

Band News

Volume 2—Winter

January 2021



BMS BAND STUDENTS SELECTED TO NSBA 8TH GRADE ALL-STATE BAND

Each year all of Nebraska's 8th Grade band students are invited to audition for the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association 8th Grade All-State Band.

Mr. Jim Kucera, NSBA Middle-Level Chair, is honored to announce and would like to "CONGRATULATE those students that were selected to participate in the 2021 NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band!"

Students from Bluffs Middle School have participated in the NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band for the past 20 years and we are pleased to add the following names to the list of those selected:

- **Mina Griffith (Bass Clarinet)**, daughter of Joel Griffith & Natasha Deckert
- **Collin Phillips (Trumpet)**, son of Scott Phillips & Pamela Richardson
- **Capria Rogers (Trombone)**, daughter of Robert & Kiowa Rogers

(Selected by recorded audition to be members of the most prestigious and selective middle school honor band in the state of Nebraska.)

This year, the NSBA (Nebraska State Bandmasters Association) Honor Band committee selected 79 members and 19 alternates for the Concert Band. This group of 98 young musicians were selected from a total of 242 auditions and represent 37 schools from across the state of Nebraska.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the 2021 NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band Clinic has been CANCELLED.

Students selected will receive a Certificate of Selection and a commemorative T-Shirt.

Also, in lieu of their NSBA All-State performance, the BMS All-State Band students have started rehearsals of "Two Movements from Lincolnshire Posy" by Percy Aldridge Grainger (Arranged by Michael Sweeney) which they will perform for the March "Music in our Schools" Concert.



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Special points of interest:

* NO SCHOOL

- * **February 11** - Teachers: Professional Development Day (Building Committees)
- * **February 12** - Teachers: Professional Dev./ Work Day
- * **February 15** - Teachers: Professional Dev. Day
- * **February 26** - COVID Flex Day

- **Allison Clodfelter (Clarinet)**, daughter of Jeremy & Jaimie Clodfelter
- **Dagen Cranmore (Trumpet)**, son of Jamie Batterman & Quentin Cranmore

COVID-19 Cancellations

January 16, 2021	NSBA 8th Grade All-State Band Clinic	Kearney, NE
CANCELLED		
February 20, 2021	17th Annual Western NE Middle-Level Music Contest	Scottsbluff, NE
CANCELLED		

7th & 8th Bands - 2021 NSBA State Concert Band Festival

Due to complications surrounding the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, the NSBA Board voted to convert the annual NSBA State Concert Band Festival to a virtual format. This presented a wonderful opportunity for the BMS Bands!

The BMS 7th and 8th Grade Concert Bands are both hoping to present a live ensemble performance over ZOOM with the clinicians on **Wednesday, March 31st.**

The 2021 NSBA Virtual State Concert Band Festival Clinicians are:

- **Dr. Scott Boerma**, Director of Bands, Western Michigan University

- **Dr. J. Ashley Jarrell**, Coordinator of Music Education, University of North Georgia
- **Dr. Amy Knopps**, Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic Bands, University of Missouri
- **Dr. Mary Land**, Assistant Professor of Music Education, Western Michigan University

This event will replace the 17th Annual Western NE Middle-Level Music Contest that is hosted here in Scottsbluff. Though we are disappointed that we are unable to host our contest, we believe that this event will be just as rewarding and musically

gratifying, regardless of the circumstances surrounding music in our schools during this time.

It is truly a world-class opportunity for Nebraska students in service of one of NSBA's primary goals: creating "Better Bands for Nebraska"

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6th Band Opportunity



6th Grade Band students ... Don't think we have forgotten about you.

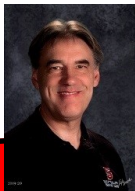
We are in the process of setting up our own "Virtual" music event.

Typically, a music contest includes a performance followed by a short clinic with one of the judges. We have contacted several clinicians we know to see if they would be willing to listen to your performance (either recorded or live via ZOOM) and give you some feedback.

Clinicians may also comment on other topics including: ensemble musicianship, leadership, etc. and perhaps finishing with a Q&A session.

We have not yet set a date for this event as we are still in the early planning stages.

More information will follow as it becomes available.



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We're on Twitter !
@BluffsMSBand

Tentative Calendar Items:



Tuesday, March 9 - BMS Band "Music in our Schools Month" Concert

TBA - BMS Jazz Band & WNCC "Fire in the Pan" Swingers Concert (Live or Pre-Recorded)

TBA - 7th & 8th Grade Concert Bands NSBA State Concert Band Festival

TBA—6th Grade Concert Band "Virtual" Clinic



"Club's Choice" No Contact Fundraiser

The BMS Bands will once again be participating in the "Club's Choice" Fundraising Event we have planned for this February.

This year's fundraiser will look much different than it has in the past. The students will not have an order form to fill out. The students will not need to collect any money. The students will not be delivering merchandise after the sale is over. All sales will be completed online. Payment for the merchandise will be made online. Merchandise will be delivered directly to the home of the purchaser. **This year's fundraiser will be completely contact free!**

Parents, you will be receiving an email from "Club's Choice" with more information about how the sale works and with links to our fundraising page. We ask that you support our fundraising effort by sending the information and links for the online sale to at least 10 people in your personal email contact list. Those that you contact may support the BMS Band by purchasing merchandise or, if they are not interested in making a purchase but would like to support our Band, they may also make an online donation. *More information will be coming soon.*

The proceeds earned from this fundraiser will be used to benefit all of the students in the BMS Band program (music festival fees, honor band fees, and other special events).

The "Club's Choice" representative, Milt Bemis, will ZOOM into the BMS Band Classes on February 3rd to give the students more information.

The sale is slated to last just two weeks (**February 3-17**), however, people can continue to shop online after the end of the sale and we will continue to receive the profits from the additional merchandise that is sold.

