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MISSOURI BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

BUILDING BETTER BANDS

Sept. 2026 | Vol. 38

The Road to Auditions

Helping Your Students Prepare for All-State

All-State auditions will be here before we know it! As we head down the road toward December 5, here are a few resources and reminders to help your students arrive at auditions prepared and confident.

Check the Route

Make sure students are working from the most current audition materials. The MBA All-State Band page is the official source for Set 3 materials, revisions, audition information, and requirements.

Add Another Tool to the Toolbox

There are some great guided practice videos available on YouTube for several instruments. These go beyond simply providing a performance example. Many break the music into smaller sections, slow down challenging passages, and give students a model they can practice along with.

These can be especially helpful for students who do not have regular access to a private instructor or simply need another voice guiding them through the material.

Make a Few Stops Along the Way

As auditions get closer, consider building a few checkpoints into your students' preparation.

- Listen often and give feedback throughout the preparation process.
- Have students record and evaluate themselves.
- Check scales from memory regularly.
- Hold a mock audition so audition day isn't their first complete run-through for someone else.

Official Materials: [MBA All-State Band Website](#)

Guided Practice: [Guided Practice Playlist](#)

Every student's road to All-State looks a little different. Hopefully these resources can help make the journey to audition day a little smoother!

IMPORTANT DATES

All-State Band Registration Window

November 3-24, 2026

All-State Band Auditions

December 5, 2026

All-State Paperwork Due

December 15, 2026

All-State Payments Due

January 12, 2027

All-State Band/MMEA

January 27-30, 2027

MBA Summer Convention

June 27-30, 2027



Be a Part of Building Better Bands

The Missouri Bandmasters Association is built on band directors supporting band directors. Through the Missouri All-State Band, our annual Summer Convention, and the connections we make with one another, we work together toward one goal: Building Better Bands.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2026–2027, now is a great time. If you've never been an MBA member, we would love to have you join us!

Your membership supports the work of MBA and helps us continue creating opportunities for Missouri band directors and their students.

Join or Renew Your Membership

Already a member? Encourage a colleague to join us and be part of Building Better Bands across Missouri.

Help Us Celebrate Each Other

We know there are incredible things happening in band rooms across Missouri every day, and we want to help celebrate the directors making them happen.

Do you see a fellow band director doing something amazing? Maybe they have gone above and beyond for their students, reached a milestone, helped another director or program, or are simply doing great work that deserves to be recognized.

Send it our way! Tell us who you think deserves a shout-out and why. We would love to highlight them in a future MBA newsletter.

Send your shout-outs to president@missouribandmasters.org!

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Thank You to Our Sponsors

The Missouri Bandmasters Association extends a heartfelt thank you to all of our convention sponsors for their generous support of the 2026 MBA Clinic & Convention. Your partnership helps make it possible for us to provide outstanding professional development, meaningful networking opportunities, and valuable resources for band directors across Missouri. We are grateful for your continued commitment to music education and for investing in the success of our members and their students. Thank you for helping make this year's convention a success!

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