

**50th ANNUAL Wartburg College MEISTERSINGER HONOR BAND**  
**February 1 & 2, 2020**

October 18, 2019

Dear Colleague:

The Wartburg College Concert Bands proudly announce the 50th Annual Meistersinger Honor Band Festival for high school students currently 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades!

The format is as follows:

- 1) The **Festival** is made up of two bands: the NINTH Grade Band, and the SENIOR Band (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades).
- 2) Students are chosen by **director's nomination**, based ONLY on the information contained on the enclosed nomination forms. This information is also used to determine seating within the bands. REMEMBER: your students are chosen **ONLY** on the basis of the information on the nomination form. Fill it out to the best of your ability, and sell your students with the best of their ability!!
- 3) **Personnel** for the Ninth Grade Band is limited to about 65 players. For the Senior Band it will be about 120 players. This is in keeping with the philosophy that this is indeed and HONOR band, and that everyone cannot, and should not, be included to have a truly high level and unique experience. *It is not possible to ensure that every school that sends nominations will get students into the ensembles.*
- 4) **Do NOT nominate students who will not be available for the Festival.**
- 5) Do not let a "possible" **conflict** (speech or music contest – NOT another honor band) for part of the weekend (can the student still make a super-majority {80+%} of the rehearsals?) deter your nomination of that student.
- 6) **Music** will be sent to arrive to your school when you return from Christmas Break.
- 7) **Rehearsal** will begin at 12:00 pm (noon) on Saturday, February 1st, with check-in just prior to that. The **FINALE Concert** is at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 2nd, and will be precluded at about 2:15 by a short performance of the Wartburg College Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble.
- 8) **Deadline for applications is Monday, November 18, 2019.** You will receive **E-mail notification** of accepted students on or about December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 9) You may **send nominations** in hard copy to me at the address below, OR, Email a copy of the nomination form back to me.
- 10) Participation **fee** is \$37 per student. Do not send money until you have received notification of accepted nominees!
- 11) **Meals** are available from the campus cafeteria, and from area restaurants (more information to come.)
- 12) **Registration and meal fees are not refundable. Standard practice dictates that even a "scratch" must pay the registration fee.**
- 13) Directors may opt to **house** students (free of charge) on campus with College Band members acting as hosts, or make other arrangements for off campus housing.
- 14) There will be **sessions** for directors/guests during the Festival.
- 15) **Programming information** from the directors will follow, as will an exact itinerary.

16) During the Saturday evening meal time, there will be an **“invitation only/as our guest”** meal (on campus) for high school juniors/seniors specifically identified by their directors as having high interest in Wartburg College as their choice of college. (More information available as accepted students list is sent.)

CONDUCTORS for this year’s Festival are: Senior Band – Dr. Jack Stamp (formerly of Indiana University of Pennsylvania); Ninth Grade Band – Gerald Ramsey, Cedar Falls High School.

Please direct questions and return all information to:

Dr. Craig A. Hancock  
 Director of Bands  
 Wartburg College  
 100 Wartburg Blvd.  
 Waverly IA 50677  
 319.352.8296  
[craig.hancock@wartburg.edu](mailto:craig.hancock@wartburg.edu)

I look forward to an exciting Honor Band Festival with you and your students. I hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity – for yourself, your best students and your program – I know it will be a rewarding one for all of us! -- Craig A. Hancock

