

Greetings Directors!

As Tallcorn is a few weeks out, I wanted to share some important information that has not been communicated yet. Please reference this document and the “FAQs” as you have questions regarding the day of the festival.

Equipment and Music

As in years past, we will provide backline equipment for every band. This includes a drum kit, 1 guitar amp, 1 bass amp, and one set of vibes. **We will not be providing cymbals or cymbal stands for bands to use.** Failure to bring your own cymbals will result in performance without cymbals or forfeit of performance without a refund. If you do forget your cymbals, you will need to ask another band to borrow theirs. You will need to provide your own auxiliary percussion and any additional amps or vibes. Similarly, UNI’s printing facilities will **not** be available for you to use for music. Should you forget your music, you will need to visit our local printing shop just off campus, perform your set from memory, or forfeit your performance without refund.

Band Rosters

As you might have seen in our past mailings, this year we ask that you provide us with 4 copies of your band roster. Please use our form, which you can find [here](#) or on our website at <https://www.tallcornjazzfest.com/copy-of-director-info>. This is to help our judges/clinicians with their comments for non-soloists, and to submit to UNI as required for the Tallcorn T-shirts.

Soloist Forms

We also require that you provide us with 5 soloist forms upon check-in at Tallcorn. These will be added to your folders and given to the judges and clinicians who will decide on outstanding soloist awards. These soloist forms can be found [here](#) or at the above-mentioned link, next to the band roster form.

T-Shirts

If you have not yet forwarded this [t-shirt link](#) to your students, please do so ASAP. UNI requires that each student fill out the survey in order to receive a free Tallcorn t-shirt.

Copyright

Upon check-in, we will ask that you present original scores or proof of purchase for each chart that you plan to use in competition. This is to avoid copyright issues, and failure to comply will prevent us from allowing you to perform those charts.

Parking/Busses

Please see the bus parking maps on our website for directions for busses. There has been a policy change from the university, and we ask that busses park in the R lot off of 27th St. (west of Hudson Rd.) after dropping you off. We will have signs on the day of the festival to help direct them to the right place. **Please note that the check-in in the Gallagher will be on the east side of the building this year, just off the service road.** This is the opposite side of the building from past years. As you will see on the maps, this should make things easier for your busses, as they can pull through and drop you off and then continue straight to get to the parking lot. We apologize that the parking lot is such a long walk from your performance center, and we thank you for your cooperation. Questions concerning parking can be directed to caroline.francis@uni.edu. Parents and guests can park in the metered lots just north of the Gallagher Bluedorn for both centers. We have notified the public safety office at UNI, and tickets will not be given out for visitors parking in the meters that day.

Homerooms

We are using a slightly different system for homerooms this year in hopes of making things more efficient. Each of you will get an email about a week before the festival notifying you of your assigned homeroom and the times it has been allotted to you. Each band will be allowed to check into their homeroom up to 2 hours before their warm-up time, and must check out within 25 minutes of the end of their clinic. Upon checking out of your homeroom, bands from Russell may store their gear in room 161, and bands in Gallagher may store their gear in the west wing of the 2nd floor. Russell's room 161 will also be used to store equipment and instruments for bands wishing to stay for the night concert. We will lock this room after the final band of the day concludes their clinic, and can unlock it for you upon conclusion of the night concert. Please let us know if the timing for homerooms may prove difficult for you, and we can try to work something out.

Concessions

Concessions will be provided by us at both centers. These include donuts and coffee in the morning, and pizza for lunch, as well as various other items. If you wish to eat elsewhere, you can buy single meals at the dining center on campus. Alternatively, there are numerous restaurants on College Street or University Avenue, both of which are short bus rides from campus.

Clinics with Myra Melford

We are excited to once again host clinics over the lunch break with this year's SDIJ guest artist, Myra Melford. We encourage all participating directors and students to attend these sessions with a world-renowned musician. This will take place from around 12:15-1:15 in Bengtson Auditorium both Thursday and Friday and are free to all those participating or those who have gotten hand stamps.

Tickets to night concerts

We are excited to offer discounts for groups over 5 people to this year's Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz night concerts that will take place at 7:15 pm on both Thursday, February 20 and Friday, February 21. Simply enter the code SDIJGROUP to receive 20% off your tickets. Tickets may be purchased [here](#) or through our website.

Directors Comp Tickets

We are once again offering complimentary tickets to the SDIJ concerts for all band directors. Please let us know if you are interested in this deal **no later than Friday, Feb 14**, and we will pass your name along. Tickets will be given to you upon check-in.

Live Stream

Please let parents know that if they are unable to make it to Tallcorn, they can watch their kids perform through UNI's live stream. The links to these will be up on our website during the festival.

Time Slots

Each band will get 25 minutes total for warm-up, performance, and tear down. While you are free to split this up any way you wish, we recommend only playing 3 charts. We will have a

runner on hand to time you and assist with set up and tear down. Should there be any error on our end that takes up some of your time, we will not penalize you by forcing you to shorten your set.

Comments and Ballots

We will be providing comments, soloist forms from judges for you, as well as a recording of your band's performance, via Google Drive. You should receive access to a Google Drive folder with your band's name on it from us about a week out from the festival. Please let us know if you do not receive access. Also note that we will not share access to these folders until we have received your payment. Soloist certificates for each band will be given to you either in person after the awards ceremony, or mailed to you. If you choose to do the latter, please provide us with your school's mailing address at the registration table upon check-in.

Awards Ceremony

The awards ceremony for both days of Tallcorn will take place at 5:30 pm in the Great Hall of the Gallagher Bluedorn. Please consider showing up at 5:00 to enjoy the pre-shows. On Thursday, the UNI jazz faculty will perform as a combo, and on Friday, UNI Jazz Band Three will perform until the start of the awards ceremony.

Results

As we prioritize the educational aspect of this festival, we will only be announcing the top three finishers in each class, as well as the outstanding soloists for each category. These will be posted online on Saturday, February 22. If you need to know the results for time-sensitive reasons such as a press release and are unable to attend the awards ceremony, please let us know and we can get you results earlier than Saturday.

Trophies

We will not ship trophies to you. If your band places in the top three, you must be present at the awards ceremony to pick up your trophy, or arrange to come back to campus in the near future to pick it up. Please let us know if you plan to do the latter, and we will work with you to figure out a time.

FAQs

Please see the [FAQs document](#) for directors, as it is another helpful resource for the day of the festival. We especially encourage you to read this if this is your first time attending Tallcorn, as it does a better job explaining how the day will play out than this mailing.

More Questions?

If you have questions, please check out our [website](#), and especially the “Participating Bands” tab. As always, please feel free to reach out to us with more questions at tallcornjazzfest@gmail.com. You can also reach out to Prof. Chris Merz at chris.merz@uni.edu or Dr. Michael Conrad at michael.conrad@uni.edu. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

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Isaac Smith, Tallcorn Coordinator

Donovan Klutho, Assistant Coordinator