



2026 Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade Membership Packet

As of 2.14.2025

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Congratulations on your acceptance to the **2026 Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade!**

IT'S YOUR TURN.

From this moment on, you represent not only yourself, but your entire community as you embark on a journey that will lead you down the famous Colorado Boulevard.

With Honor Band members assembling from across America, this is your turn to be part of something truly unforgettable. In the future, when every new year begins again, you will ALWAYS remember what you accomplished on January 1, 2026.

**Although we will not be in person until December, the
2026 Honor Band in the Rose Parade starts NOW.**

It's your turn to take responsibility for your preparation, both musically and logistically. We'll be preparing separately. When we come together in California, you will be at your very best and ready to rise to the challenge of performing in this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Please pay close attention to your email, as all our communication will be electronic. Deadlines are important and set up in a way so that payments and form submission are not overwhelming. This experience is designed so there is a payment and logistical preparation each month.

We're here to support you every step of the way, and we look forward to seeing *you* shine in Pasadena! It's your turn. Let's make it count!

Sincerely,

Richard Saucedo

Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade Director

Melissa Gustafson-Hinds

Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade Assistant Director

Jessica Hjellming

Participant Relations Manager, Music for All



To offer a trip of this magnitude for members, friends and family, there are many companies involved to offer Honor Band members the best possible experience. Please use the chart below to determine where information is coming from and where to direct your questions.

Music for All / Bands of America	Music Travel Consultants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Distribution • MusicFirst – Marching and Playing Assignments • Forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Uniform Measurement -Transportation and Shuttle Request -Roommate Request <p>QUESTIONS? Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST by phone or email.</p> <p>Contact information: Jessica Hjellming (317) 636-2263 -- tournament@musicforall.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Payments • Housing Package Upgrades • Medical Information and Allergies/Dietary Restrictions • Student Code of Conduct • VIP Packages for Family and Friends <p>QUESTIONS? Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. EST by email.</p> <p>Payments/Account Questions: support@tripaccount.com</p> <p>Other Questions/Concerns: Chris Forsythe - chris.forsythe@musictravel.com</p>

PRE-EVENT COMMUNICATION VIA EMAIL

Our primary method of communication for this ensemble is through email. All outgoing communication will be sent to the student email address and the parent address that we have on file, which came from the applicant's original application. If you need to change either of the email addresses we have, please email Music for All to make that change.

There will be an email sent between the 5th and 10th of every month. In these emails will be updates, links to forms, reminders, etc. The due dates for all payments and forms will be the 1st of the following month.
i.e. Uniform Measurement form is sent out April 5, and submissions are due on May 1.

If you are not receiving our emails, please add tournament@musicforall.org to your address book to ensure that our communications are coming through to your inbox. Be sure to check your spam and junk folders before assuming you did not get an email.

Music Travel Consultants will be sending their own payment reminder emails in the days leading up to the monthly payments. Please be sure to add support@tripaccount.com to your address book to ensure you are receiving those reminders.



BAND BAND APP

For additional communication between Honor Band members and Music for All Staff, Music for All will be using the BAND App. This is a FREE app available for all smart phones, where we will be posting important reminders and information about your experience for the next year. On-site, daily information, reminders, updates, schedule changes, or weather plans/updates will be posted. Every member is encouraged to join so that they are able to receive these reminders from Music for All staff, and ultimately their chaperones while in Pasadena.

To join the specific group for the 2026 Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade, click the link: <https://band.us/n/a4a1A3o356rfb>

This BAND group is a PRIVATE group and not open to the public. This group is intended to be a direct communication channel with participating members, chaperones, and the MFA staff. Members will also have the ability to securely communicate with staff should they have any on-site concerns or questions.

We ask that when you set up your profile, you upload a clear photo of yourself and set your display name to be **YOUR first and last name**. If you choose to NOT upload an image of yourself, that is okay. Please leave the image blank, do NOT upload images of fictional characters, emojis, or anything else.

