UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
School of Music and Dance

Dear Directors:

On behalf of the University of Oregon, the School of Music and Dance and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics I am happy to welcome you to the 42nd Festival of Bands. We are quite excited to host the NWAPA Championships this year and eager to experience the great shows presented by our 29 participating bands.

Each band has been assigned Oregon Marching Band students as guides to help you in any way needed during your stay here. As much as possible, we have tried to match your former students to your bands so many of you will see familiar faces. Please trust your band guides to have all the information you need. They will be contacting you in the weeks before the show and will be your primary source of information. They are all excited to work with you, so please put them to work. Early contact almost always results in a better experience for everyone.

We will again this year charge a $5 fee (cash) for parking in the East Autzen Stadium lot. These fees enable us to hire parking attendants and ensure that the parking lot is safe for students and spectators. We appreciate your support in this decision to help ensure the safety of your students.

There have been major changes to the Autzen complex in the past two years! Please check the Flow of Show and Parking maps carefully. Prop Storage and transportation routes have been carefully considered to create the most convenience for everyone. Please be sure that the people moving your props have and understand these routes. Your band guides know the stadium well and should be able to help with your planning. As you store props, please help keep pathways clear and do not block gates or doorways. Autzen Stadium is busy even when football is out of town, and we need to make sure everyone has the access they need.

We will host a director's hospitality room in the press box. You can get there by taking the elevator up to the press box level from the South Concourse. **Make sure your NWAPA Director's credential is clearly displayed.** Please come by and say hello!

Thank you for attending the 42nd Festival of Bands, I'm looking forward to seeing your performances and spending a great day together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric S. Wiltshire
Director, Oregon Athletic Bands
Associate Professor, Music Education
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An equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

2026 Festival of Bands
General Information

Tickets and Spectator Parking:

- General Admission for the Festival of Bands is $20.
  Senior/Military admission is $18.
  Student/Youth or 5+ ticket package is $15 per ticket.
  Children ages 6 and under are free!
  Tickets can be purchased at the gate or in advance online at omb.uoregon.edu/festival-of-bands.
  We strongly advise people to purchase their tickets online for an advance-sale discount and to avoid delays at the gate.
- Parking at Autzen Stadium is $5 per vehicle, **cash only.** Parking fees allow us to hire parking lot attendants who will keep the lot safe during the festival. Passes are good throughout the day, but do not guarantee a parking spot. Autzen parking passes are valid only in the Autzen East lot spectator parking – entry 5.

Pre-Sales: Tickets, Programs and Merchandise

- **Tickets** can be purchased online both before and on the day of the event. **We strongly advise people to purchase their tickets online to avoid delays at the gate.** Advance ticket purchases are discounted!
  https://ticket.uoregon.edu/festivalofbands/festival-tickets
- **Programs** can be pre-ordered. You will be issued a voucher that can be exchanged for a program at the event.
  https://ticket.uoregon.edu/festivalofbands/program-voucher
- To reduce long merchandise lines, it is now possible to pre-order merchandise through our partners at **Northwest Designs Ink**. Online orders will be shipped directly to the buyer.
  https://online-apparel.com/s/nwapa-championships/

Before You Arrive:

- Physical information packets will be available when you arrive. These packets will include student wristbands and staff/volunteer wristbands (minimum of 10 or 1 per 8 students). They will also include ten 50% off GA price coupons for additional staff/volunteer wristbands (available at the ticket booth at the South Entrance). Each school will also receive parking passes for Spectator Parking (minimum of 10 or 1 per 8 students) when the band checks in. Spectators may not park in the Band Parking area, all cars in the Band Parking area must be directly affiliated with band (i.e. staff or director vehicles, chaperones working directly with the band, etc.)
- **Autzen has changed**! Please read all maps and information you receive. Please contact your band guides before the day of the festival and trust them to have the information you need. ***As a courtesy to the band on the field, please warm up only in designated areas, facing horns and metronomes away from the stadium.***

Revised: 10/26/2026

Arrival, Band Parking and Staging Area:

