

Dear Percussionists and Parents,

The pulse of any band is the Percussion Section, and the pulse of the Bands of America Honor Band in the Tournament of Roses will be heard all along Orange Grove and Colorado Boulevards! The percussion section for the Honor Band is scheduled to meet in Indianapolis November 12-14, 2021 to begin initial preparations for when the entire band gathers for the first time in December.

This weekend is two-fold. The rehearsal time will allow for the percussion section to be a step ahead, musically and visually, which will help for a cleaner performance in California later this year. It also allows us to showcase your talents at your first public performance on Saturday, November 13 in Lucas Oil Stadium. You will perform the parade cadence and bring on the finalist bands during the awards ceremony at the 2021 Bands of America Grand National Championships. We must be ready to deliver an 'honor band' level performance!

We know that this rehearsal for the percussion section places additional time and financial restraints on each member, however, with the limited rehearsal time in California it is vital to the success of the Honor Band.

Please carefully read the contents of this packet, prior to filling out the registration form (included in the information packet) as it will provide many specifics for the weekend in Indianapolis that coincides with the Bands of America Grand National Championships, November 11-14, 2021.

If you have any questions prior to your departure for Indianapolis, please contact us at [tournament@musicforall.org](mailto:tournament@musicforall.org). We look forward to seeing you on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully,

Jessica Hjellming  
Participant Relations Coordinator  
Music for All, Inc.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **LOCATION**

Percussion Weekend rehearsal will take place in **Indianapolis, IN**. Students will be housed in a hotel downtown near Lucas Oil Stadium, where the Saturday night performance will take place. All rehearsals will take place in the Indiana Convention Center, also located in Downtown Indianapolis.

Students will NOT need transportation while in Indianapolis – they will transit to all rehearsals, meals, and the performance by walking as a group with Music for All Staff, teaching faculty, and chaperone team.

### **TIME COMMITMENT**

*Indianapolis, IN is on Eastern time.*

Students are required to be in Indianapolis **from 5:00 PM on Friday, November 12 through 2:00 PM on Sunday November 14, 2021.**

It is suggested that you arrive no later than 3:00 PM. Upon arrival, students will need to check-in with Music for All Staff, check into their hotel, and get their uniform fittings done by members of the FJM staff prior to the welcome meeting and rehearsal beginning at 7:00PM.

### **TRAVEL**

Students should plan on flying into **Indianapolis International Airport (IND)**.

**If you are flying, please purchase flights that arrive in Indianapolis BEFORE 3 p.m. on Friday, November 12 and depart Indianapolis AFTER 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 14.** This will allow for travel time to and from the airport, as well as through the TSA Security Checkpoints.

Shuttle service will be available for students and families for an additional fee. More information and shuttle reservations are available on the registration form. Students and families are able to request shuttle and ride-share services, like Uber and Lyft, from the airport and arrange for transportation to drop off at the hotel, with parent consent.

If you are driving to Indianapolis, overnight-self parking, is available at the individual's expense.

### **HOUSING**

A Music for All staff member will be at the hotel to assist with hotel check in and to answer any questions. There are 2 options for hotel housing for this rehearsal weekend: Student Only Rooms and Student/Family Rooms.

Students housed in Student Only rooms will be in Quads (4 students, 2 Beds), and are \$90 for the full weekend. You will have the ability to request roommates.

Student/Family Rooms are set up as \$180/night. You can have up to 4 family members per room.

Breakfast is included in both hotel package options. A credit card will be required for incidentals on this room type.

### **MEALS**

Each percussion section member will automatically be enrolled in our "dining plan" which will consist of all meals starting with breakfast on Saturday morning, through lunch on Sunday.

If parents and family members in attendance would like to purchase their lunches and dinners to coincide with the student meals, that can be done while registering and reserving your hotel room type.

**PERFORMANCE: Grand Nationals Finals Tickets**

Each student will receive a finals ticket to get into the stadium to watch a portion of the show, and also a wristband to access field level to perform. Parents and family members that purchased a hotel package will also receive a ticket, and will be sitting with the students during finals. Tickets will be electronic only, and distributed closer to the event date.

**CROSSOVER STUDENTS: Students enrolled in a high school band program that is participating in Grand National Championships**

We value your commitment to your school band program and our honor ensemble. Crossover students are allowed to stay with their participating school, but must be in attendance for all scheduled honor ensemble activities. We will build an individualized schedule that allows for you to attend your high school band's warm-up, and Semi-Finals/Finals performance, and then spend the rest of your weekend involved in the Honor Ensemble rehearsal and activities.

**Note:** Students that stay with their school are still required to participate in rehearsal on Sunday morning. We will be communicating with your high school band director and you to figure out your band's travel plans to ensure that you are housed correctly in order to be present at all rehearsals.

More information on this individual schedule will be available on Friday November 12<sup>th</sup>, after the conclusion of the Preliminary competition, when the Semi-Finals schedule is set. This individual schedule will be communicated to both the student, and the high school band director.

**PERCUSSION WEEKEND REGISTRATION FORM – DUE SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**

Each percussion section member will need to complete the Percussion Weekend Registration Form to reserve their hotel room, meals, and optional shuttle transportation.

<https://www.tfaforms.com/4915736>

## **WORKING SCHEDULE**

### **Friday, November 12**

1:00 PM Check-In Opens

*Music for All staff members, and our head chaperone Patrick will be staffed at the hotel to check you in, and provide your credentials for the weekend. Rooms may not be ready until official hotel check-in time at 3:00PM. If you arrive early and would like to check-in, luggage storage is available.*

*Dinner is on your own. Music for All will be able to provide local recommendations, and suggestions. Students will be required to check-out with a chaperone prior to leaving the hotel in groups of 3 or more.*

1:00 PM Uniform Fitting Begin, *Indiana Convention Center*

*Before 6pm, students should have their uniform fitted with FJM Staff.*

6:00 PM All students must be checked-in with Music for All and have their uniform fittings complete.

7:00 – 10:00 PM Welcome Meeting and Rehearsal, *Indiana Convention Center*

### **Saturday, November 13**

7:00AM Breakfast at hotel for all members and families

8:00AM Rehearsal Day with Meal Breaks, *Indianapolis Convention Center*

9:30PM Change into uniforms

10:30PM Warm-up

11:00PM Performance at the 2021 Bands of America Grand National Finals

### **Sunday, November 13**

7:30AM Breakfast at hotel for all members and families

8:15 AM Check-out of hotel

*Students traveling home with parents should store their luggage with them. Students flying home individually should bring all belongings to rehearsal with them. Airport shuttles will depart directly from the convention center at the conclusion of rehearsal.*

8:30 AM Depart Hotel as group – walking to rehearsal

9:00AM Rehearsal, *Indianapolis Convention Center*

1:00PM Lunch– Load equipment before lunch

2:00PM Percussion Rehearsal Weekend Concludes

*After lunch, students with flights will ride MFA shuttle to the Indianapolis Airport. Students traveling with parents can depart at this time.*