NOTE: Nicknames and screen names are NOT to be used here, and profiles with names that do not match the member's name per our records will not be approved.

When setting up your account, you will be asked 2 questions:

ENTER YOUR NAME FOR THIS BAND: Enter YOUR first and last name

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE IN THIS GROUP? Enter your Section (*Alto Sax, Cymbals, Dance, etc.*)

If you are a parent requesting to join, list your role as PARENT. If you do not identify as a parent, member requests with names that do NOT match our STUDENT roster will not be approved.

Example of an Approved Profile:



Jess Hjellming
Music for All Staff

Use your phone's QR Code Reader or Camera to scan this QR Code and be taken to the BAND App:



SCHEDULE OF DEADLINES

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This Schedule of Deadlines is available to help you prepare for your experience, musically, and logistically. This information, detailed by month, includes deadlines for all required forms, assignments, and payments.

MARCH	March 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Registration in the MTC Student Registration Deadline <input type="checkbox"/> \$340 Payment Due
	March 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Chaperone Applications Due
	March 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Trip Kick-Off meeting with MTC - 8:30pm EST (<i>virtual – optional</i>)
APRIL	April 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due
	April 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment #1 Due in MusicFirst: Marching and Movement
MAY	May 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Measurement Form Due <input type="checkbox"/> Drum Major Application Due (<i>optional</i>)
	May 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment #2 due in MusicFirst: Music/Choreography
JUNE	June 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due
	June 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment #3 due in MusicFirst: Music/Choreography
JULY	July 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due
	July 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment #4 due in MusicFirst: Music/Choreography
AUG	August 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due <input type="checkbox"/> Band Cares Submission Due (<i>optional – submission required by this date to be included in the video project</i>)
SEP	September 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due <input type="checkbox"/> Roommate Request Form Due (<i>optional</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Package Upgrade Deadline – Through MTC (<i>optional</i>)
OCT	October 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Arrangement and Shuttle Reservation Form Due
NOV	November 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365 Payment Due
DEC	December 1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$340 Payment Due <input type="checkbox"/> Homework Assignment #5 due in MusicFirst: Dress Rehearsal
	December 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Chaperone Meeting – 8:30pm EST
	December 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Departure Meeting with MTC (<i>virtual</i>)



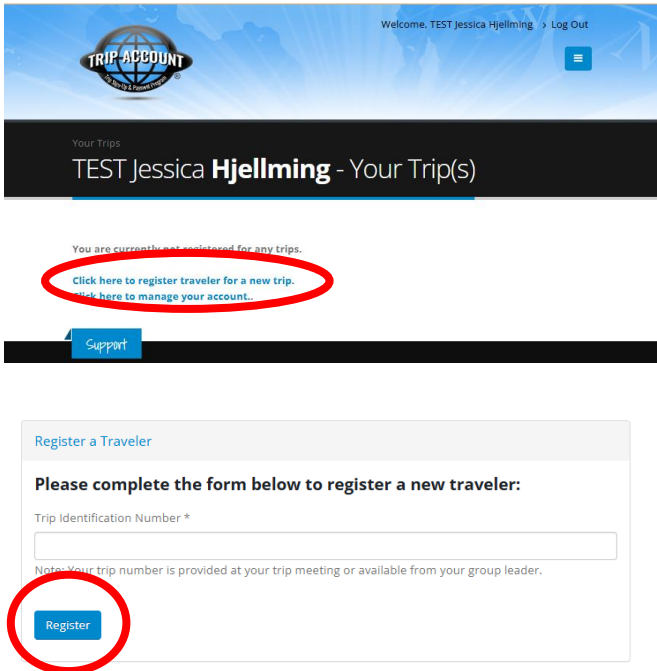
TRIP REGISTRATION – Music Travel Consultants

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An **adult who will be making payments, over the age of 18**, will need to create an account with Music Travel Consultants, and then register the member for the Honor Band in the Rose Parade trip by entering our unique **Trip Identification Number**. All monthly payments will be made in this system.

