Middle Level Honors Orchestra

Grades 7–9
February 15-16, 2019 — rehearsal and performance

Apply on-line at https://app.GetAcceptd.com/MNSOTA

1. **Friday October 12 — GetAcceptd Opens**
   Complete application and Submit payment
2. **9:00 P.M. Friday November 2 — GetAcceptd Closes**
   This deadline is firm with no exceptions!

The Middle Level Honors Orchestra is for students in grades 7–9. The most accomplished young string players from the state will join together for a rehearsal on February 15 at the University of Northwestern-St. Paul in Roseville and a performance on February 16, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center as part of the MMEA convention.

We are delighted that our guest conductor will be Brad Lambrecht, Director of Orchestras for the Alexandria Area High School. Brad is also the founder and conductor of the Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra, a regional, semi-professional orchestra currently in its tenth season based in Alexandria. Through the Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra, he has collaborated with the Minnesota Opera, Twin Cities Ballet, and many other regionally/nationally renowned musicians. During his tenure with the CLSO, Brad has also commissioned two works to be written by Midwest composers. These compositions were both based on the Alexandria Lakes Area and proudly premiered there. Brad was a 2005 Music Education graduate from Valley City State University ND. He has enjoyed the tutelage of notable conductors such as Dr. Mallory Thompson, Professor H. Bob Reynolds, Dr. Warren Olffert, Dr. Sigurd Johnson, and Dr. Leesa Levy. In 2012 Brad was recognized as Minnesota Public Radio's Music Teacher Feature. He is in his final year of a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado under the direction of Maestro Wes Kenney.

Policies

In order to produce the best possible ensemble with the widest possible representation of schools, the following policies apply:

1. All students must be string players in grades 7 through 9 during the 2018-2019 school year.
2. A student participating in the Middle level Honors Orchestra must be enrolled in their school orchestra, if one exists. They must be enrolled in and a member in good standing from the time of the audition through the following February rehearsals and performance in order to be eligible for participation in the ensemble.
3. The Middle Level Honors Orchestra is sponsored by MNSOTA and MMEA as a service to its members and their students. Participation is limited to those students whose sponsoring teacher is a current member in good standing of **both** MNSOTA/ASTA and MMEA/NAfME at the time of the student's audition and continues to be a member of **both** MNSOTA and MMEA through the February rehearsal and performance period. The sponsoring teacher must be currently teaching the student at the time of the student's audition, and must continue as a teacher for that student through the February rehearsal and performance period. Examples of sponsoring teachers are school ensemble directors, studio teachers/instructors for private lessons, and individuals conducting a community youth ensemble. To join MNSOTA/ASTA, apply on-line at www.astastrings.org. To join MMEA, call 888-678-MMEA or email info@mmea.org. Teachers' membership will be verified before their students' applications are processed.
4. All required application information, including payment of $33.00 audition fee and uploads, will be done through GetAcceptd this year (see On-line Audition Process section). Student members will be chosen by score, with ties going to students in rural areas with fewer opportunities than those in the metro area.
5. Teachers will be informed of the results and receive music by mail, postmarked Wednesday, January 2, 2019.
6. All chosen students must attend all scheduled rehearsals and activities February 15-16, 2019. A participation fee of $75.00 per student will cover all expenses of the rehearsals and performance including the cost of two meals.
7. Guardians will be responsible for transportation, lodging and supervision when the students are not in rehearsal or

Event Cancellation Policy

Since events cannot be rescheduled, MNSOTA is committed to holding all events as planned. MNSOTA will cancel an event only in cases of a safety emergency (e.g. road conditions/weather), based on state advisories. If an event is cancelled, at the discretion of the board, a partial refund to participants may be considered after expenses have been paid.

performance.

8. *All of the application information must be received by the final deadline.* **Incomplete and/or late entries will not be considered; no exceptions!**

On-line Audition Process

It is essential that students and teachers plan ahead. Do not wait until the last day to apply.

Upload the student's recording files, payment and contact information.

- Either the student/guardian OR the sponsoring teacher/director can complete the application. MNSOTA recommends that an adult take this responsibility.
- A PDF fillable-form to help you assemble all the required information is available for download from www.MNSOTA.org/events/middle-level-honors-orchestra

How to check on the status of your application:

- If the Status is Continue some application information, upload files, or payment are still incomplete.
- If the Status is Submitted — all applications materials are complete. The recordings will be heard by the judges.

