of our event, our management team is ready to assist.

Todd Giltner, All-State General Manager, allstate@wmea.org

Anita Kumar, Student Events Coordinator, studentevents@wmea.org

Eric Curley, All-Northwest Band Manager, ecurley@osd.wednet.edu

Matt Brown, All-Northwest Wind Symphony Manager, mbrown@manson.org

Jaci Cummings, All-Northwest Mixed Choir Manager, jaci.cummings@gmail.com

Beth Kean, All-Northwest Treble Choir Manager, anwtreblechoir@gmail.com

Dan Wing, All-Northwest Orchestra Manager, dan.wing@comcast.net

Megan Vinther, All-Northwest Jazz Band Manager, megvinther@gmail.com

Quinn Van Paepeghem, All-Northwest Jazz Choir Manager, AVanPaepeghem@nnu.edu

If you need to reach someone **once we are in Spokane**, phone **Mr. Giltner** at **253-569-6780**

In Spokane – Arrival and Check-in

Rehearsal and performance sites and schedules are listed below.

Jazz Band and Choir students will report to their rehearsal site on **Thursday, February 13 by 10:00am**.

All other students will report to their rehearsal site on **Friday, February 14, by 1:00pm**.

New this year: Students who arrive early are encouraged to attend a special session with conference headliner **Scott Lang** on **Friday, February 14, at 9:30am** in the **Davenport Grand Hotel: [333 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201](#)** (across the street from the Convention Center)

Jazz Band rehearsals take place in the **Davenport Grand Hotel: [333 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201](#)**

Jazz Choir rehearsals take place in the **Doubletree Hotel: [322 N Spokane Falls Ct., Spokane, WA 99201](#)**

Band rehearsals take place in the **Spokane Convention Center: [334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201](#)**

Wind Symphony rehearsals take place at the **Ruby River Hotel: [700 N. Division St., Spokane, WA 99202](#)**

Orchestra rehearsals take place at the **Centennial Hotel: [303 W. North River Dr., Spokane, WA, 99201](#)**

Mixed Choir rehearsals take place at the **Magnuson Theatre: [502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99258](#)**

Treble Choir rehearsals take place at the **Bing Crosby Theater: [901 W Sprague Ave, Spokane, WA 99201](#)**

All groups will perform in the **Spokane Convention Center (which includes the First Interstate Center for the Arts, or FICA): [334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201](#)**

Students' parents and teachers are responsible for arranging transportation to and from Spokane. Students must remain onsite throughout the day.

NAfME All-Northwest	Rehearsal Start Time and Room	Meals	CONCERTS
All-Northwest Jazz Band	Thu 2/13, 10:00am, Davenport Grand Cedar Ballroom	Thursday Lunch	Friday, 2/14, 7:30pm, FICA
All-Northwest Jazz Choir	Thu 2/13, 10:00am, Doubletree Spokane Falls Suite	Friday Lunch + Dinner	
All-Northwest Band	Fri 2/14, 1:00pm, Spokane Convention Center 111A	Friday Dinner Saturday Lunch + Pre-Concert Snack	Saturday, 2/15, 4:30pm, Convention Center Exhibit Hall A
All-Northwest Wind Symphony	Fri 2/14, 1:00pm, Ruby River Hotel Shoreline Ballroom A/B		
All-Northwest Orchestra	Fri 2/14, 1:00pm, Centennial Hotel Riverfront Ballroom A/B/C		
All-Northwest Mixed Choir	Fri 2/14, 1:00pm, Magnuson Theater, Gonzaga campus		Saturday, 2/15, 4:30pm, FICA
All-Northwest Treble Choir	Fri 2/14, 1:00pm, Bing Crosby Theater		

Concert Tickets

Tickets for the **All-Northwest Jazz Concert on Friday, February 14, at 7:30 p.m.** will be **free**, but online reservations will be required.

Tickets for the **All-Northwest Instrumental and Choral concerts on Saturday, February 15, at 4:30 p.m.** will be **\$25** each and sold online.

A link to purchase or reserve tickets for both events will be in a future second information packet and posted to the WMEA website.

Attendance, Participation, and Behavior

By electing to participate in WMEA All-State, you, your parents, and your teacher agree that you will not leave rehearsal or other activities between check-in and the end of the concert. Doing so will result in your removal from the group.