For more help on registering, please visit our guide here: <https://www.musictravel.com/my-music-travel-userguide.html>

<p>STEP 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start by going to www.musictravel.com • Click on TRIP LOGIN in the UPPER RIGHT. 
<p>STEP 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click on Register as a New User (or use existing account if you've traveled with Music Travel Consultants before). <u>This will be the adult.</u> 
<p>STEP 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in all information and click Create Account. • Enter your email address and create a password. 

STEP 4	<p>Go to Register A Traveler and fill in the requested information for your student.</p> <p>Your trip number: 2512-HBOA</p>  <p>The screenshot shows the 'TRIP ACCOUNT' header with a welcome message for 'TEST Jessica Hjellming'. Below the header, it says 'Your Trips' and 'TEST Jessica Hjellming - Your Trip(s)'. A message states 'You are currently not registered for any trips.' with two links: 'Click here to register traveler for a new trip.' and 'Click here to manage your account...'. A 'Support' button is visible. Below this is a 'Register a Traveler' section with the instruction 'Please complete the form below to register a new traveler:'. It includes a 'Trip Identification Number *' input field and a note: 'Note: Your trip number is provided at your trip meeting or available from your group leader.' The 'Register' button at the bottom of the form is circled in red.</p>
STEP 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select Make a Payment to pay your next payment installment.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

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All monies previously paid will be reflected in your account within 5 business days. For questions regarding registering your member or previous payments please contact Music Travel Consultants at support@tripaccount.com

All payments should be directed to Music Travel Consultants. Credit card and e-check payments can be made online in your traveler's dashboard.

Checks should be made out to **Music Travel Consultants** with the student's name and trip number clearly written in the memo line.

Mail checks to:

Music Travel Consultants

Attn: (STUDENT NAME) TRIP 2512-HBOA
5348 W. Vermont Street
Suite 200
Indianapolis, IN 46224

Total Member Package Cost: \$3,600*

Payment Due Dates:

\$340 due by March 1, 2025.
\$365 due by April 1, 2025.
\$365 due by May 1, 2025.
\$365 due by June 1, 2025.
\$365 due by July 1, 2025.
\$365 due by August 1, 2025.
\$365 due by Sept. 1, 2025.
\$365 due by Oct. 1, 2025.
\$365 due by Nov. 1, 2025.
\$340 due by December 1, 2025.

*The \$3,600 package cost does not include airfare. Traveling to and from Los Angeles is the responsibility of the band member.

Pricing based on quad occupancy (4 students per room; 2 beds). Upgrades to double rooms are permitted. All rooms have two double beds. **No single rooms will be permitted.**

All payments are non-refundable.

You are welcome to make additional payments or pay more per month, but we do not want anyone to fall behind this payment schedule.

TRIP INSURANCE

Music Travel Consultants is proud to partner with Travel Insured International to offer travelers the option to purchase Travel Protection, including an optional Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR) upgrade.

After registering for the Bands of America Honor Band trip to the 2026 Tournament of Roses Parade, you will find the link to purchase coverage on the homepage of your Music Travel Trip Account. The CFAR upgrade is only available if purchased within 14 days of your deposit. Please note that CFAR benefits are not available to residents of New York State.

For questions regarding claims, coverage, benefits, or procedures, please contact Travel Insured International directly at 844-440-8113.



HOUSING INFORMATION:

Honor Band members and chaperones will be housed at the **Hyatt Regency Orange County**. More information can be found on page 10 in the Hotel Information section.

TRIP TIMELINE:

Members are required to arrive at the hotel no later than **1 p.m. December 27, 2025**. Events and activities begin at 3 p.m. December 27 and continue until 10 p.m. January 2, 2026. Students may depart at any time on **January 3, 2026**.

