The 64th Annual

Festival of Winds and Percussion

AT TENNESSEE TECH

February 12–13, 2027

November 10, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to invite you and your students to participate in the 64th annual Tennessee Tech Festival of Winds and Percussion. The Festival has a long-standing tradition of bringing the finest clinicians to our campus to work with your students in an intensive honor band weekend. This year's clinicians include Dr. Jo Jossim, Dr. Kelvin Jones, and Ms. Jeanie Berry.

All students participating in the 2027 Festival must be nominated by their director. The most talented of your students, as identified by you, regardless of grade level, will be assigned to one of the three honor bands (the Wayne F. Pegram Honor Band, the Joseph W. Hermann Honor Band, and the Col. Maurice Haste Honor Band). Using an online nomination form, directors may nominate up to twenty (20) students from their school. Every student will be given consideration, but at the same time, I know you understand the demands of instrumentation.

Nominations must be **received by noon on Friday, December 11, 2026.** We will notify you of the selected students on or before Monday, December 14, 2026. Please see the following pages for general information about this year's Festival and our clinicians.

The faculty and I look forward to hosting you and your students for the 64th annual Festival of Winds and Percussion. If you have any questions about the Festival, please don't hesitate to contact me. I hope you and your students will plan to attend this outstanding event!

Sincerely,



Jeffrey L. Miller, Ph.D.
Director of Bands
Associate Professor of Music
(931) 372-6559
jlmiller@tntech.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Directors may nominate ***up to*** 20 students for participation in the Festival. Nominations must be submitted using the online Nomination Form https://forms.gle/T5CsFzna6oLH2eDi8. **The deadline to nominate students is 12 p.m. on Friday, December 11, 2026.** Please rank students in order where your best student is the first nomination and so on.

2. Directors will receive email notification on or before Monday, December 14, 2026 identifying the students who have been selected to participate.

3. Auditions must be submitted via a recorded medium (audio or video). Specific instructions, including audition materials, will be sent on or before Monday, December 14, 2026. For full consideration, **audition recordings must be received by 11:59 p.m. Friday, January 29, 2027.**

4. Students who have been selected (and are paying for themselves) or you as a director paying for all of your students must complete the Festival registration online. Registration and payment is required and must be completed online—**cash will not be accepted**. Registration and payment information will be sent with your list of selected students.

5. Festival registration fees will be $20.00 for each registrant paying between December 15, 2026 and January 31, 2027. The registration fee increases to $25 per student between February 1-8, 2027. Major credit cards, debit cards, and e-Checks are all acceptable. **ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

6. Friday, February 8, 2027 (11:59 p.m.) will be the final day to register students and pay online. Payments in the form of a check can be accepted on the first day of the Festival, but we prefer this be taken care of in advance.

7. If your school cannot process payment by credit card/debit card or e-Check, please contact Cathleen Walker at cewalker@tntech.edu or by phone at (931) 372-3065.

8. **Minors on campus policy:** Every student attending must be accompanied by their band director or a parent/guardian. In the event the band director or the child's parent cannot attend, an authorized representative or guardian must be present and an agreement form must be signed and returned. Students cannot remain on campus unaccompanied—**NO EXCEPTIONS**. You must notify us if you, the director, will not be accompanying your student(s).

9. Students and directors will check-in from 8-9:15 a.m. on Friday, February 12, 2027 in the lobby of the Bryan Fine Arts Building. For your convenience, a tentative schedule of events is included on the last page of this packet. The final schedule will be sent by email as we get closer to the event.

10. Participants are responsible for their own meals. The University cafeteria as well as many Cookeville restaurants and fast food establishments are available during the Festival.

11. Housing will be up to each individual school. A list of area hotels will be provided when you are notified of your school's accepted participants.

12. The Friday evening concert (2/12) will feature the Tennessee Tech Symphony Band and Concert Band, directed by Dr. Jeffrey L. Miller. Following the concert, will be a light reception for students and directors, featuring a performance by the Tech Troubadours Jazz Ensemble.

13. The Festival concert, featuring the three honor bands, will be on Saturday, February 13, 2027 beginning at 5 p.m. (CST). This concert is FREE and will be streamed live via the Tennessee Tech School of Music website and Facebook page.

2027 FESTIVAL OF WINDS AND PERCUSSION GUEST ARTISTS



Dr. Jo Jossim received her Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from the University of South Florida. Continuing her education, she earned a Master's degree in oboe performance from the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver, upon completion of her degree she was appointed interim conductor of the Lamont Symphony Orchestra. While in Denver she became the Music Director/ Conductor of the Broomfield Civic Orchestra and the Golden Youth Symphony. In addition to her orchestral activities she also taught middle school band at Sinclair Middle School and general elementary music in the Cherry Creek and Englewood Public School Systems. In 1991 she returned home to Jacksonville, Florida where she was Director of Music at Bishop Kenny High School. Under her direction the concert band received Superior ratings for the first time in the history of the school. Following her high school teaching she entered The Florida State University where she earned the Ph.D. in Music Education. Currently, Dr. Jossim serves as Director of Bands, Instrumental Studies and is Professor of Music at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. Throughout this time Dr. Jossim has conducted the Florida Southern College Symphony Band, Florida Southern College Symphony Orchestra and served as Head of the Music Education program teaching courses in conducting, music education, supervising student teachers, woodwind quintet, brass quintet, studio oboe, faculty advisor for NAfME as well as the Director of the MOCS Pep Band. She was also founder and director of the Florida Southern College Middle School Band Symposium, and Conductor of the Florida Southern College Summer Band Camp. Her bands have performed at state conferences and she maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States. In addition to her responsibilities at Florida Southern she was also co-founder/conductor of the Lakeland based Hollingsworth Winds Concert Band, and past president of the Florida College Music Educators Association. She is Chair of Commissioning for Phi Beta Mu (Omega Chapter), and New Music Selection Committee member for the Florida Bandmaster's Association. She has held memberships in numerous professional and honorary organizations including Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, Delta Omicron, Florida Music Educators Association, Florida Bandmasters Association, College Band Directors National Association, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Beta Mu. She has been awarded the "Outstanding Contributor Award for Band" by Phi Beta Mu (Omega Chapter), the Wade Outstanding Teacher Award at Florida Southern College, and most recently inducted into the Florida Bandmasters Roll of Distinction.