- Buses and equipment trucks should turn onto Leo Harris Blvd. on the West side of the stadium and enter the parking area through Entry 4. Spectator parking will enter through Entry 5.
- **Band lots open at 7am. Spectator lot will open at 9am. Gates open at 10am.**
- Overnight parking is not allowed in any of the parking lots at Autzen Stadium.
- Prop storage is available on the North Apron of the stadium. Please refer to the Prop Storage Map for more information. Please ensure that props are not blocking building or gate access. Car and truck access will not be available, so all props must be moved by hand or with a gator or golf cart.
- Props must fit through both entry tunnels and may not be in the stadium until your group's performance time. **The tunnels are 6'9" tall and 10'6" wide.**
- **Prop Movement:** Props may be staged in the Northwest corner of the stadium prior to band performances. Please check the Flow of Show Map and the Prop Storage Map for more details. Trucks are not allowed in the area, so all props must be moved on foot or with approved small vehicles. **It is vital that a travel lane be left open throughout the day. Props blocking the lane or blocking gates will be moved.**
- After your performance, props must travel with the band back to the Band Parking Area.
- Changing rooms/restrooms are available at Papé Field. Only some of the portable toilets will be open. We do not own or control all of the portable toilets, so please be look for those that have been unlocked for you.
- First Aid (Lane EMS) is located in the East Tunnel. Access is through the East Gate.
- We have several vendors and booths located in the South Concourse. Please encourage your students to visit them. Beacock Music will be in the South Concourse to provide emergency instrument repair.
- Our fabulous Autzen Stadium concessions will be available in the South Concourse as well as some food carts.
- To encourage support of our smaller performing ensembles, we will have a giveaway of items for the first 50 spectators in the stands courtesy of our sponsors: Remo, Vic Firth/Zildjian, Ludwig, and Nothing Bundt Cakes!
- The Press Box is open to directors for field viewing and complimentary refreshments. Please be prepared to show NWAPA passes to the monitor at the elevator in the South Concourse.
- Dumpsters will be placed throughout the band parking areas. Please let your band guides know if the dumpsters need emptied; your help in keeping the parking lot clean is greatly appreciated.

Awards Retreat:
There will be senior ceremony organized by NWAPA. Drum Majors, Captains, and Seniors should assemble on the concourse outside Seating area 35. Once they are in order, they will watch from section 35 the OMB performance and then have easy access to the field for the retreat immediately following.

Video:
Each performance will be recorded and distributed to directors via NWAPA.

Inclement Weather and Air Quality:
While "It never rains in Autzen Stadium," we do have plans for inclement weather. In most cases, the festival will run rain or shine. If we do get poor weather, we will monitor conditions with NWAPA officials and adjust the schedule as necessary to ensure the safety of participants and guests.

The University of Oregon uses the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA.org) and AirNow.gov as our primary source of air quality information. If the Air Quality Index (AQI) is below 100, the festival will continue as scheduled. If the AQI rises above 100 we will make an announcement suggesting the use of an N95 mask for people with underlying health conditions. If the AQI rises above 200 we will need to postpone or cancel the festival. These decisions will be made in consultation with NWAPA personnel. Please note that the guidelines may be different for your specific schools.

Lightning alerts from Weatherstem will be pushed to festival staff when strikes occur within an 8-mile radius. An announcement will be made over the loudspeaker for shelter instructions. Spectators will be directed to the south concourse, performing bands will be directed to the closest field-level tunnel, bands in the warmup areas and outside the stadium will be directed to the Moshofsky center. Sheltering will take place until a 30-minute all-clear has passed.

Oregon Football:
The Oregon Football team will return from their away game at some point in the evening. We expect it will be around 10PM, which shouldn't cause any disruption to the festival, however we want to be ready in case they come back early. Their buses typically travel in front of the Moshofsky Center to outside the West Tunnel. Festival staff will receive communication when they are on route and staff will assist with the movements of any bands that might be staging at the west tunnel during that time to ensure everyone's safety.

Oregon Volleyball:
Oregon Volleyball is hosting #1 Nebraska at Matthew Knight Arena on November 7th. With a sold-out crowd, Athletics is shuttling fans from the Moshofsky Parking Lot to MKA Arena. Because of this, it is even more important to park in designated FofB areas.

