

Colorado Bandmasters Association
2026-2027 Middle School Concert Band Festivals Information
August 25, 2026

At a CBA Festival, you have a guaranteed audience of appreciative band students and directors. Your band will receive a clinic by a master teacher / clinician as soon as your performance is done along with audio commentary from 2 expert adjudicators. Ratings are provided to directors to do with as you wish and are not posted. Professional performance recordings are provided at Middle School Festivals

REGISTRATION PROCESS for 2027 CBA MIDDLE SCHOOL FESTIVALS

If, after reading this information you have any questions, please feel free to email Mike Gill, Chairman of Middle School Concert Band Festivals, at:
msconcertbandchair@coloradobandmasters.org

•The registration window for 2027 Middle School Festivals will open Thursday, October 1, 2026 at 6:00AM. Only dues-paid members with password access to the “Members Only” section of the website may register.

The REGISTRATION PROCESS consists of TWO tasks:

1. Register beginning October 1st via the google form and select your site and time preference. Google form link will be posted in the Members Only section of the CBA Website page by 6:00am on October 1st. <https://www.coloradobandmasters.org/>
2. Complete your payment via the payment link on the CBA Website (available mid-September). You may pay when you register (via credit card) but you are encouraged to pay before October 1st if possible - especially if paying via check or if your school is slow to process money requests. Timely payments help you get your site and time request.

Your registration is complete when you submit the Google form AND make payment!

Fees must be received by the executive secretary to complete your registration.

Many sites fill up on the first day of registration (and are filled as entries come in), some within hours; register and pay right away! *The Google timestamp and timely payment will be used for granting schedule and site requests.*

Early Registration Closes December 1st!!!

New this year. In order to help directors with transportation scheduling, preliminary schedules will be sent out by mid December. Registration will remain open until all sites are full. However, after December 1st, registration fee will increase to \$300.

No Refunds!!!

The schedule is built and judges are hired based on the registration. Therefore, once the schedules are distributed, there will be no refunds. No exceptions.

You must be a CBA Member to participate!

<https://www.coloradobandmasters.org/cba-membership>

•Registration fees are: \$265 (by December 1st). Fees must be received by the executive secretary to complete your registration. Early Registration ends December 1st. Registration Fee after December 1st: \$300.

2026 SITES, DATES AND INFORMATION

Western Slope Site - Tuesday, March 9, 2027 - Grand Junction Central High School
Grand Junction, Hans Snell, Host

Northern Site - Thursday, March 11, 2027- Mountain View High School
Loveland, Peter Toews, Host

Southern Site - Monday, March 15, 2027 - Doherty High School
Colorado Springs, Ashley Civelli, Host

Denver Metro South - Thursday, March 18, 2027 – Chatfield Littleton, Dylan Ford, Host

Denver Metro Central - Thursday, March 25, 2027 - Englewood High School
Englewood, Nathan Stokes, Host

Denver Metro North - Monday, March 29, 2027 - Prairie View High School
Brighton, Armando Solis, Host

•Each festival will be open to 18 bands, scheduled in consecutive blocks of 6 bands each. When you fill out your online registration (one for each group), you can request your site and “block”.

•At festivals, a “Block” consists of 3 hours where 6 bands will warm-up, perform, receive a clinic, and listen to two other bands. Block 1 will be 8:00-11:00am, Block 2 will be 11:00am to 2:00pm, Block 3 will be 2:00-5:00pm. Site schedules will be distributed to directors by early before winter break so you can request buses and make your plans!

New for 2027: In order to allow the maximum number of bands to register for each festival (18) we will be limiting the size of each band to 80 members. This number is flexible for this year's festivals and the director should contact Mike Gill directly. The size limit is in response to several of site hosts that are having difficulty finding enough chairs and stands as well as the limited size of the warmup and clinic rooms. Only if there are open performance slots at the site, large groups can be scheduled to have their clinic on stage, following their performance. These exceptions can only be made if the director signs up for the last block.

Continued for 2027: When selecting your repertoire for festival performance, It is strongly suggested that you select one piece from the 2026 Prescribed Music List that is posted on the CBA Concert Band webpage.

Suggestions for giving you, your students, and all other attendees of the CBA Middle School Concert Band Festivals the best “Festival Experience.”

- There are three parts to the festival that each ensemble should be prepared for the best experience:
 - o 1) The ensemble performance.

- o 2) *The ensemble clinic experience - many times students are ill-prepared for the clinic. Prepare your ensemble by interacting and responding to the clinician who is dedicated to sharing their expertise. The best way to prepare your ensemble for a clinician is to invite other clinicians into your bandroom several times prior to the festival.*
 - o 3) *The ensemble audience experience. Students are given the opportunity to listen to and analyze other performing ensembles. In addition, students must be taught appropriate audience behavior for a concert performance*
- Limit onstage warm-up to a short chorale or brief tuning. Most middle school students don't have the opportunity to perform in an auditorium and this is a great time for them to get used to the acoustics of the performance hall.
 - Enter and exit the performance stage in a quiet and orderly fashion. This should be rehearsed prior to the festival.
 - It is not necessary to wait for the clinicians between selections. Take care of re-tuning the ensemble, tuning timpani, rearrange seating, etc., then proceed. The clinicians will be ready for your performance.
 - ***Three original scores must be provided at all sites!!! No copies will be accepted unless accompanied by a publishers letter! (Two scores for judges, one for director).***