Dr. Kelvin Jones is an internationally recognized music educator, conductor, show designer, clinician, and entrepreneur who currently serves as Visiting Director of Bands at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Previously, he served as Director of the Louisiana State University Tiger Marching Band, the renowned "Golden Band from Tigerland." A GRAMMY-nominated music artist and leader, Dr. Jones has cultivated a multifaceted career spanning K–12 and higher education, collegiate athletic bands, concert ensembles, halftime show design, adjudication, and educational consulting. A proud product of public education and former K–12 educator, he brings a wealth of experience to the podium, combining his passion for musical excellence with a commitment to student development, innovative programming, and meaningful musical experiences. An active conductor, adjudicator, and clinician, Dr. Jones has worked with ensembles and music educators throughout the United States and internationally. He serves as an educational clinician for Conn-Selmer and as an instructor for the Smith-Walbridge Clinics. His professional engagements include conducting honor bands, presenting educational clinics, adjudicating concert and marching ensembles, and mentoring emerging music educators. His contributions to the profession also include publications in The Instrumentalist. Dr. Jones has degrees from Jackson State University and graduate work from Louisiana State University. Beyond the podium, Dr. Jones is an entrepreneur, author, and advocate for leadership development and community engagement. He is the founder of All Positive Energy (APE), an initiative reflecting his belief in the power of purposeful leadership and positive impact. He resides in Louisiana with his wife, Felicia, and their children, Samuel and Kye-Parker.



Ms. Jeanie Berry retired from teaching middle school band after thirty-four years, most of which she spent in Orange County Public Schools in Florida. Her teaching responsibilities included Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Beginning Band, and Jazz Band. Bands under her direction consistently earned Superior ratings at FBA Music Performance Assessment events. Ms. Berry attended The Florida State University College of Music, where she earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree (1989) and a Master of Music Education degree (1999). Currently, Ms. Berry serves as a Visiting Assistant Music Educator Professor at Florida Southern College. For the past 26 years, she has also served as Camp Director for the Florida Southern College Summer Band Camp in Lakeland. Throughout her career, she has been invited to conduct numerous District and Honor Bands across Florida, including the Florida All-State Middle School Honor Band. She has presented a variety of clinics at both the FMEA Conference in Tampa and the FBA Summer Conference. Ms. Berry served on the state Professional Resources Committee, the Music Selection Committee for FBA, and she previously held the position of FBA Sight-Reading Chair for nine years. She is an adjudicator for Solo/Ensemble and Concert Music Performance Assessments throughout Florida and is an active member of both FBA and Phi Beta Mu. Ms. Berry's accolades include receiving the Manatee County "Pinnacle Award" for teaching excellence, W. D. Sugg Middle School Teacher of the Year, Southwest Middle School Teacher of the Year, Who's Who Among American Teachers, and the Harry E. Grant Memorial Award. She has also been honored with the Tom Bishop Award from FBA and the FMEA 30-Year Music Education Service Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to music education.

Festival
of Winds and Percussion
AT TENNESSEE TECH
February 12–13, 2027

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, February 12

8:00–9:15 a.m.	Registration in Bryan Fine Arts Lobby
9:30–12:00 p.m.	Honor Bands in Rehearsal **Pegram Honor Band—Derryberry Auditorium (DER)** **Hermann Honor Band—Bryan Fine Arts (BFA 101)** **Haste Honor Band—Roaden University Center (RUC)**
10:00–10:50 a.m.	Director's Clinic #1 with Tennessee Tech Music Faculty (BFA 374)
12:00–1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:30–5:30 p.m.	Honor Bands will Follow the Schedule Below:

Pegram & Haste Bands	**Hermann Band**
1:30–2:20 p.m. — Masterclass with Tech Faculty	1:30–2:50 p.m. — In Rehearsal
2:30–5:30 p.m. — In Rehearsal	3:00–3:50 p.m. — Masterclass with Tech Faculty
	4:00–5:30 p.m. — In Rehearsal

1:30–2:20 p.m.	Director's Clinic #2 with Dr. Jo Jossim & Ms. Jeanie Berry (BFA 374)
3:00–3:50 p.m.	Director's Clinic #3 with Dr. Kelvin Jones (BFA 374)
5:30–7:30 p.m.	Dinner Break
7:30 p.m.	Tennessee Tech Bands in Concert (DER)
9:00–10:00 p.m.	Troubadours Jazz Reception (RUC) *Sodas, chips, and cookies free to all attendees.*

Saturday, February 13

9:00–10:50 a.m.	Honor Bands in Rehearsal
9:30–10:20 a.m.	Director's Clinic #4 with Tennessee Tech Music Faculty (BFA 374)
11:10–12:00 p.m.	Honor Bands and Guests Attend the Faculty Ensembles Concert (DER)
12:00–1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:30–4:00 p.m.	Honor Bands in Rehearsal
1:30–2:20 p.m.	Director's Clinic #5 with Tennessee Tech Music Faculty (BFA 374)
4:00 p.m.	Honor Bands Dismissed/Prepare for Concert
5:00 p.m.	Honor Bands in Concert (DER)