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Dear Band Parent/Guardian:

I am writing to inform you that your child has expressed an interest in auditioning for the Rhode Island Music Educators (RIMEA) **Junior All-State Band and/or Orchestra**.

The RIMEA Junior All-State Festival is one of the best festivals that we have in Rhode Island. It serves to challenge the students and motivate them to succeed. While not every student who auditions is accepted, the student is given the opportunity to experience the music audition process and more importantly, spend some time with and receive some invaluable teaching tips from professional musicians.

The RIMEA Junior All-State Festival involves instrumental and vocal students in grades 7 through 9 from area schools all over Rhode Island. In order to audition, instrumental students are expected to prepare a piece of music selected from an approved list. They must also memorize eight scales, as well as, read a piece of music they have never seen before. This is called sight-reading.

There are several groups for which each student is eligible: All-State Concert Band; All-State Orchestra; All-State Jazz Band; and/or Honors Band. Placement in to one of these ensembles is dependent on the student's ranking.

If accepted, the students will then participate in one short read through rehearsal and a weekend festival that involves two days of substantial rehearsal time and ending with a formal concert for family and friends.

**The competition at this festival is very high, so while not required, it is highly recommended that students auditioning for Junior All-State should obtain the help of a private teacher.**

A detailed schedule is listed on the next page, as well as information regarding the date, fee and location of the festival.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Robin Murphy  
Director of Bands

# **RIMEA JUNIOR ALL-STATE FESTIVAL**

## **Audition Date:**

Saturday, November 21, 2009

Student times will be given just prior to the date of the event, probably sometime in late October. Students should plan on spending the better part of the day at the festival, however.

## **Audition Location:**

Moses Brown School - Providence, RI

## **Audition Fee:**

\$15 per audition

Please send your child with the money *no later than* **Monday, October 5th**. Please make all checks payable to **Riverside Middle School**. All fees must be placed in a sealed envelope with name, telephone number and dollar amount on the outside.

## **Transportation**

No bus is provided. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the audition.

## **Festival Location**

Honors Band ~ North Kingstown HS - North Kingstown, RI  
All-State Band and All-State Orchestra ~ Martin Middle School - East Providence, RI  
Junior Jazz Band ~ West Warwick HS - West Warwick, RI;

## **Festival Schedule:**

*This schedule is only for those students accepted into the group. If you have a conflict with any of these dates, it is strongly urged that you change your schedule now or the student not audition. RIMEA has a strict attendance policy. If a student misses any part of any these rehearsals for whatever reason, the student is immediately dismissed from the group - no questions asked.*

### **Honors Band**

Wednesday, January 7th - rehearsal ~ 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, January 23rd - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday, January 24th - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, January 25th - concert ~ 2:00 p.m.

### **Junior All-State Band and Orchestra**

Wednesday, January 14th - rehearsal ~ 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, February 6th - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 7th - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 8th - concert ~ 3:30 p.m.

### **Junior All-State Jazz Band**

Wednesday, January 28th - rehearsal ~ 5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Monday, March 23rd - rehearsal ~ 5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 24th - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 25th - rehearsal ~ 1:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, March 26th - sound check ~ 3:30; concert ~ 7:00 p.m.