



Eric L. Hinton • PhD, HonFRBC

Susquehanna University

Associate Professor of Music/Director of Bands

514 University Avenue

Selinsgrove, PA 17870

bands@susqu.edu

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Dear Student,

Come join us for the Twenty-Eighth Annual Susquehanna University Honors Band Festival on **February 21-23, 2020**. This is a unique event designed to give talented high school woodwind, brass and percussion players an opportunity to share their passion for music with like-minded students. As always, we will offer two honors ensembles, the Honors Wind Ensemble and the Honors Band as well as the Honors Festival Band, which brings both groups together. If you participated last year, hopefully it was a memorable musical experience. We have invited Mr. Len Lavelle, Director of Bands at North Hills High School (Pittsburgh, PA), to be our guest conductor this year. Mr. Lavelle is an exceptional musician and educator and I am certain that you will learn a great deal working with him.

The Susquehanna University Honors Band Festival begins on Friday afternoon, Feb. 21st, with seating auditions and master classes by the applied wind and percussion faculty of Susquehanna University. You will be treated to a performance by the University Symphonic Band and the University Jazz Ensemble that evening. The bands rehearse all day on Saturday, followed by a pizza party that night. The gala concert on Sunday features performances by the Honors Band, Honors Wind Ensemble and Festival Band beginning at 3:00 on Sunday afternoon. The registration fee for accepted students is **\$60.00** per student, which covers all of the activities for the weekend including housing from Feb 21-23 as well as meals from Saturday breakfast through Sunday brunch. You will be housed in University dormitories with University Symphonic Band members and other music students. Honors Band t-shirts may be purchased for \$10 each. Please be sure to invite family and friends to the concert.

You can learn more about the Honors Band Festival by going to our website: **<<http://www.susqu.edu/honorsbandfestival>>**. You will also find a printable pdf version of the application. If you are able to participate, fill out the application and, after your director has filled out the bottom portion, return it to us by **Monday, November 4th**. Feel free to tell your musician friends about the festival and duplicate the form as needed. Selected students and their directors will be notified by **Monday, November 18th**. If you are accepting our invitation to participate in the Twenty-Seventh Annual Honors Band Festival, we ask you to do so formally via email by **Monday, December 2nd**. We will do our best to get music for seating auditions out on or before **Friday, December 20th**. This will give you ample time to practice the music!!! If you are a junior or senior looking at colleges, this would be a great way to meet our faculty and get a real feel for SU. If there are any questions, please e-mail us at **bands@susqu.edu** or call (570) 372-4296. Our fax number is (570) 372-2789.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Hinton".

Eric Hinton • PhD, HonFRBC

Director of Bands/Associate Professor of Music

