



HONOR BAND & CHORAL CLINIC

Monday, January 26, 2026

BAND CLINICIANS

Dr. Duane Bierman, Professor of Music & Director of Bands, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Jonathan Jaworski, Band Director, Otte-Blair Middle School

CHOIR CLINICIANS

Dr. John Petzet, Associate Professor of Music & Director of Choirs, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Jeff Vyhlidal, Choir Director, Grand Island Northwest High School

Valerie Leising, Choir Director, Arapahoe Public Schools

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MUSIC DIRECTORS

Below is pertinent information regarding student auditions for the 2026 University of Nebraska at Kearney Honor Band and Choral Clinic. On behalf of the entire Department of Music at UNK, I thank you for your efforts in assisting your students with the audition process. We are anticipating an exciting musical and educational day with you and your students on **Monday, January 26, 2026**.

APPLICATIONS AND AUDITIONS

Students in grades 10-12 are eligible to audition. If the application does not have the student's grade, the audition may not be accepted. **Students may audition for band OR choir, but not both**. Instrumental students must audition on one instrument only. Audition materials are posted as PDF files at the following website: http://www.unk.edu/academics/music/music_outreach.php Click the link to download the files to your computer. You may duplicate any of these materials.

1. **Applications and Audition recordings** will be submitted online via the following Google Link:

[2026 UNK Honor Clinic Application](#)

- a. Contact Dr. Alber (alberbw@unk.edu) if you have any issues with submitting application materials. **Applications must be completed using the Google Link.**

FORMAT FOR AUDITION RECORDINGS

UNK Honor Band & Choral Clinic

1. Please use a **single file for each audition**. The entire audition should include **name, grade (sophomore, junior, senior), school, voice/instrument**, scales, and audition excerpts.
2. Audition recordings must be in one of the following formats: **.mp3, .m4a, or .wma**.
3. When recording an audition, it is best to use the Pause button between sections of a student's recording so that all parts of the audition remain on the same file. The Stop button may automatically create a new file for each part, requiring the parts to be mixed into one file.
4. Review your digital recordings to ensure that they were recorded correctly, that they have the complete audition for each student, and that they are loud enough.

FEES

A \$30.00 clinic fee is required for each Clinic participant. This fee covers the cost of music, clinicians, dinner, facilities, postage, accompanists, and printing. **Send no money with the applications.** If one or more of your students are accepted into the Clinic, you will be billed for the fees. All fees must be paid to the Music Department before the Clinic, or your students will not be allowed to participate. ***Once a student has been accepted into one of the clinic ensembles, the participation fee must be paid since the funds are already encumbered. If the student, for whatever reason, does not participate in the clinic (this includes non-attendance due to sickness) the clinic fee must be paid and is non-refundable.***

DEADLINE

A reminder—all applications and audition recordings must be uploaded no later than Thursday, October 30, 2025. Each year approximately eight hundred students apply for the Honor Clinic, and the procedures delineated here allow for the expedient processing of these applications and audition recordings. Failure to adhere to these procedures may disqualify the students from your school. Upon receipt of your auditions, UNK music faculty will review them and make the selections for the ensembles. We will notify you through an email memo as soon as possible concerning which students have been accepted for the Honor Clinic. The results will also be posted on our website. After being notified as to which of your students was selected for one of the clinic groups, you will receive an invoice for the appropriate fees. The fees are due upon receipt of the invoice. Music will be distributed to each school via email. **Each student must bring the music to the clinic.** All music must be turned in to university personnel at the conclusion of the concert.

CONCERT AND TICKET INFORMATION

****Please note the following schedule of final performances****

5:00-UNK Wind Ensemble

UNK Honor Band & Choral Clinic

5:10-Festival Band
5:30-Honor Band
5:50-Break
6:30-UNK Choraleers
6:40-Womens Choir
7:00-Festival Choir
7:20 -Honor Choir
7:40-Concert completed

The final performances will be held in the 6,000-seat UNK Health & Sports Center. Music directors will be admitted to the concert free of charge. The charge for the entire concert (instrumental and vocal) will be \$3.00 per person with free admission for preschool children. Tickets for the concert may only be purchased the evening of the concert at the Health & Sports Center. **Please note—we will only accept Cash or Check for ticket purchase—Please make sure parents are aware of this policy.** Please pass the word about the concert and its cost to the parents of your participating students.

The music faculty at the University of Nebraska at Kearney would like to thank you for the considerable time and effort you put into preparing your students and helping them audition for our Honor Clinic. It is our desire that you and your students have a musically rewarding experience that enhances your musical ensembles. We look forward to seeing you on Monday, January 26, 2026.

Regards,

Dr. Brian Alber
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http://www.unk.edu/academics/music/music_outreach.php