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Dear Students,

Please join us for the Thirty-first Annual Susquehanna University Honors Band Festival on **February 16-18, 2024**. This unique event is designed to give talented high school woodwind, brass, and percussion students an opportunity to share your passion for music with similarly motivated students from the region and beyond. Last year's festival was very successful and I think the students enjoyed their time on campus. We certainly enjoyed hosting you and look forward to doing so again in 2024.

We have a wonderful slate of activities planned for the festival. There are seating auditions on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, which will be followed by masterclasses with SU's applied wind and percussion faculty. Also, that evening you will be treated to a faculty recital as well as a performance by the University Jazz Ensemble. In addition to Saturday rehearsals, we added sectional rehearsals to the schedule, which will be led by SU faculty!! Following rehearsals and sectionals, there is a pizza party planned for the evening where there will be vegetarian and gluten free options available. Sunday's gala concert features performances by the Honors Festival Band and the University Symphonic Band at 3:00 pm.

The registration fee for accepted students is **\$70.00**, which includes all of the activities for the weekend as well as housing from Feb 16-18 and meals from Saturday breakfast through Sunday brunch. You will be housed in University dormitories with University Symphonic Band members and other music students.

Your parents are most welcome to attend the gala concert on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Admission is free. You can find more information about the Honors Band Festival by going to our website:

<https://www.susqu.edu/academics/majors-and-minors/departments-of-music/festivals-and-workshops/>

This year there are no vaccine or masking requirements. However, I would refer you and your parents to the University's COVID-19 Protocols page for information on how to stay safe. Please see the link below:

<https://www.susqu.edu/coronavirus-update/covid-plan/>

You can submit your application to the Honors Band Festival online. Just fill out the online form found at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/cwPfXCjG8X>

Each Honors Band applicant must get the recommendation of their band director. Your band director will receive the link to that form in a separate document. Both the student application form and your recommendation form should be submitted by **Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**. Honors Band selections will be made on **Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**. You and your band director will be notified by **Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. Accepted students will receive a link to seating audition material by **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Sometime after the new year, accepted students will be asked to provide emergency contact information as well as information regarding dietary needs and any medication they may be taking.

Here's a snapshot of the Honors Band application process:

1. Apply via our online form by **Friday, December 1, 2023**.  
<https://forms.office.com/r/cwPfxCjG8X>
2. Band directors must upload recommendations and rankings by **Friday, December 1, 2023**.
3. Accepted students, your parents, and your band director will be notified by **Friday, December 9, 2023**.
4. Accepted students can access seating audition material as of **Friday, December 15, 2023**.
5. Fees and emergency contact forms will be due by **Friday, January 26, 2024**. A link to that form will follow.

We hope you can participate in the 2024 Susquehanna University Honors Band Festival. Please share the attached flier with your friends!!! If you have any questions, e-mail me at [bands@susqu.edu](mailto:bands@susqu.edu) or call (570) 372-4296. We look forward to seeing you all on campus!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Hinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "H".

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