



Dear Festival of Winds Participant,

On behalf of the Music Faculty and Staff at the University of South Florida, I am pleased to congratulate you on your selection to the 2019 USF Festival of Winds, Opus 45. Your band director has recommended you based on the outstanding musical ability and leadership that you demonstrate on a daily basis. Our goal is to provide an experience that will help you grow and expand your musicianship at the individual and ensemble level. In addition to these experiences, you also have the opportunity to spend four days on a university campus making new friends and establishing life-long memories.

In this packet you will find important information relating to registration, required forms, hotel accommodations, meals and much more. Students, parents, and band directors are asked to read through these documents thoroughly. It is impossible for this packet to cover answers to all questions that may arise, so please ask your band director immediately if you have any additional concerns. Your band director will then contact us if necessary and we will be sure to help in every way possible. Also, please be sure to add our official website to your internet browsers favorites list. The website will become an extremely important tool as we get closer to the start of our event.

<http://music.arts.usf.edu/festivalofwinds/>

We wish you the best over the next couple of months as you prepare for what will be one of the most rewarding and valuable events in your high school career. Again, congratulations on your acceptance into the Festival and we look forward to meeting you in December.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew McCutchen
Director of Bands
University of South Florida

Process for Registration and Payment

Once you have been notified of your selection by your band director, every accepted student must visit our electronic Student Registration portal and complete an online registration. Your Band Director has been emailed this link, so please acquire this from him/her directly.

Deadline for Student Registration and Payment is October 25, 2019.

After completing your online registration form, either you or your director must finalize your intent to participate by visiting our payment website link (which is also enclosed with your director's acceptance email) and complete the payment process. Students will have two options for accommodations as shown below:

Payments must be received by **October 25, 2019** in order to confirm your participation in this year's event. All festival payments must be made through our payment website by credit card or debit card. **We cannot accept paper checks, money orders, or cash.**

Plan A - \$249.00 – Residential Students

Registration fee includes all meals, housing, clinician/conductor expenses, transaction fees, and other festival expenses. Resident participants will also receive a commemorative T-Shirt and Backpack.

Plan B - \$209.00 – Commuter Students

Registration fee includes all meals, clinician/conductor expenses, transaction fees, and other festival expenses. Commuter participants will also receive a commemorative T-Shirt and Backpack.

All payments must be received on time! The payment website will automatically shut down at midnight on October 25. **Those students who have not completed and paid for their registration by the final deadline will be replaced with alternates.** Do not risk losing your spot at Festival of Winds; be sure to complete your online registration and payment information by the deadlines stated above!!

Students and Parents: Please be sure to check with your band director first on method of payment for the event. In some cases schools may pay for this event through their booster club or school district. Once a payment has been received there will be **no refunds** unless there is an extenuating circumstance that is deemed acceptable by Dr. McCutchen.

On-Site Registration and Required Forms

On-Site registration will take place in the School of Music Conference Center on Thursday, December 5, 2019, from 1:00pm until 2:00pm. All resident participants must drop off luggage at the Embassy Suites before reporting to the School of Music for check-in. All participants are required to bring the following three forms with them for check-in:

- Festival Guidelines Form (*parent and band director signatures required*)
- Festival Medical Form (*parent signature required*)
- Festival Photo Release Form (*parent signature required*)

Required forms for this event are available under the “Student Info” page of the main Festival of Winds website. Please make sure you have these documents completed, with signatures, when you report to on-site registration at the School of Music. **Students will not be allowed to participate in the festival without these completed items.** Participants will receive their official ID badges, T-shirts and Backpacks once the check-in process has been completed.

