



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

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CONGRATULATIONS! You have been selected as a member of the 2018 ATSSB All-State Band! Fill out the press release available online and take it *to your local newspapers*.

Go to the following URL to download the excerpts you will use for chair auditions on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 in San Antonio: http://www.atssb.org/Area_Excerpts_18.htm. You will use these excerpts in auditioning for chair placement at All-State, so begin working on them as soon as possible. Percussionists may bring their own equipment to San Antonio for chair auditions on Wednesday. However, ATSSB will not be responsible for its transportation, storage or safety.

You and/or your director should have made housing arrangements for staying in the Hyatt Regency, deciding on roommates (4 to a room) and Designated Chaperones. If you do not sign up for a room at Area (rooms are scarce in San Antonio at this time of year), you will have to make your own arrangements for lodging during the clinic. Please remember that Designated Chaperones must stay in the same hotel as their student(s) - wherever that is. Your director (or their agent) will complete the reservations through TMEA in the next two days following the Hotel Guidelines (<http://www.atssb.org/HousingQuickGuide2018.pdf>).

You are to check in at Registration in the Hyatt Regency Los Rios Foyer at the top of the escalator (bring signed and notarized medical release and two copies of the signed Code of Conduct, pick up badge and late-breaking information) beginning at 1:30 p.m., then check into the hotel (or whenever rooms are cleaned and ready for occupancy). ***You will not be allowed to audition for chairs or participate in all-state if you do not have these forms properly signed and notarized.*** Your director can download these forms for you from the TMEA website after Area and give them to you.

There will be a meeting of all All-State Band members in the Hyatt Regency Ballroom B at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. After the general meeting, auditions will be held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Check at registration when you arrive to see if any changes have been made in the chair audition room assignment or audition times. You will be reminded of audition times and rooms at that meeting, so make sure you get checked into the hotel in plenty of time, and make sure you have your audition music, music stand, personal tuner and instrument with you at the meeting.

A rehearsal schedule for all-state ensembles is also available online. Be sure to keep it with you so you will know when you are to be at rehearsals (remember, being on time is usually LATE for rehearsals!). Your organizational rehearsal is scheduled for Wednesday evening at 8:30. There are also section rehearsals on Thursday morning.

Thursday and Friday evenings will be available for most students to tour the Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio, take in a movie at the Cinema in the Rivercenter Mall, or attend TMEA honor band and other concerts that are open to the general public. Your ATSSB badge will admit you to the TMEA exhibits and clinics if you can find time to attend (check with your director for a schedule of convention events and activities).

Checkout time at the Hyatt Regency is 11:00 a.m. so you will have to check out before you go to the concert unless you have chosen to stay over Saturday night. The hotel will check your luggage during the concert and rooms will be available in which you may change clothes after the concert. Please be aware that there is a dress code for the concert (band uniform or, if no band uniform is available, appropriate formal concert attire including coat and tie for men and conservative dresses for women; check with your director if you have concerns). Direct any questions you might have to your band director, your ATSSB Region Coordinator, your ATSSB Area Coordinator, or any officer of the Association.

Once again, congratulations on your selection to the ATSSB All-State Band! We hope the experience is one you will treasure for a lifetime.

Kenneth L. Griffin
ATSSB Executive Secretary