

September 21, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from The College of New Jersey! I hope this message finds you doing well and enjoying a musical start to the year. My name is Eric Laprade and I am the new Director of Bands at TCNJ. I am thrilled to be at TCNJ and look forward to meeting you and collaborating in the coming years.

It is my pleasure to share details of the 2018 **TCNJ Honors Wind Ensemble**—a program for your top woodwind, brass, and percussion students. The event will be held **Sunday, November 11th and Saturday, November 17th** on TCNJ's beautiful campus, culminating with a performance in the historic Kendall Main Stage Theater. **We invite you to nominate up to 15 of your most talented students in grades 9-12 for this special program.**

Purpose and Benefits of the TCNJ Honors Wind Ensemble:

- The purpose of the TCNJ Honors Wind Ensemble is to provide an enriching musical experience for your top woodwind, brass, and percussion students, and to provide an in-depth look at all that TCNJ has to offer. There will be rehearsals, clinics, and masterclasses with our talented faculty members. The opportunity to play in the ensemble will enable students to learn from each other and have an educational, musical, and rewarding experience.

Dates, time, and cost of the TCNJ Honors Wind Ensemble

- On Sunday, 11/11, the program will run from 9am-6pm.
- On Saturday, 11/17, the program will run from 4:45-6:45pm with the final concert at 8pm; students are also invited to attend TCNJ's FREE *How to Give a Great Audition Workshop*, which runs from 11:30-4:15.
- The cost per student is \$40, which includes a commemorative t-shirt.

Instructions for nominating your students (please complete the online form by Friday, 10/19)

- Nomination form: <https://goo.gl/WKSbQG>
- Please inform your students of the specific dates/times of the program. We ask that any student who expresses interest keep their schedule open in case they are selected. Students will be notified as soon as possible so that they can make plans ahead of time.
- In the "instrument" field, please indicate if the student is capable and interested in playing alternative instruments such as piccolo, English horn, and contra-instruments, etc.
- Please list students in the order you think we should accept them. Rank your best/most-deserving students first. If a student is interested and they are not necessarily your top player, but you think they are very deserving of an opportunity such as this, feel free to consider that in your ranking.
- The deadline to nominate students is **Friday, October 19th at 11:59pm**

Thank you for the opportunity to work with your students. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions and I look forward to receiving your nominations!

Warmest Regards,



Eric M. Laprade
Assistant Professor & Director of Bands
The College of New Jersey