

## GMEA ALL STATE BAND & ORCHESTRA PARTICIPANTS

### General Reminders:

The schedule of rehearsals and performances is online. Go to [www.gmea.org](http://www.gmea.org), click on the Band Division link, click on the All State link, and click the All State Rehearsal/Performance Schedule link.

Please report to your rehearsal site by 6:45pm so that you can sign in, prepare all instruments/equipment, etc. You might also want to do some warm-up exercises before rehearsal begins. Arriving moments before the start time creates confusion and might delay the start of the first rehearsal as you wait to sign in, set up, etc.

Make sure that you bring your school's concert attire/uniform with you to the event. This will be your attire for the performances.

Bring a folding music stand. There are no stands provided in the rehearsal sites and the area music stores typically run out prior to the first rehearsal. SoundAround will be selling music stands in the lobby of the Civic Center.

Flute players who wish to audition for piccolo parts should bring their piccolo and report at 6:30pm. You will be notified by your group's organizer where to meet and you will be given excerpts from the piccolo music. You will have a brief study period, followed by a live audition. Piccolo players for each group will then be assigned based on audition score.

Remember that attendance is mandatory. Missed rehearsals or tardies may result in dismissal from the group. Arrange rides to and from meals in advance and remember that many area restaurants will be crowded. If you get there and there is an obvious long wait, go elsewhere. You **MUST** return to rehearsal on time.

Appropriate attire and behavior is expected in rehearsals. No hats, no shorts, wear shoes (not flip-flops). No food or drink (except water) in your rehearsal areas.

Have a pencil on your stand. Be respectful and attentive. Your conductors have a great deal of information to share in a relatively short time. Help them to help you by being alert and efficient during rehearsals.

Meet other students. An important aspect of the all state experience is the mixing of students from different schools into an ensemble. If you only talk to or hang out with students you already know, your experience is limited. You all have many things in common...be willing to share your experiences.

Above all, **ENJOY YOURSELF!** You have earned a spot in an outstanding performance organization. Make the most of this opportunity.

See you in Savannah!!!