

NSBA

BETTER BANDS FOR NEBRASKA

Dec. 1, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

My name is Joshua Kearney, and I am honored to serve the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association as Concert Band Chair. I am excited to share materials regarding the 2021 NSBA Virtual State Concert Band Festival with each of you. The event will take place on March 31, 2021.

This annual festival provides a non-competitive environment that serves all levels of ensembles in the state of Nebraska—middle school, high school, and college/university groups. NSBA recognizes the unique situations currently facing bands across the state due to COVID-19; the 2021 State Concert Band Festival will be an experience that encourages and celebrates the music-making happening in each of our state's programs. Typically, the festival includes a performance component followed by a clinic; however ensembles are not limited to that format for the 2021 SCBF. Performance components for the 2021 SCBF may include, but are not limited to (inclusion in this list does not necessarily constitute endorsement by NSBA):

- An audio/video performance recording of your school ensemble from this school year or previous years (e.g. large ensemble, large chamber ensemble, flex music, body percussion, bucket drumming, etc.).
- A live ensemble performance over Zoom/other video software for the clinicians.
- A virtual ensemble video (e.g.: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N0NJOqBvrLI>)
- Midi/Mp3 realizations of pieces composed by your band classes.
- A John Cage 4'33" video/audio track or other musical collage (e.g.: <https://alumni.asu.edu/20200414-asu-wind-bands-go-silent>)
- "Embrace the lag" performances (live or prerecorded)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mux-emdqn9A&feature=youtu.be>
 - <http://www.erikasvanoe.com/variations-on-ode-to-joy.html>
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p0sDfTdtWTj7wYVlnz8BHZhGOeHw2Sbn/view>
- Other distance performances/repertoire:
 - <https://artsci.washington.edu/news/2020-05/making-music-distance>
 - https://www.alexshapiro.org/Shapiro-E-ensemble_Syllabus.html
 - <https://www.brianbalmages.com/matrixmusic>
 - <http://www.benjamintaylor.com/legos-emit-gnarly-overtone-grade-2-with-audio-track.html>
 - <https://www.musiccreatorsacademy.com/>

The clinic will be a discussion regarding the performance experiences notated above. However, participating schools are **not required** to submit a performance for the event. In these instances, the clinic will be elongated to facilitate musical discussions on topics that may include including arranging/composition, ensemble musicianship, leadership, equity in music, concert programming discussions, general Q&A, and other topics of interest.

Festival Details

- **Date:** March 31, 2021
- **Location:** Virtual
- **How to Register:** Visit www.NSBMA.org and click on the link that says "Concert" at the top of the page. Online registration will become active on Dec. 10, 2020 at 8:00am (Central Time).
- **Entry Fee for Participating Groups:** Discounted rate of \$100 (mailed separately – online payment not accepted at this time)

2021 Virtual State Concert Band Festival Clinicians

Dr. Scott Boerma is the Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Western Michigan University. Prior to this appointment, he was the Associate Director of Bands and Director of the Michigan Marching Band at the University of Michigan. Before those positions, Boerma was the Director of Bands at Eastern Michigan University, and he began his career teaching music in the Michigan public schools at Novi and Lamphere High Schools. Boerma earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in wind conducting at Michigan State University, his Master of Music degree in music education from the University of Michigan, and his Bachelor of Music degree in music education from Western Michigan University.

Boerma is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. He is active as a band/orchestra conductor, adjudicator, and clinician, also serving as a guest conductor for several honor bands and community bands throughout the nation each year. He often conducts the Detroit Chamber Winds Brass holiday concerts.

An active composer, Boerma's concert band works have been performed by many outstanding ensembles, including "The President's Own" Marine Band, the Dallas Wind Symphony, and the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra, to name just a few. His music has been heard in such venues as Carnegie Hall and at the Chicago Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic. Boerma's works have been featured in the popular GIA series, "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band."

Also a prolific arranger, Boerma receives yearly commissions to write music for many university and high school marching bands and drum and bugle corps. From 1989-2006 and from 2014-2018, he was the music arranger for the acclaimed Madison Scouts Drum & Bugle Corps. In addition to many of the ensembles across the nation, most of the Big Ten university marching bands have performed Boerma's arrangements. He has also written arrangements for the Boston Pops and the Detroit Chamber Winds Brass.

Dr. J. Ashley Jarrell currently serves as Director of Instrumental Music at the University of North Georgia - Gainesville Campus, where his responsibilities include conducting instrumental ensembles and overseeing all facets of the instrumental music program. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Jarrell served as Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where his teaching and conducting responsibilities included the Hindsley Symphonic Band, Introduction to Conducting, Advanced Conducting and Graduate Wind Literature and History. Previously, he served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant and the inaugural candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Wind Conducting at the University, where he was a recipient of the Began Conducting Assistantship. While a graduate student at the University, Dr. Jarrell served on the School of Music Graduate Committee and he received the Edmund C. Williams award for excellence in bands.

He received the Master of Arts degree in Wind Conducting from Middle Tennessee State University and the Bachelor of Music degree from East Tennessee State University. Before coming to the University of Illinois, Dr. Jarrell served as Director of Bands at Martin Luther King Jr. Academic Magnet School in Nashville, Tennessee. Consistently named by *U.S. News and World Report* and *Newsweek* magazines as one of the fifty best high schools in the nation, Martin Luther King Jr. Academic Magnet School Bands received numerous superior ratings, accolades, and three performances for the Tennessee Music Education Association Conference in the span of six years during Dr. Jarrell's tenure.

