Music Educators of Bergen County, Inc. announces auditions for the 2023/2024 Bergen County High School Chorus and Band. The Bergen County Chorus and Band have consistently displayed a high standard of musical excellence and have been an important annual event for many of the county's outstanding student musicians.

2023/2024 Bergen County Band and Chorus Festival Staff:
Theodora Sotiropoulos and Brian Timmons, Festival Coordinators

2023/2024 Bergen County Chorus	2023/2024 Bergen County Band
Joseph Fritz, Westwood HS, Conductor	Joshua Jenkins, Ramsey HS, Conductor
Anna Lilikas, Glen Rock HS, Co-Manager	Allan Daleus, Harrington PK MS, Manager
Elaine Thoman, Bergenfield HS, Co-Manager	Amy Wilcox, Nor. Valley RHS-O.T., Audition Chair
Lynn Morneweck-Fuld, Mahwah HS, Audition Chair	

Please be aware of our attendance policy for students who successfully audition for the ensembles. **No absences of any kind will be allowed for any reason. Any absence will result in immediate removal from the ensemble.**   Please be sure to check your schedule before applying to avoid uncomfortable and unnecessary situations.

As usual, the Band and Chorus Auditions will be held separately. Chorus Auditions will take place on Thursday, November 2, 2023. Band Auditions will be on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. Both auditions will take place at Mahwah High School. Please check the Director and Student Audition information for submission deadlines.

Students in your Music Department who wish to participate in both ensembles may do so. Students auditioning for both must be aware of the responsibilities and schedules of both ensembles. If a student chooses to audition for both ensembles and is selected for both, the student must participate fully in both ensembles. Failure to participate fully will result in the student being dropped from both groups. Please advise your students to apply/audition for the ensemble(s) best suited for them.

If you have any questions, you may contact:
Amy Wilcox (Band Auditions Chair) at 201-768-3200 ext. 24550 or wilcox@nvnet.org
Lynn Morneweck-Fuld (Choral Auditions Chair) at 201-762-2300, ext. 7248 or lmorneweck@mahwah.k12.nj.us
Theodora Sotiropoulos (Festival Co-Coordinator) at 201-320-7232 or tsotir61@gmail.com
Brian Timmons (Festival Co-Coordinator) at 201-385-8600 ext. 1789 or btimmons@bergenfield.org

Please download information and complete online forms as needed.

Directors complete the Director Application Form online and then print it out for a signature. Students complete the Student Application Form and SUBMIT THEM ONLINE. The online form will direct students to print out their forms. The application endorsements must then be signed appropriately. **Students should not submit applications online more than one time (for each audition).** Please have all pertinent information – instrument, director info, etc. – and a working printer connected to your computer before submitting an application.

NEW THIS YEAR: Both the Director Application and the Student Endorsements should be **SCANNED and EMAILED** to the Audition Chair. In addition, both the Director Application and the Student Endorsements accompanied by the appropriate audition fees should then be **MAILED** to the Audition Chair by Certified Mail in one package. Specific instructions will be available when you submit the Director Application online. PLEASE ASSIST THE AUDITION CHAIR BY ALPHABETIZING ALL STUDENT APPLICATIONS.

BAND ELIGIBILITY:
1. Any Bergen County student in grades 9-12 who is a participating member of their high school instrumental music department, and who is certified by their high school instrumental instructor as a dependable individual of above average ability, is eligible to participate.

2. Instrumental teachers certifying their students for participation must be members of the sponsoring organization, **MUSIC EDUCATORS OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.** for the current school year. Dues for the 2023/2024 school year are $10.00. Include this amount as part of the payment on the school registration form.

AUDITION FEES:
To be included as a SINGLE check per school (**payable to MEBCI**) sent with the student applications and director's Application:
> $10.00 PER STUDENT IF SCANNED, E-MAILED, and POSTMARKED BY November 1, 2023
> $15.00 PER STUDENT IF SCANNED, E-MAILED, and POSTMARKED BY November 8, 2023
>   Applications postmarked after November 8, 2023 will NOT be accepted

PARTICIPATION FEE
To be presented as a single check per school on or before the first rehearsal on January 8th, 2024 for all accepted students: Participation Fee of $15.00 per participating band member.

AUDITION DATE AND SITE:
Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 3:45pm at Mahwah High School, 50 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430
WE ARE USING A ROTATING SCHEDULE OF SCALE REQUIREMENTS. PLEASE CHECK CAREFULLY.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS:
➢ All participating directors are required to serve as audition judges on November 28. 2023, or provide a qualified substitute who has been **pre-approved** by the audition chair and festival coordinator at least **3 days PRIOR** to the audition date. **An acceptable substitute must be a certified Teacher of Music who is currently employed in the State of New Jersey.**
➢ Your student(s) **will not** be able to audition if you do not serve. A substitute cannot sponsor any other auditioning student(s). If a student is not represented, he or she will not be allowed to audition.
➢ Please arrive NO LATER THAN 3:45 PM on November 28, 2023, at Mahwah High School.
➢ **Please make every effort to be in attendance for the start of the 3:45 PM meeting and remember that you may be there as late as 9:00 PM. Please plan accordingly. This is a "teacher run" activity, and will only operate smoothly with everyone's participation and cooperation.**
➢ For students traveling by bus, please make arrangements for a chaperone other than yourself.
➢ Directors who have accepted students will also be asked to assist in at least one rehearsal.
➢ We are using a rotating schedule of scale requirements. Please check carefully.