**PAST GUEST CONDUCTORS**

1971 Frank Bencriscutto	1995 Steven Pederson	2011 Mark Heidel
1972 Frank Piersol	1996 Barry Kopetz	Lee Nelson
1973 (unknown)	1997 Robert Belser	2012 Andrew Boysen, Jr.
1974 (unknown)	1998 Nancy Dittmer	Steve Stickney
1975 (unknown)	1999 Thomas Dvorak	2013 Mark Camphouse
1976 Frank Bencriscutto	2000 Andrew Mast	Donna Angell
1977 Col. Arnald Gabriel	2001 Robert Jorgenson	2014 Micheal Golemo
1978 John Paynter	2002 Mark Camphouse	Rob Medd
1979 Frank Bencriscutto	2003 Paula Crider	2015 Samuel R. Hazo
1980 Mike Lekrone	2004 Robert Sheldon	Oscar Ortiz
1981 Ken Bloomquist	Tony Garmoe	2016 John Locke
1982 (snowed out)	2005 Barry Kopetz	Leonard Upham
1983 John Deal	Leon Kuehner	2017 Scott Hagen
1984 Robert Foster	2006 Myron Welch	Cliff St. Clair
1985 Miles Johnson	Jim Fritz	2018 Karen Fannin
1986 Joseph Guinta	2007 Steven Pederson	Liz Fritz
1987 William Jones	Thad Driskell	2019 Peter L. Boonshaft
1988 Myron Welch	2008 Robert Foster	Russ Kramer
1989 Miles Johnson	Leonard Upham	
1990 Steven Pederson	2009 Julie Giroux	
1991 Thomas Dvorak	John Aboud	
1992 Richard Hanson	2010 Timothy Salzman	
1993 James Croft	Alan Feirer	
1994 Jared Spears		

## **JACK STAMP**

Recently serving as visiting professor of music at Luther College (Fall, 2018), Dr. Stamp was acting director of bands and taught, conducting. He spent the past three years as adjunct faculty at UW-River Falls. He recently retired from full-time employment as Professor of Music and Director of Band Studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he conducted the Wind Ensemble and taught courses in graduate conducting. Dr. Stamp received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education degree from IUP, a Master's in Percussion Performance from East Carolina University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting from Michigan State University where he studied with Eugene Corporon.

### **PAST APPOINTMENTS**

Prior to his appointment at IUP, he served as chairman of the Division of Fine Arts at Campbell University in North Carolina. He also taught for several years in the public schools of North Carolina. In addition to these posts, Dr. Stamp served as conductor of the Duke University Wind Symphony (1988-89) and was musical director of the Triangle British Brass Band, leading them to a national brass band championship in 1989.

### **PAST TEACHERS**

Dr. Stamp's primary composition teachers have been Robert Washburn and Fisher Tull, though he was strongly influenced by his music theory teachers at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and East Carolina. Other studies include work with noted American composers David Diamond, Joan Tower and Richard Danielpour.

### **CONDUCTING & COMPOSITIONS**

He is active as a guest conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and composer throughout North America and Great Britain. His compositions have been commissioned and performed by leading military and university bands across the United States. He has won the praise of American composers David Diamond, Norman Dello Joio, Ron Nelson, Michael Torke, Samuel Adler, Robert Ward, Robert Washburn, Fisher Tull, Nancy Galbraith and Bruce Yurko for performances of their works. He is also a contributing author to the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series released by GIA Publications.

### **AWARDS**

In 1996, he received the Orpheus Award from the Zeta Tau Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha for service to music and was named a "Distinguished Alumnus" of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In 1999, he received the "Citation of Excellence" from the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association. In 2000, he was inducted into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. He was awarded the title of "University Professor" for the 2008-2009 academic year at IUP. This is the highest award the university gives to a professor.

**Gerald Ramsey** is currently in his 26<sup>th</sup> year as Director of Bands at Cedar Falls High School where he directs the Wind Symphony and the second jazz band, and serves as music department chair. Under his co-direction, Cedar Falls bands have received consistent Division I ratings over the years at marching, jazz, and concert band festivals. Prior to his current position he taught for seven years in the Gladbrook-Reinbeck schools and for one year at Central Decatur (Leon, Iowa). He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa, and completed coursework for a master's degree from the University of Northern Iowa.

Gerald is a past-president of the Northeast Iowa Bandmasters Association, and he has also served as Jazz Chair for NEIBA. He has been the recipient of the KWWL Gold Star Award for Outstanding Teaching, the NEIBA district level Karl King Distinguished Service Award, and the NEIBA Phillip Sehnann Excellence in Education award.

As a performer, Gerald has stayed active playing trumpet with the Waterloo Municipal Band and Bill Shepherd Big Band, as well as bass in pit orchestras for the Cedar Falls Community Theatre and other projects. He has also been active as a church musician with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Community of Christ church and St. John's Lutheran church.

Gerald's wife, Vivian, is a teacher for blind and visually impaired students with the Iowa Braille School. They have two grown children, both musicians.