

June 2, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you and a select group of your students to participate in the 2026 Honors Instrumental Festival hosted by the Southern Adventist University School of Music, February 11–14. Registration is Wednesday, February 11, 3–6 pm. Rehearsals begin that evening at 7:00, and the festival concludes with a 4 pm concert on Sabbath, February 14. Future correspondence will provide important details, a rehearsal schedule and housing forms.

Symphonic Band Clinician

Ken Parsons, Associate Professor of Music at Southern Adventist University, will direct the Symphonic Band. Mr. Parsons holds a Master of Music degree in Brass Performance from the University of Oregon, and Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Bachelor of Arts in Theology degrees from Walla Walla University.

String Orchestra Clinician

Laurie Redmer Cadwallader, Associate Professor of Music at Southern Adventist University, will direct the String Orchestra. Mrs. Cadwallader holds Master of Music degrees in both Viola Performance and Choral Conducting from New England Conservatory of Music, and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree from Atlantic Union College.

Auditions

- All prospective festival band members must submit an audition by November 7, 2025. Please assist your students in preparing and recording their auditions to ensure that they present their best-possible performances! Auditions may be submitted via YouTube, Dropbox, or Google Drive.
- Preference will be given to percussionists who audition on more than one instrument (mallets, snare drum, timpani).
- Band directors must also complete a School Band Audition form.
- While prospective festival orchestra members need not submit recorded auditions, their directors must submit a School Orchestra Audition form.

Music

All ensemble music will be provided for each selected student – there is no need to purchase music. If all auditions are received by November 7, band music will be distributed before Christmas vacation.

Cost

The festival fee for out-of-town students is \$75.00, covering lodging and all meals from Wednesday supper through Sabbath lunch. There is no fee for sponsors. If needed, one

hotel room will be complimentary provided for each sponsor, although sponsors rooming together is appreciated, when possible.

Local students' fee is \$50.00, including noon meals only and no housing.

Hopefully the above has answered most of your preliminary Festival questions. Please feel free to contact either of us via phone or email if there is anything we can clarify.

We look forward to having you join us in February!

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