Festival of Bands
2026 Flow of Show Instructions

Arrival Instructions:

1. Your band guides will contact you the week before the show. You should have 2-3 guides, so make sure you have contact information for all of them.
2. Call or text your band guide 10-15 minutes before your arrival at Autzen Stadium.
3. Enter the Autzen complex on Leo Harris Parkway by turning off MLK Blvd on the WEST side of the Autzen Complex. A map is included in the Director's Packet.
4. Continue EAST on Leo Harris and STOP at the check-in booth in front of the Autzen South Gate. Your band guides will meet you there with your information packets.
5. **All band vehicles should stop at the check-in tent. We will have band guides for all vehicles as they arrive.**
6. Park as indicated on the Parking Map. To ensure that everyone has enough room, all band parking has been pre-assigned. To best utilize assigned space, some bands with excess truck/storage needs may opt to have their buses drop off/pick up with off-site parking at Valley River Center.
7. Restrooms are available at Papè Field. A select number of Port-a-potties will also be open. We do not control all of the toilets in the parking area, so not all of them will be able to be unlocked. Ask your band guides to help identify the open toilets near your parking area.
8. Papé Field restrooms can also be used for changing.
9. Water for cooking is available at the front of Papé Field.

Warm-up Instructions:

1. Please warm-up ONLY in designated areas.
2. Warm-ups may not begin anywhere on the Autzen property until after 7:00 am.
3. We will provide guides to make sure every element of your group gets to the correct warm-up. Please be sure to communicate your needs to your band guides.
4. When you leave the parking area, your guides will help each element of your group find the best path to your assigned warm up area. If you want to warm up as a complete ensemble, please use your assigned Wind Warm-up Area. Please make sure to bring everything you need to warm-up, you will not return to your parking area until after your performance.
5. There are several possible paths from warm-up area to the performance entrance at the WEST Tunnel. Your guides will help ensure that your entire group gets where they need to be.
6. Approximately 10 minutes before your performance time, your band should enter the WEST Tunnel. Your guides will help get you there. Front Ensemble

equipment and props (see props instructions, below) should be in front of the band in the tunnel.

7. Visual warmup is available inside Papé on the soccer field – accessible from the NORTH. South entrance is only for restrooms/changing rooms.

Performance Instructions:

1. The OMB Drum Majors will be at field level at the base of the tunnel. They will be in contact with the chief judge and will give you instructions about when to take the field.
2. All Front Ensemble carts must have large wheels that will not harm the turf. Golf carts or gators used to transport equipment must be in good working order and not leaking any fluids that will harm the field**.** We will have people available to help ensure the safety of the turf and reserve the right to limit access to vehicles deemed unsafe for the turf.
3. Gas powered generators can be used but must not sit directly on the field turf. They must sit on a protective surface.
4. Bands will enter through the West tunnel and proceed directly onto the field (Side 1). Front ensembles will pre-stage in the SW corner of the field and move into position as directed by NWAPA field staff. Interval time will start when the first performer or prop crosses the 50-yard line into Side 2. NWAPA field staff will coordinate performance start with Band Director. Interval time will stop when all performers are making steady progress towards East Side 2 exit and are completely clear from Side 1. Timing begins in accordance with NWAPA rules.
5. Two extension cords will be available in the Front Ensemble area.
6. Perform to the SOUTH side of the stadium, on your right as you enter from the WEST tunnel.

Post-Performance Instructions:

1. Exit through the EAST tunnel, to the performers' left.
2. All props and front ensemble equipment must exit with you.
3. The Exit through the EAST gate will take you back to the parking area. Your guides will stay with you until you are back in your area in the parking lot.

Instructions for Bands Using Props:

1. Props should move with the band OR may be stored on the Northwest Apron (see Flow of Show Map). Your guides can help you locate the prop storage area and ensure that you are not blocking essential access areas. Props blocking doors, gates, or other access will be moved.
2. **There is no truck or car access to the prop storage area**. All props must be carried/ wheeled to the storage area. This can be done through the EAST Gate and around the NORTH side of the stadium. Your band guides will assist you. **Please leave adequate time for this process. Bands moving into and out of the performance area always have the right of way.**
3. Please ensure that stored props do not block gates or designated pathways. **Props that are blocking gates or pathways will be moved.**

4. Please ensure that all props can be wheeled or carried in a way that will not harm the turf.
5. For performances, ALL Props must enter through the WEST tunnel and exit through the EAST tunnel, with the band. **Tunnel Dimensions: 6'9" tall, 10'6" Wide.**