Hotel Accommodations and Check-In

Resident participants will once again be housed at the USF Embassy Suites, located on-campus, just off of Fowler Avenue. The address for the hotel is:

**3705 Spectrum Boulevard, Tampa, Florida 33612
813-977-7066**

Festival of Winds staff will handle room assignments and will make every effort to do this by school and will be done in quad occupancy. Changes to room assignments and roommate requests will not be accommodated, and if a participant fails to abide by this policy he/she will be removed from the Festival. Male and female students are **prohibited** from being in the same hotel room at any time. Family members are also not allowed to enter or stay in a room with a student. This is for the safety of all our participants and is non-negotiable.

Resident participants will store their luggage in a secured room at the Embassy Suites before reporting to the School of Music Conference Center for On-Site Registration. Resident participants will receive their hotel room assignments and keys at the end of rehearsals on Thursday evening. Once everyone has received this information, resident participants will be escorted by our Festival Chaperones to the hotel where they will retrieve their luggage and report to their assigned rooms.

Chaperones for the hotel will be USF students who served as chaperones during our Summer Camps and thus have plenty of experience in this role. **In accordance with the**

regulations set by the 2005 Jessica Lunsford Act, hotel chaperones have received Level II clearance by the State of Florida.

Transportation and Parking

Participants are responsible for arranging their transportation to and from every event throughout the festival. Shuttle or Taxi service is not provided, including those arriving from Tampa International Airport. Participants who have chosen Plan A (residents) and drive themselves to the festival on Thursday will not be permitted access to their vehicles again until Sunday departure. Participants who have chosen Plan B (commuters) will only be allowed to use their vehicles for arriving or departing the School of Music in the morning or evening. Participants who fail to abide by this policy will be asked to leave the festival. Resident participants will walk in chaperoned groups to and from the hotel and the School of Music. The walk from the hotel is approximately 10-15 minutes so be sure to wear comfortable shoes and plan for multiple weather situations.

If you are commuting be sure to park in the appropriate parking lots! USF Parking and Transportation Services enforce parking rules 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and Festival of Winds is not responsible for any parking tickets received during your time at USF. Daily Parking Permits are \$5.00 (plus tax) for the entire day and are available from permit vending machines in the parking lots surrounding the School of Music. These vending machines accept credit/debit cards only so please plan wisely. USF has partnered with Parkmobile if you would like to pay with your phone. <https://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/parking/parkmobile.aspx>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARKING

Lots for daily parking are labeled “D” and have been marked on the campus map located under the student information tab of our Festival of Winds website. Make sure you arrive early, especially on Thursday and Friday, as parking is limited and spots fill up quickly in the morning.

Meals and Dining

The table below illustrates the meals Festival of Winds will provide. All meals do come with a vegetarian and/or vegan option, but will only be provided if this is indicated on the participants registration form. **NOTE:** All participants must remain on campus for meals during our event. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Thursday – Dinner is provided for all participants

Friday and Saturday – Breakfast for Resident Students; Lunch and Dinner for all participants

Sunday – Breakfast for Resident Students; Lunch for all participants

Chair Placement Auditions

Chair Placement Audition music will be made available to download from the Festival of Winds website beginning **Wednesday, October 9, 2019**. Student requirements for the auditions are the downloadable excerpts. Please note that those students who wish to audition on Piccolo, English Horn, or Eb Clarinet must also prepare the Flute, Oboe, and Bb Clarinet audition music respectively.

Students who wish to be considered for the Jazz Ensemble (two rehearsals and a concert) are required to submit a Jazz Audition video by **Friday, November 15**. The student must be clearly visible throughout the entire playing of the audition material and the highest quality audio/video recording is encouraged as these auditions determine your chair placement within our ensembles. Once you have successfully recorded your audition, students/directors are required to upload the video to YouTube (make sure it is marked for unlisted viewing) and email the link to **fow@usf.edu**. Important details for your email submission are as follows:

- **Email Subject:** FOW 2019 Jazz Audition
- **Email Body:** School Name, Student Name, Band Director Name, Video YouTube Link