AIRPORT INFORMATION		DRIVING INFORMATION
John Wayne Airport (SNA) Long Beach Airport (LGB) Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)	Other regional airports	<p>Students driving themselves are required to check-in their car keys with the Lead Chaperone upon arrival - no student is allowed to drive once they arrive.</p> <p>Students will pick up their keys following check-out with staff on January 3rd.</p> <p>PARKING: Music for All will not cover the cost of parking at the hotel or surrounding areas. Parking your car is the responsibility of the participant.</p>
Music for All will meet participants upon arrival to SNA LGB, and LAX. Shuttle service to/from the hotel will be provided by Music for All at no additional cost. Advanced reservations are required, but physical tickets are not needed. A shuttle reservation form will be sent to participants later this fall.	If you choose to fly into another airport, you must provide your own transportation between the airport and hotel.	
<p>Special reminder: A picture ID is required (driver's license, passport, or state or school ID) to board a commercial aircraft, and most airports recommend that you arrive two hours early. Students should be aware that most airlines only allow one carry-on and one personal item. If you are flying with your instrument, make sure you check with airport guidelines. You may find this link helpful: http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information</p> <p>When traveling, if your flight is CANCELED, please call Music for All's Event Hotline as soon as possible – 877.643.6043.</p>		

TIME ZONE

All activities for the Honor Band in the Rose Parade will operate in the Pacific Time Zone.

GETTING AROUND

Once you check-in, bus transportation will be provided for all Honor Band students to get to all rehearsals and activities. Students are not allowed to independently leave the hotel after they check-into the experience.

WEATHER IN CALIFORNIA

Weather in southern California varies during the winter. Temperatures range from 40-70 degrees and rain is often in the weather forecast. Please bring appropriate attire in case of inclement weather - there will be outside rehearsals and activities. We suggest you check www.weather.com before leaving home.



HOTEL INFORMATION

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Honor Band Hotel and Headquarters:
Hyatt Regency Orange County, 11999 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Music for All will handle all hotel reservations for participants as part of your package price, including making adjustments for early arrivals. Please direct all hotel questions to Music for All - **DO NOT contact the hotel directly.**

ROOMMATE INFORMATION:

Students are housed with other students in a quad package (4 students per room). All rooms have two double beds. Upgrades to double rooms are permitted, for an additional fee per member. **No single rooms will be permitted.**

Students can request roommates if you have bandmates from their own program, students from surrounding schools, or siblings. If you do not list roommate requests, you will be matched with other students. **To have roommate requests granted, all parties must request each another.** To request roommates, visit the member section of the MFA website to submit the form.

CHECK-IN – Saturday, December 27, 2025 – 1:00pm

When you enter the hotel, **BYPASS THE FRONT DESK.** Proceed to the Honor Band Check-in Area, which will be shared in the final packet. Music for All staff will check you in and issue your room key. Room keys are magnetic cards, and each student will receive their own card. Do not lose your room key. Remember to place it in a safe area, away from your cell phone, and for security purposes, **DO NOT** write your room number on your key.

Important: All participants will receive a check-in packet containing their name badge that is to be worn at all times, except when performing. This badge is your pass to all events, including meals.

Arrangements have been made with the hotel to block out long-distance phone service (unless using a credit card or calling card), TV movies, and other services not included in the Honor Band Package price. Extra services will not be available to Honor Band students.

CHECK-OUT – Saturday, January 3, 2026 – 11:00am

All students are housed in packages that include a Friday night hotel stay. Check-out time for the Honor Band students is before 11:00am. Every student must check-out with the Music for All staff in the **main lobby** before their departure. Students driving home may pick up their car keys following their check-out.

