



5317 FRUITVILLE ROAD, #192
SARASOTA, FL 34232

GULF COAST HONOR BAND 2022 PRESS RELEASE

Hello Directors, Students, and Parents,

The Sarasota Concert Band is proud to announce audition details for the 2022 Gulf Coast Honor Band!

This year the **Hecht Foundation again is providing \$12,000 in scholarships**, which will be awarded to approximately 35 students from grades 7 through 12. Scholarships are awarded through the Honor Band audition process with highly qualified and impartial judges.

The **Young Artist Competition** is another exciting opportunity for Seniors. This scholarship is open to Seniors who are playing a solo that has an available band accompaniment. \$3000 in scholarships will be awarded for the first three places.

We are also excited to announce our **CONDUCTORS!** This year the middle school band will be conducted by Sarah Baca, Director of Bands at Mulrennan Middle School, and the high school honor band will be conducted by Dr. Marc Sosnowchik, Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at the University of South Florida, and Associate Conductor of the Florida Wind Band. Their bios are attached below.

Timeline

Early January – Audition and Registration Materials Distributed

- Materials are also available online at <https://www.brhsbands.org/gulf-coast-honor-band>

January 18th – Director Kick-Off Meeting via Zoom @ 7PM (Optional – will review audition process)

- Zoom Link – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83818387204?pwd=N1kvYWd1aTJ3eG1tZ0toL0xTVmVEdz09>

February 4th – Online Registration Due via Google Forms

- Registration Link – <https://forms.gle/H4WiqAbmo9rNNfcaA>

February 18th – Online LIVE Audition Time Sign Up Due

- Audition Sign Up Link – <https://app.planhero.com/gatherings/11607-gulf-coast-honor-band-auditions>

February 26th – LIVE Auditions at Pine View School, Sarasota, FL

- Auditions will begin at 9:00AM

March 7th – Audition Results Announced via Email

March 28th – Concert Music Distributed

April 2nd – *Tentative Date* Young Artist Competition LIVE Auditions – Location and Times TBD

April 4th – Young Artist Competition Winner Announced via Email

May 13th – Middle School and High School Rehearsal – Braden River HS

- 6:00PM – 9:00PM

May 14th – Middle School and High School Rehearsal – Braden River HS

- 9:00AM – 12:00PM & 1:00PM – 4:00PM

May 15th – Dress Rehearsal and Concert at the Sarasota Opera House

- Dress Rehearsal Details TBD – Concert Begins at 5:00PM

Please send all questions to GulfCoastHonorBand@gmail.com

Strike up the band!

William Barbanera, Music Director, Education Director, Sarasota Concert Band, Gulf Coast Honor Band

Jeremiah Bowman and Cliff Dawson, Gulf Coast Honor Band



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MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR BAND AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Woodwind and Brass Audition Requirements:

Minimum One Octave Chromatic Scale – octave of your choice

- FBA Style
- Tongued ascending and slurred descending
- Minimum Tempo 120 BPM

One Octave Scales

- FBA Style
- Tongued ascending and slurred descending
- Play as many scales as you can in three (3) minutes
- Additional octaves are optional and can earn student extra points

Etude

- General Audition (student wants entry into band, but not considered for a scholarship)
- Must play through at least sections 1, 2, and 3 without break

- Scholarship Audition (student wants entry into band, and considered for a scholarship)
- Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 without break

-Section 5 is optional for middle school students but could earn student extra points towards a scholarship.

Percussion Audition Requirements:

Etude – Same Requirements for Snare, Mallet, and Timpani Audition

Students can audition on all three instruments, or two instruments of their choice, or only one instrument of their choice.

- General Audition (student wants entry into band, but not considered for a scholarship)
- Must play through at least sections 1, 2, and 3 without break

- Scholarship Audition (student wants entry into band, and considered for a scholarship)
- Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 without break

-Section 5 is optional for middle school students but could earn student extra points towards a scholarship.



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HIGH SCHOOL HONOR BAND AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Woodwind and Brass Audition Requirements:

Chromatic Scale

- Full range of instrument student can play
- FBA Style
- Tongued Ascending and Slurred Descending
- Can start on note of your choice

One Octave Scales

- FBA Style
- Play as many scales as you can within three (3) minutes
- Tongued Ascending and Slurred Descending
- Additional octaves are optional and could earn student extra points

Etude

- General Audition (student wants entry into band, but not considered for a scholarship)
 - Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 without break
- Scholarship Audition (student wants entry into band, and considered for a scholarship)
 - Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 without break

Percussion Audition Requirements:

Etude – Same Requirements for Snare, Mallet, and Timpani Audition

Students can audition on all three instruments, or two instruments of their choice, or only one instrument of their choice

- General Audition (student wants entry into band, but not considered for a scholarship)
 - Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 without break
- Scholarship Audition (student wants entry into band, and considered for a scholarship)
 - Must play through at least sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 without break



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YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS *2022 Seniors Only*

In addition to the High School Honor Band Audition Requirements, **Seniors** who plan to audition for the Young Arts Competition must complete the following requirements.

Student must also audition and participate in the Gulf Coast Honor Band to be eligible to audition for the Young Artist Competition.

Students are NOT required to audition with an accompanist on April 2nd, 2022 *Tentative Date*

Location and Times TBD

A student's audition piece must be an advance solo/concerto level with an available BAND accompaniment. Pieces must be vetted and approved by the Gulf Coast Honor Band.

Please send all questions to GulfCoastHonorBand@gmail.com



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2022 GULF COAST HONOR BAND CONDUCTORS

Middle School Honor Band – Sarah Baca, conductor



Sarah Baca is in her sixteenth year as a middle school band director in Hillsborough County. She is currently the director at Mulrennan Middle School in Valrico, FL, conducting 4 ensembles including a Jazz Band. She is a graduate of the University of South Florida where she received her BSA in Music Education, but originally a native of Butler, PA.

In her years in the profession, she has served the professional community and is an active clinician and adjudicator. Mrs. Baca served as the leadership for Florida Bandmaster's Association District 7 for four years and judges many Solo and Ensemble events throughout the state. Her Concert and Jazz Bands have consistently received high ratings at Music Performance Assessments. She also conducts and clinics at the University of Tampa and USF Band Camps in the summer. With her husband and two children, she also finds time for leisure.

High School Honor Band – Dr. Marc Sosnowchik, conductor



Marc Sosnowchik is the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at the University of South Florida, and Associate Conductor of the Florida Wind Band. His current teaching responsibilities include conducting the Symphonic Band, teaching courses in conducting and music education, directing the Herd of Thunder Marching Band, and overseeing all aspects of Athletic Bands at USF. Previously, Dr. Sosnowchik was Assistant Director of Bands at Oklahoma State University.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Sosnowchik maintains an active schedule as a clinician, conductor, adjudicator, and arranger. He conducts honor bands throughout the United States, and in the summer teaches on the faculty of the World Youth Wind Orchestra Project/World Adult Wind Orchestra Project as part of the Mid-Europe Festival in Schladming, Austria.

Dr. Sosnowchik earned his bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Alabama, and both his master's and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in conducting from The University of Texas at Austin. Before teaching at the university level, Dr. Sosnowchik taught at Louis Pizitz Middle School in Vestavia Hills, AL. During that time, he also served as conductor of the Tuscaloosa Winds and was a staff member for Music for All/Bands of America festivals and symposia.