All students (including those who auditioned for the jazz band) are required to submit a Chair Placement Audition video by **Wednesday, November 27**. The student must be clearly visible throughout the entire playing of the audition material and the highest quality audio/video recording is encouraged as these auditions determine your chair placement within our ensembles. Once you have successfully recorded your audition, students/directors are required to upload the video to YouTube (make sure it is marked for unlisted viewing) and email the link to **fow@usf.edu**. Important details for your email submission are as follows:

- **Email Subject:** FOW 2019 Chair Audition
- **Email Body:** School Name, Student Name, Band Director Name, Video YouTube Link

Chair Placement Auditions are required for every Festival of Winds participant. Those students who do not submit a video audition following the guidelines above or by the deadline will be sat last chair in the ensemble. REMINDER: The deadline for emailing your audition video is **Wednesday, November 27, 2019**.

Masterclasses and Concerts

On the Saturday of Festival of Winds participants will attend a masterclass for their instrument led by our USF School of Music applied faculty, with additional participation by graduate and undergraduate students from their studios, members of the Florida Orchestra, Guest Artists and/or members of the Florida Wind Band. Please note that every master class is run differently and may or may not involve student participation. Participants should always bring their instruments with them just to be prepared.

As part of their musical expansion, all of our participants will be placed in a chamber ensemble related to their instrument (jazz, flute choir, trumpet choir, percussion choir, etc.). These ensembles will perform a concert on Saturday, December 7, 2019, at 7:30pm in our School of Music Concert Hall. Due to the popularity of this event, it is no longer open to the public. The event has outgrown the space! We will be livestreaming the concert on the USF Bands Facebook page for friends and family to watch from the comfort of their homes.

Our Grand Finale Concert, featuring our three honor bands, will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2019, in our School of Music Concert Hall. Performance times are as follows:

Shanti Simon Wind Band - 1:00pm Alex Kaminsky Wind Band - 2:00pm Linda Moorhouse Wind Band - 3:00pm

Each of our three ensembles will perform one right after the other, with a 15-20 minute intermission in between each performance to clear and reseal the concert hall. Each student will receive two concert tickets that will be available for pick-up by a family member at the box office on Sunday, forty-five minutes before their child's scheduled performance time. Additional tickets will be available in limited quantities on a first-come, first-serve basis. All tickets to the finale concert are free and are only available on Sunday, December 8.

Festival Packing Checklist

Print this document to check-off items as you pack

___ **A folding wire music stand!** Be sure to clearly label this with your full name! Please note that the School of Music will not provide music stands for rehearsals.

___ Your three festival forms with parent/director signatures. You cannot participate without these.

___ **Your instrument(s)!** Yes, we have had people forget these before!

___ **Wind Instrument Accessories:** Reeds, Cork Grease, Valve Oil, Cleaning Swabs, Mouthpieces, Brass Mutes, Ligatures, etc. You never know what you might need, so plan accordingly.

___ **Percussion Accessories:** Our event will provide participants with all percussion instruments. Participants are required to bring their own sticks and mallets, preferably in a labeled bag.

___ **Pencils:** A musician's best friend. Never leave home without at least 3 of them.

___ **4 days of comfortable clothing:** As a rule of thumb, if you are not allowed to wear it at your school, then you are not allowed to wear it during our festival. The rehearsal areas may be chilly, so be sure to bring some warm clothes to layer.

___ **Toiletries:** Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Hair Care Products, Combs, Brushes, Deodorant, Make-Up, Face Wash, Shaving Materials, Feminine Products, Nail Clippers, etc.

___ **Prescription Medication:** All medications you are taking must be listed on your medical release form. Any unauthorized use of prescription medications will result in an immediate dismissal from our festival without a refund.

___ **Umbrella/Poncho:** We have no way of knowing how the weather will be when walking you from the hotel to the rehearsal sites in the mornings and evenings. Be sure to pack these items just in case.

Concert Attire:

Saturday Chamber Concert – Festival T-Shirt / Blue Jeans / Belt / Socks / Sneakers

Sunday Wind Band Concerts – Formal Black