If you purchased a shuttle back to the airport, you will be provided with shuttle instructions at room checks on the last night. Students will meet in the hotel lobby before your scheduled shuttle departure. Transportation from the hotel is typically scheduled at least three hours before your flight's departure time. Your shuttle time may be earlier to accommodate shuttle groups. **The last shuttle will depart for the airport at 11:30am, regardless of any afternoon flight departure time.**

EARLY DEPARTURES: If you choose to depart the group (your assigned room and chaperone care) after the theme park day on Friday, January 2, rather than Saturday morning, **YOU MUST** inform Music for All and check-out with your chaperone before your departure. **All early departures will be from the main lobby of the Hyatt Regency Orange County - THERE WILL BE NO EARLY DEPARTURES FROM THE THEME PARK.** There are no refunds associated with early departure.



PHYSICAL PREPAREDNESS

The Rose Parade is physically demanding. Even though the parade is advertised as 5.5 miles long, from the starting line to the finish point is closer to 7 miles. That's 12,320 yards, or 19,712 – 8 to 5 steps.

If band members must drop out of the parade, for whatever reason, they will not be allowed to rejoin the band, per the Tournament of Roses policy. Therefore, we encourage you to begin a routine of regular walking and/or jogging to start building your stamina for this length.

MUSICAL READINESS

Our first performance is on December 29th – that's less than 2 days of rehearsal before we perform. Once music is released, learning your individual part is imperative as it will help the rehearsals run smoothly. If you have questions, please ask!

There will be homework assignments each student will be asked to complete virtually through MusicFirst. More information on log-ins, assignment details, and part assignments will all be shared in the coming months. Being a member of this ensemble is something you should be proud of, no matter the part you play. All members, including you, are exceptional, and every member of the ensemble will play a vital role in every performance through the experience.

PERCUSSION REHEARSAL WEEKEND:

Percussion members are required to participate in-person at a rehearsal weekend in Indianapolis, IN on November 13-15, 2025. Members must arrive in Indianapolis on Friday November 14 for a 7 p.m. start time and will rehearse Friday night, Saturday and Sunday morning in Indianapolis, during the Bands of America Grand National Championships. Departure will be after 2 p.m. Sunday, November 16, 2025.

Transportation costs to this additional rehearsal are the responsibility of the band member. Hotel accommodations and meals through Music for All will be available at the expense of the band member, if desired.

NOTE: If you are a member of a marching band participating in the 2025 Bands of America Grand National Championships, we will work with your school's performance schedule to have you at rehearsal as much as possible.

Music for All will have a staff and chaperone team for this event, so if your student is traveling alone, they will be cared for.

For more information about this rehearsal weekend, please see the member section of the website.



MEMBER LIST ON WEBSITE

All members will be listed on the Honor Band in the Rose Parade page of the Music for All website on March 1, 2025.

To see your name listed on the website, please go to <https://marching.musicforall.org/rose/membership-details/>

NOTE: Any updates or changes will be made to the website every 2 weeks.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Share the experience with all of your family and friends! Make sure you let them know that Music for All will be highlighting the trip and sharing photos and videos through social media to promote this incredible experience. To keep up with all of the action, make sure you are following us on these networks!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bandssofarica/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/officialmusicforall/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/musicforallorg>

Use **#BOATOR26** in your own posts so we can see all of your updates regarding this journey!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Music for All is proud of your accomplishments, and we would like to help highlight those accomplishments by featuring members of this ensemble throughout the year online! This is an exciting way to share more about yourself and by reading through the posts, you can learn about other members in this ensemble.

If you are interested in being featured on our blog, please fill out the form posted on the member section of the website.

NEWS RELEASE

A news release template announcing your selection to the Honor Band is posted on the member portion of the website. We encourage you to customize the release and distribute to your local media. We suggest that you make copies and send them to every newspaper, television and radio station in your area. Local newspapers, local tv stations, local radio stations, your school, your school district, if you are involved in a church, or a club - all of them might be interested in publishing and sharing this news!

Please download the word document and fill in the yellow highlighted sections with information that is personal to you prior to sending it to organizations in your community.