On the registration form, students, parents, teachers, and the school principal sign to agree to the following:

All students are expected to follow common-sense guidelines of good behavior at all times. Rowdiness, destruction or defacing of property, use of alcohol or illegal drugs, or any other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Students are expected to follow the instructions of all adult supervisors at rehearsal, in transit, or in any other location. Students **MUST** be at all rehearsals and with the group for the entire scheduled time. Any student leaving without prior permission from the appropriate group manager will be disqualified from further participation in WMEA All-State activities and sent home at the first opportunity at their expense. We, the undersigned, understand and will abide by this. Permission is granted for this student's name and/or picture to appear on recordings, in video, and in photographs.

What to Wear and Bring

Rehearsal Attire: Please wear comfortable, school-appropriate clothing for rehearsals during the day.

Concert Attire: Please bring either your regular school ensemble concert attire OR "concert black," with dark shoes and socks.

Instruments: Please bring all instruments and related accessories required (reeds, mutes, mouthpieces, valve or slide oil, cork grease, reed cups, etc.)

Percussionists: Only larger instruments will be provided (timpani, bass drum, mallet instruments, chimes.) You must bring all **sticks, mallets, beaters, and any small percussion** items listed in your part (i.e., triangle, tambourine, clave, etc.)

Tuba players – please bring a concert Tuba, no Sousaphones.

Sheet Music: Please bring the folder with the sheet music that will be sent to your school.

Luggage should be clearly labeled with the student's name and school. Chaperones should plan to hold onto student luggage on Friday while students are in rehearsal. (Chaperones are free to leave during rehearsal and may check into hotels during the hotel's regular check-in period.)

Souvenirs and Memorabilia

All student participants will receive a t-shirt and one video recording. Pre-order forms for additional commemorative photos, plaques, t-shirts/sweatshirts, and recordings will be sent with sheet music and posted on the WMEA website at that time (after January 6).

Rehearsal Schedules

Please note: these schedules are tentative and subject to change. Updated detailed schedules will be sent in February.

Jazz Band and Choir: Thursday, 2/13		Jazz Band and Choir: Friday, 2/14	
Arrival	Under school/district supervision, students should arrive to the check-in <i>having eaten breakfast.</i>	Before rehearsal	Chaperones wake students, get checked out of hotel, eat breakfast, and arrive to rehearsal site
Check-in	9:00 – 9:45 am	Rehearsal begins	9:00 am
Seating	9:45 – 10:00 am	Lunch	Break Approx. 12:00 pm
Rehearsal begins	10:00 am	Rehearsal resumes	Approx. 1:00 pm
Lunch	Break approx. 12:00 pm	Sound Checks	Each group individually anytime between 2:00-5:00 pm
Rehearsal resumes	1:00 pm	Dinner	Break approx. 5:00 pm
Dinner	Break approx. 5:00 pm	Concert call time	Approx. 6:30 pm
Rehearsal resumes	After dinner approx. 6:00pm	Concert	7:30 pm
Students released to chaperones for transport to Hotel	8:30 pm	Students released to chaperones for transport home	Concert conclusion approx. 9:30 pm

Large Ensembles: Friday, 2/14		Large Ensembles: Saturday, 2/15	
Arrival	Under school/district supervision, students should arrive to the check-in <i>having eaten lunch.</i> If students arrive in Spokane on Thursday night, they are welcomed to the Scott Lang presentation on Friday morning, but chaperones are still responsible for students for lunch.	Before rehearsal	Chaperones wake students, get checked out of hotel, eat breakfast, and arrive to rehearsal site
Scott Lang presentation	9:30 – 10:45 am	Rehearsal begins	9:00 am
Check-in	Noon – 12:45 am	Lunch	Break approx. 11:00 am
Seating	12:45 – 1:00 pm	Rehearsal resumes	Approx. 12:00 pm
Rehearsal begins	1:00 pm	Sound Checks	Each group individually anytime between 12:00-4:00 pm
Dinner	Break approx. 4:30 pm	Snack	Break approx. 3:30 pm
Rehearsal resumes	After dinner approx. 5:30 pm	Concert	4:30 pm

Students released to chaperones for transport to Hotel	9:00 pm	Students released to chaperones for transport home	Concert conclusion approx. 6:30 pm
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Parents, family, friends, and teachers are welcome to observe rehearsals throughout the day except for the closed sound checks. Chaperones are not required to be present during rehearsals or WMEA-provided meals.

