

May 17, 2022

Dear Instrumental Conductors,

Thank you again for your interest in the Minnesota Area Conducting Workshop. We have conductors coming from several regions around the state as well as out-of-state who have a variety of backgrounds and experiences. I know that this mix of backgrounds will make the workshop interesting for everyone. It is my hope that you will learn not only from Dr. Heukeshoven and me but from each other as well. Regardless of our age, position, experience, or training, we all have something valuable to share with one another, and I hope that our work together will inspire each of us to improve our skills as conductors, teachers, and musicians. There are still a few conducting spots open in this year's workshop, so if you know anyone who might be interested, please have them contact me.

The purpose of this letter is to share some of the final details you'll need to know for the workshop. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this letter, please let me know. Chances are if you have a question, someone else does too.

This year half of our registrants have expressed an interest in pursuing both the choral and instrumental tracks. Due to this, Dr. Stephen Kingsbury and I have decided to try a different schedule than in previous years. We hope that this new schedule provides the most opportunities for everyone involved, particularly those choosing both tracks. Here is the basic schedule for instrumental conductors for this year.

Monday, June 27th and Tuesday, June 28th

8:00 to 11:30	Instrumental conducting lab
11:30 to 1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 to 2:00	Combined interest session (instrumental and choral)
2:00 to 2:15	Break
2:15 to 2:45	Peer review sessions
2:45 to 4:00	Instrumental interest session

**Evening activities will be planned for those who are interested.

Wednesday, June 29th

8:00 to 9:45	Instrumental conducting lab
9:45 to 10:00	Break
10:00 to 11:30	Combined conducting lab for all participants
11:30 to 1:00	Eat lunch together and closing discussion

One of the biggest changes is that the conducting sessions for the choral track will now take place in the afternoons on Monday and Tuesday. But also, the conducting session on Day 3 will be split between time spent in separate tracks and time spent in a combined session along with the Choral track during which our dual track participants can work on a piece for combined band and choir.

Dr. Heukeshoven and I have selected the repertoire listed below. We believe that these pieces represent high quality literature for bands of various ability levels. Please select three pieces/movements from the list and be prepared to conduct them at the workshop. **You will be responsible for bringing your own scores for those three pieces.** You may already have some of these in your library. Otherwise, scores may be purchased from a variety of sources including Midwest Sheet Music or JW Pepper. Let me know if you need any assistance in finding them.

Grade 1

1. Danza de Espana	Carol Brittin Chambers
2. African Festival	Quincy Hilliard
3. Imperium	Michael Sweeney
Grade 2	
1. The Devil's Workshop (flexband version)	Kimberly Archer
2. Storm	Soon Hee Newbold
3. Australian Up-Country Tune	Percy Grainger
Grade 3	
1. Where the Wild Things Dance (flexband version)	Joseph Earp
2. Three Songs of Bengal	Aakash Mittal
3. Encanto	Robert W. Smith
Grade 4	
1. Volver a la Montana	Shelley Hanson
2. Chorale and Shaker Dance	John Zdechlick
*Combined Band & Choir piece	
We Are the Heroes (Grade 1.5)	Carl Strommen

Between 10:00 and 11:30 on Wednesday, dual track conductors will have the opportunity to conduct *We Are the Heroes* (for combined band and choir) by Carl Strommen and receive feedback from all of the clinicians.

All participating conductors and observers will be asked to play in the lab ensemble when they are not conducting. There will also be several area musicians and students playing in the ensemble in order to cover as many parts as possible. If you have an outstanding student or friend who can sight read well and could benefit from the opportunity to play in the ensemble, please let me know.

During the Peer Evaluation Sessions from 2:15-2:45 on Monday and Tuesday, you will have the opportunity to work with other participants, reviewing each others' video from that morning and discussing what you see. We hope that this experience will help you practice your self-evaluation skills so you can continue to work on your conducting throughout the year. Everyone should bring their own SD card so all we need to do is put in the appropriate card when it's your turn. **You'll need a "high performance SDHC" card.** A 4-gigabyte card should be more than enough for the workshop. For the Peer Evaluation Session we will have several laptop computers with SD card readers for you to use.

There should still be space available in the University Apartments for anyone who would like to stay on campus. If you're interested, you should contact Jessica Bentley by phone at (507)537-6460. If you get her voice mail, please leave your name, phone number, and the day you plan to arrive and she should get back to you later that day or the next. Rooms are available for \$30 a day (per person), but space is limited. I'm assuming that most of you will come in the morning of June 27th in which case you can check into your room during lunch. However, if anyone would prefer to come in on Sunday, just let her know. If you would prefer to stay in a hotel, there are two within a block of campus (EverSpring Inn and Suites—532-3221 and Quality Inn—532-3070).

Wireless internet access should be available on campus, but it takes some time to set up. I can direct you to our IT office during the lunch break.

A map is also attached to this email. You will want to park in lot B1 (#37 on the map). No permit is required as long as you avoid spaces with reserved signs at them. All sessions will take place in the Fine Arts building (#12 on the map) which is closest to the B1 lot.

I think that's just about everything. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing all of you next month, but until then, enjoy your summer.