

Bands of America – “Music For All” National Festival Bulletin #2

JPT Orchestra to attend the National Orchestra Festival

As most of you may have heard, Mr. Williams was asked by the Bands of America staff to consider bringing our Orchestra to Indianapolis for the National Orchestra Festival as an add-on group. We felt the only way we could accomplish this would be as a full Symphony Orchestra, utilizing the wind players from Wind Orchestra as has been done in the past. As this is a national level event, using our best and most experienced players is of the utmost importance to insure a successful performance for the Orchestra. This has always been an expectation for those members of the Wind Orchestra and helps give creditability to the “Honor” credit awarded to many of these students. With the cancellation of this years All County events by the School Board, this is certainly one way to help replace those additional rehearsals and performances that most of these students were going to be involved in for their honors credit. We both hope you will support our efforts in providing the Orchestra students with this outstanding musical opportunity. A rehearsal schedule for Full Orchestra has been posted on the Band/Orch. Calendar and will be adjusted at times according to rehearsal needs.

Transportation

With the addition of twenty-five orchestra members and additional chaperones, busing to Indianapolis is now the most economical way for us to travel. This also came after running into numerous problems with airlines restricting what instruments could be taken on their flights. With bus transportation we have no issues with instruments. We will also save one night hotel expense by traveling by bus. This brings our hotel/meals expenses down to approximately \$490.00 per person and transportation to approximately \$260.00 per person. More information will be coming in the next bulletin as we are still negotiating with bus companies.

Rehearsals

Small instrumental rehearsals meeting for short periods of time will be scheduled for each section of the band as we work on the selections of our BOA program. We will also schedule a weekend camp sometime in January or February in order to bring in clinicians to work with the group on our final selections. Dates will be discussed with the band members soon. It will be important for all band members to be in attendance on that selected weekend.

Smart Music

One of our roadblocks for a successful performance at the National Festival has been the lack of Smart Music programs purchased on-line by our students. Most of the music we are performing is found on this at home practice music program. I still encourage everyone to get on board with this practice program.