If your student is accepted into the MLHO there will be one final step required:

All emails entered into the Get Acceptd application will receive a link for the student's school principal (or homeschool equivalent) to fill out. The principal's digital signature is required for all students participating in the event. The principal will only sign if the student is in good standing with the school. No student will be allowed to attend the event if their principal's digital signature is missing. Payments for participation and the digital principal's signature must be received by Friday, January 18th.

ALL OF THE APPLICATION INFORMATION,
MUST BE RECEIVED BY 9:00 P.M., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 2018. Incomplete or late entries will not be considered.

Audition and Upload Requirements

1. Students/guardians OR sponsoring teachers/directors may complete the necessary application information and upload the audition files using the Acceptd website: https://app.GetAcceptd.com/MNSOTA. All personal information entered into GetAcceptd will be hidden from the judges to allow for anonymous judging.

2. Each student must upload four separate audio files into his/her Acceptd user profile. Each file should be named according to the title of the submission (e.g. "G major scale" or "Vivaldi Concerto"). Please do not include any information that could identify the applicant in file names.

3. All scales are to be played two octaves ascending and descending at ♩ = 80 (or faster) with the rhythm

A metronome must *not* be used during recording. Audition scores will be docked points for incorrect rhythm or slow tempo of scales.

a. File 1 – The specified major scale for their instrument, recorded *without* metronome and with the tempo and rhythm above.

Violin: D Major	Cello: G Major
Viola: G Major	Bass: G Major.

b. File 2 – The specified minor scale for their instrument, recorded without metronome and with the tempo and rhythm above.

Violin: E Melodic Minor	Viola: A Melodic Minor
Cello: A Melodic Minor	Bass: E Melodic Minor

c. File 3 – The specified excerpt for their instrument, recorded without accompaniment.

Violin: Third movement of *Concerto in A Minor* by Vivaldi (Suzuki, Vol. 4), beginning to beat 1 of measure 50

Viola: First movement of *Concerto No. 5* by F. Seitz (Suzuki, Vol. 4), first 45 measures, not counting piano intro

Cello: *La Cinquantaine* (Suzuki, Vol. 3), measures 17–40

Bass: *Introduction and Dance* by L. Scarmolin (Ludwig), measures 9–51

d. File 4 – A short piece, excerpt or etude of their own choosing not to exceed 2 minutes in length. This selection must be recorded without accompaniment, and must be of equivalent or greater difficulty to the required piece. Pop tunes and novelty pieces are not appropriate. Please indicate the title of your choice piece in the file name using composer last name and piece title.

Questions should be directed to Lindsey Lamb, lamb.mlho@gmail.com. For technical questions about GetAcceptd, contact technical support as listed on the Acceptd website https://app.getacceptd.com/MNSOTA.

Honors Online Audition — Auxiliary Instructions

MNSOTA Middle Level Honors Orchestra auditions will take place using the Acceptd website. Acceptd believes their site is intuitive and easy to use. If you have difficulty, contact contact Acceptd technical support https://app.getacceptd.com/MNSOTA. Optionally, these auxilliary instructions may point you in the right direction.

Students may apply and upload their own audition files OR have their sponsoring teacher/director apply and upload their files for them. Google Chrome is the recommended browser.

Students who upload their own files should select "I am a STUDENT" from the "Select Program Group" menu. Then select "Student Application" from the "Select Program" menu, and then the green "Apply to Student Application" button. You will be directed to create a username/password or to login (if you already have an account). Be sure to use a valid email address so that you receive your confirmation number and other important communications.

Sponsoring teachers/directors who will be uploading files on behalf of their students should select "I am a TEACHER/DIRECTOR" from the "Select Program Group" menu. Then select "Application for Student" from the "Select Program" menu, and then the green "Apply to Application for Student" button. You will be directed to create a username/password or to login (if you already have an account). Be sure to use a valid email address so that you receive student confirmation numbers and other important communications..

Please Note: If you are a teacher who created a username/password in previous years for MNSOTA Honors Orchestra, you should use the same username/password — Acceptd will remember your personal information such as address and school.

TIPS:

For both Students and Teachers, after you have logged in, when you are at your APPLICATIONS tab, there are three ways to begin a new application for MNSOTA Honors Orchestra:

1) Click the green New Application button at the top right. Then enter MNSOTA into the "Search for organizations, locations, and keywords" search bar at the top of the next page. Press the Return/Enter key. On the next page, click the MNSOTA Middle Level Honors Orchestra logo. On the next page, select Program Group -> I am a TEACHER (or I am a STUDENT). Select Program -> Application for Student (or Student Application). Click Apply to Application for Student (or Apply to Student Application). On the next page click Start New Application. You will now be on a page where you can enter the student name, address, etc, upload the audition files and enter all other required information.

