

To: Nebraska Class D Band Directors
From: Taylor Stech
RE: Nebraska Class D All-State Band
Date: September 12, 2025



In 1987, Rick Richards and the Rising City Band Mothers Organization hosted the first annual Class D All-State Band Clinic, which involved 142 students from 37 schools across the state. Over the years, it has grown to be hosted at University of Nebraska in Kearney with three bands and approximately 175 students participating.

This letter is to invite you and your students to participate in the Thirty-Ninth Annual Class D All-State Clinic. This is not just another clinic, but one designed especially for our

students. This clinic should help give our students the recognition they deserve. If you plan on having any of your students participate in Class D All-State, please read this letter completely and carefully. Also, please make sure that your students will be able to attend the clinic before you allow them to audition.

The clinic will be held on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, at the University of Nebraska in Kearney. Rehearsals will begin at 9:00 am with the final concert starting at 5:00 pm. The clinic will involve three bands: a Wind Ensemble of around 50 players under the baton of Dr. Andy Feyes, a Symphonic Band of around 85 players directed by Mrs. Emiley Bond, and a Jazz Band of around 18 players led by Mr. Tommy Krueger. The students in the Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Symphonic Band will all be chosen from digitally recorded auditions only. Please don't be afraid to ask any questions regarding this process.

Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate. Students may audition on more than one instrument and for both concert band and jazz band. All audition requirements and scholarship information are listed in this mailing and the material can be downloaded from the website:

<http://audition.zone/classdne>

We are looking forward to working with you to have another great Class D All-State Clinic.

Have a successful and exciting fall,
Taylor Stech
Class D All-State Band Co-Coordinator

Instrumental Watkins-Farnum **FORM A**
2026 Class D All-State Auditions-Concert Band

Audition Material for Instruments:

Chromatic - 2 octaves, at minimum

Bb Concert - 2 octaves, when possible

G Concert - 2 octaves, when possible

Etudes - Watkins and Farnum Form A, #9 & #10

***All Major Scales are concert pitch**

*** MM= 90 per quarter note tongued**

*** Chromatic Scale played at fastest comfortable speed slurred.**

Snare

Rudiment- Paradiddle (rudimental) roll

Slow to fast to slow - 45 seconds

Etude- Whaley pg. 8 #7

Timpani

Roll on Bb - fp cresc to f decresc to p

Etude- Peters pg. 131 #2

Mallets

Chromatic- (C to C)

Maj Scales- Bb Maj (2 8va) & G Maj (2 8va)

Etude- Goldenberg pg. 32 "Yankee Doodle" no repeats

***If your student auditions for multiple percussion parts, please submit each auditions separately**

(EX: Heather Stahr, Snare - 1 file; Heather Stahr, Timpani - 1 file; Heather Stahr, Mallets - 1 file)

Record each portion of the audition in a full run.

You can record each portion separately and create 1 file for each instrument.

(No splicing 2 scales and putting together as 1 run)

Do not speak on the recording.

Jazz Band Auditions

**The Jazz Band audition material is posted on the webpage and you can access and print the materials to use from there.*

All scales, etudes, and scholarship information can be downloaded from the audition website:

[**http://audition.zone/classdne**](http://audition.zone/classdne)

Class D All-State Band

Director's Procedure Checklist for Auditions

- _____ Check that each student auditioning is available to attend on March 21, 2026.
- _____ Go to <http://audition.zone/classdne> to enter ON-LINE director information and registration for each student auditioning.
- _____ Each audition is recorded on ONE MP3 track. GarageBand and Audacity are two applications that are helpful in making MP3's.
- _____ Audition material is to be recorded in the order listed. USE FORM A. All audition materials can be downloaded from <http://audition.zone/classdne>.
- _____ Concert scales should be performed as 2 octaves, if possible.
- _____ Chromatic scales should be performed at the student's best range, 2-octave minimum, and tempo.
- _____ Be sure recorded material replays without difficulty.
- _____ Name each file: student_instrument_Ensemble_School
For example: JohnDoe_TenorSax_Jazz_Giltner
- _____ Upload the files to: <http://audition.zone/classdne>
- _____ There is no audition fee. Selected students will pay a \$25.00 fee to cover the cost of music, clinicians' fees, etc. Once students are selected, you will receive an invoice from Virtual Impressions. Once you have the invoice, send fees to:

Raime Varvel, Class D Treasurer
Hay Springs School
PO Box 280
Hay Springs, NE 69347

AUDITIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED BETWEEN NOW and 11:59 pm JANUARY 24, 2026.

Students may audition on more than one instrument (ex. Flute/Piccolo) and they may audition for both jazz ensemble and concert band. Send a separate recording for each audition.

Class D All-State Scholarship Requirements

Every year, the Class D All-State Band awards a deserving senior All-State participant a \$500.00 scholarship. Scholarship eligibility guidelines are as follows:

1. The student must be participating in a college band program following graduation.
2. The student must have been a Class D All-State participant for at least two years.
3. The student must have received at least one Superior rating on a solo at District Music Contest.
4. The student will be required to perform a solo for the audition committee the day of the clinic. Solos should be chosen from classical literature and can be accompanied or unaccompanied.
5. The student will participate in a formal interview with the scholarship committee with a focus on what music has meant to the student.
6. The student will take a basic theory test the day of the clinic.