Previously, Dr. Jarrell also served as Associate Director of Bands at Middle Tennessee State University and Associate Director of Bands at Harpeth High School. Dr. Jarrell is active as a clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States. He is also an active member of many professional organizations including National Association for Music Education, National Band Association, College Band Directors National Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and elected membership with American School Band Directors Association, Phi Beta Mu, and Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society.

Dr. Amy Knopps is the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at the University of Missouri where she directs Marching Mizzou, Mini Mizzou, Symphonic Band, and teaches courses in the music education curriculum of the School of Music. Prior to her appointment in the fall of 2017, Dr. Knopps served for seven years as Associate Professor of

Music, Associate Director of Bands, and Director of Athletic Bands in the School of Music and Dance at Eastern Michigan University. While at Eastern Michigan she was a 2017 Faculty Spotlight Recipient as well as the Eastern Michigan University Thank-A-Teacher Inaugural Recipient.

Dr. Knopps holds degrees from The University of Georgia (DMA), the University of Kansas (MM), and the University of Missouri (BS, Ed.) where her principal conducting teachers were Dr. John P. Lynch and Dr. Dale J. Lonis. While at Georgia and Kansas she held conducting associate positions that involved conducting both concert and athletic bands as well as teaching courses in the music curriculum. During her time at The University of Georgia, Dr. Knopps received the Hugh Hodgson School of Music Director's Excellence Award and at the University of Kansas she received the Russell L. Wiley Graduate Conducting Award.

Additional teaching experience includes numerous years as Director of Bands at Center High School and Center Middle School in her hometown of Kansas City, Missouri where she guided all aspects of the diverse and award-winning band program. While in the Center School District, Dr. Knopps received the 2003 Missouri Fine Arts Outstanding Teacher Award and the 2004 You Make the Difference Award for her dedication and commitment to excellence in education. As an advocate for new wind music she solely commissioned and premiered Jonathan Newman's *1861* for concert band in 2004 and continues her commitment to contributing to the wind band repertoire through additional commissions.

Dr. Knopps continues to be an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator across the United States and internationally having worked and performed throughout Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe, and South America. Each summer she serves as a clinician/instructor at the Smith-Walbridge Clinics held in Charleston, Illinois working with high school and college drum majors from across the country. Dr. Knopps is also known for her published contributions as she has authored several articles for *School Band and Orchestra Magazine* and has contributed to seven volumes of the *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* series. In addition to her published articles she has completed extensive research on American-Sponsored overseas secondary band programs in the People's Republic of China.

Dr. Knopps maintains professional affiliations with the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), currently serving on the CBDNA Athletic Bands Committee, World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE), the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), National Band Association (NBA), currently serving as the Missouri State Chair, Phi Beta Mu, Tau Beta Sigma, Kappa Kappa Psi, currently serving as the sponsor for the Eta Upsilon chapter, the Griffiths Leadership Society for Women, currently serving on the Executive Committee, and QEBH, the oldest of six secret honor societies at the University of Missouri. She currently resides in Columbia, Missouri with her two cats Buddy and Rocky.

Dr. Mary Land is Associate Professor Music Education at Western Michigan University. Prior to this appointment, she was Director of Bands and Instrumental Music Education at Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. Before those positions, Land was a public-school band director in Georgia. She received her Educational Doctorate from the University of Georgia. Land received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Georgia and her Master of Music Education degree from Vandercook College of Music in Chicago, Illinois. She has served the Georgia Music Educators Association in various state and local offices. Land is currently the immediate past president of the Georgia Music Educators Association and the former CNAfME state chair. Land serves on the Board of Directors for the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and is a member of the Zeta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity. She continues to make numerous appearances as adjudicator, conductor, and clinician throughout the United States and has recently joined the Conn Selmer Division of educational clinicians. Her professional affiliations include: MSBOA, NAfME, IAJE, CBDNA, and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Professional Teacher Association. Land is a member of the National Band Association and has served as a national representative on the NBA executive board of directors. Land is also on the faculty of the prestigious Interlochen Arts Camp as the conductor of the Intermediate Division Wind Symphony and conductor of the Interlochen Faculty Brass Ensemble.

Many professional awards and recognitions have been awarded to Land during her career. She has recently been presented with The Distinguished Alumni Award from the Vandercook College of Music. Land has been featured in many issues of the

Instrumentalist magazine discussing her teaching techniques and her band program in the public schools and her band program at Young Harris College. She has been presented the National Band Association Citation of Excellence on twelve separate occasions and has been presented the Women Band Directors International Scroll of Excellence five times. Land was awarded the GMEA Music Educator of the Year Award for 2012 and was presented with the John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor Award at the 2012 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic for her contributions to music education. Land was selected by the national publication *School Band and Orchestra* in their December 2013 issue as one of "50 Directors Who make a Difference". Land's band program was the recipient of the Georgia Senate Resolution 212 commending the success of the Pickens County School Band Program. Land and the Pickens County Middle School Band were the recipient of the Magna Cum Laude Award, a prestigious International Award for Middle School Bands.

Land is published in the journals for the National Band Association, *The Instrumentalist*, *Teaching Music* (NAfME), *School Band and Orchestra Journal*, and the GIA series *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*. Commissioning projects include works by Sam Hazo, Bill Locklear, Barry Kopetz, and Christopher Tucker. Bands under Land's direction have received invitations to perform at many music conferences and clinics.