2) When you are at your APPLICATIONS tab, (instead of clicking the New Application button at the top right), enter MNSOTA into the "Search All Organizations" search box at the top right. When MNSOTA Middle Level Honors Orchestra is highlighted, press the Return/Enter key. On the next page, select Program Group -> I am a TEACHER (or I am a STUDENT). Select Program -> Application for Student (or Student Application). Click Apply to Application for Student (or Apply to Student Application). On the next page click Start New Application.

3) When you are at your APPLICATIONS tab go to the web address bar at the top of your browser window, and enter: https://app.getacceptd.com/mnsota. Press the Return/Enter key. On the next page, select Program Group -> I am a TEACHER (or I am a STUDENT). Select Program -> Application for Student (or Student Application). Click Apply to Application for Student (or Apply to Student Application). On the next page click Start New Application. You will now be on a page where you can enter the student name, address, etc, upload the audition files and enter all other required information.

If you are a teacher and would like to enter multiple students, repeat the steps above, using your same username and password.

When a teacher applies on behalf of a student (from "I am a TEACHER") the Acceptd system records the teacher's name (e.g. Dorothy Delay) as the Applicant. The system records the student's name (e.g. Billy Smith) as the Entry. MNSOTA proof-readers thought it unfortunate that the system generates some emails with only the Applicant Name (e.g. Dorothy Delay) and not the Entry Name (e.g. Billy Smith). It seemed odd to them to read, "Hey Dorothy! Congratulations. Your application has been submitted. Applicant Name: Dorothy Delay."— with no mention of Billy Smith. Acceptd regrets that customization is not yet possible (but may be available in the future). However, teachers can always log on to GetAcceptd.com/mnsota, go to their Applications tab, and check the status (Continue, Pending, or Submitted) of Billy and all their students.

Some generated messages include the Application ID number. When you Pay and Submit for a student, you will be told the Application ID number. You should make a note of it because once a student's status is Pending or Submitted, you can not find out what their Application ID number is.

*Any questions should be directed to Lindsey Lamb, lamb.mlho@gmail. com. **For technical questions about Acceptd, contact technical support as listed on the Acceptd website** https://app.getacceptd.com/MNSOTA.*

Middle Level Honors Orchestra

Grades 7–9
February 15–16, 2019
University of Northwestern-St. Paul
Convention Center, Minneapolis

**Use this form to collect information before uploading
to GetAcceptd.com**
GetAcceptd opens Friday October 12
Step 1 Registration requires _all_ the information on this form.

Minnesota Chapter of ASTA

Minnesota String & Orchestra Teachers Association

After all uploads and payment have been made (Step 1 is complete) record the Application ID generated by GetAcceptd here:

_____

Student provides the following:

Student Last Name _____ First Name _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Grade _____ M/F _____ Instrument _____

Audition Choice Piece (composer/title) _____

Mark recordings that are complete: ☐ Major scale ☐ Minor scale ☐ Excerpt ☐ Choice piece

Parent provides the following:

Parent Last Name _____ First Name _____

Parent's Email _____

Payment of $33: ○ Enter credit card info directly into GetAcceptd
or ○ Give Teacher/director a personal check and Teacher/director will pay GetAcceptd

Teacher/director provides the following:

Teacher/director Last Name _____ First Name _____

School Phone _____ School Name _____

School Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Teacher's Email _____

Directors / sponsoring teachers must be members in good standing of **both** ASTA/MNSOTA and
NAfME/MMEA for their student applications to be processed. Membership will be verified.

ASTA/MNSOTA Membership # _____ Expiration Date _____

☐ My ASTA/MNSOTA membership is not current, but I have contacted www.astastrings.org to renew/become a new member
and have sent verification of membership to MNSOTA Member Coordinator Cindy Johnson MNSOTAmembership@gmail.com

NAfME/MMEA Membership # _____ Expiration Date _____

☐ My NAfME/MMEA membership is not current, but I have contacted MMEA to renew/become a new member and
have sent verification of membership to MNSOTA Member Coordinator Cindy Johnson MNSOTAmembership@gmail.com