Information still to come...

Unfortunately, we still await information about **hotel blocks**, **concert tickets**, and **souvenir orders**.

Please wait for a second info packet with more details about the following:

- **Concert tickets:**
 - Tickets for the **All-Northwest Jazz Concert** on **Friday, February 14**, at **7:30 p.m.** will be **free**, but online reservations will be required.
 - Tickets for the **All-Northwest Instrumental and Choral concerts** on **Saturday, February 15**, at **4:30 p.m.** will be **\$25** each and will be sold online.
 - Teachers will receive a link to purchase and reserve tickets to distribute to the families of performing students.

- **Hotels:**
 - WMEA has been working with downtown Spokane area hotels to hold designated room blocks for Honor Group students. Special booking links, codes, or other instructions are still forthcoming.
 - The **cutoff date** for making your reservation will vary by hotel, but it will generally be between **January 9 and 13**. After that date, any remaining rooms in our blocks will be released to the general public, and rates may increase.
 - **Note:** Another large event is in Spokane the same weekend, so rooms will be at a premium. When hotel information is published, please act on it ASAP. For schools paying for multiple student rooms, it may help to set up your payment information and be ready to simply fill in the amount and pay or send an open purchase order as soon as that information arrives.
 - **Hotels that will have room blocks are listed on the next page.** You can use this information to plan ahead, knowing that booking instructions and rates will be provided later.

- **Souvenir Orders:**
 - **All student participants will receive a t-shirt and one video recording.**
 - Pre-order forms for additional commemorative photos, plaques, t-shirts/sweatshirts, and recordings will be sent with sheet music and posted on the WMEA website at that time (after January 6).

[Housing Information - Version 1.0](#)

Please download and familiarize yourself with WMEA's Housing Policy, available on our website:

[Link to Housing Policy](#)

- Teachers are responsible for reserving hotel rooms for all accepted students and arranging hotel payments through their school's financial processor.
- The following hotels have set aside room blocks for All-State and All-Northwest students.
- Schools are not required to use the hotels on this list; however, WMEA has negotiated discounted rates for rooms in these hotels, all within walking distance of rehearsal and concert sites. WMEA encourages teachers and chaperones to consider the transit time between honor group events and hotels and plan appropriately for students to arrive on time and ready to rehearse each day.
- Students living within the Spokane metro area *can* stay at home, provided their teacher has arranged adequate transportation with their parents or guardians. However, students are not permitted to drive themselves to or from Honor Group events.
- **An updated version of this list, including any codes, links, or other booking instructions, will be provided later. This is provided for information only. WMEA policy prohibits staff from arranging hotel rooms for students; this is the responsibility of teachers.**

Hotels with Rehearsal or Concert Sites

[Centennial](#) (All-State Choir, All-NW Orchestra)

Address: [303 W. North River Dr., Spokane, WA, 99201](#)

Check-in: Friday, February 14, 2025

Check-out: Sunday, February 16, 2025

Book by: January 9th, 2025

Use the special [Booking Link](#)

[Davenport Grand](#) (All-State Band and Orchestra, All-NW Jazz Band)

Address: [333 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201](#)

(across the street from the Convention Center)

This is the hotel with the most rooms available.

[Doubletree by Hilton Spokane City Center](#) (All-NW Jazz Choir;

connected to the Convention Center)

Address: [322 N Spokane Falls Ct., Spokane, WA 99201](#)

[Ruby River Hotel](#) (All-NW Wind Symphony)

Address: [700 N. Division St., Spokane, WA 99202](#)

Call 509-323-2573 and say you are participating in WMEA All-State or NAFME All-Northwest

Other Nearby Hotels

[Courtyard Spokane Downtown at the Convention Center](#)

Address: [401 N. Riverpoint Blvd., Spokane, WA 99202](#)

[Davenport Tower](#)

Address: [111 S. Post St., Spokane, WA 99201](#)

Note: This is a 10-15-minute walk from the Davenport Grand. They are separate hotels. The Davenport Tower will also have more rooms available than others.

[Fairfield Inn & Suites Spokane Downtown](#)

Address: [311 N. Riverpoint Blvd., Spokane, WA 99202](#)

[Oxford Suites Spokane](#)

Address: [115 W. North River Dr., Spokane, WA 99201](#)

Call 509-353-9000 and say you are with the Northwest NAFME Conference.