



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Pioneer Honor Band Festival?

The 8th Annual Pioneer Honor Band Festival will be hosted by Texas Woman's University on November 20-21, 2026. This two-day event will feature wonderful opportunities for students and directors:

- Attend a masterclass with TWU faculty on the all-region etudes (both TMEA and ATSSB)
- Perform in and work with our Honor Band conductor, **Frank Ticheli**.
- Attend a special performances featuring the TWU ensembles including our Wind Symphony

How do I participate?

Student participation is through band director nomination only. If you are interested in participating, please talk to your band director and have them fill out the nomination form which is found here:

[NOMINATE STUDENTS HERE](#)

How much does it cost?

The registration fee is \$45 per student, and includes a t-shirt and lunch on Saturday. There are discounts for students who are members of the 2025-2026 HS All-Region, All-Area, and All-State ensembles. All-Region students will pay \$35, All-Area students will pay \$25, and All-State students will attend the weekend free of charge. **All schools with participating students will also be required to pay a modest SCHOOL REGISTRATION FEE of \$50. This fee can be paid online, with a check or PO. All payments (school and student) will be due on or before Friday, November 20 at check-in.** A payment link (if available) will be sent to all directors and students along with their selection notification if you wish to pay online. **If schools are paying for their students, a check or copy of a PO must be received by check-in.**

What happens if my school has a play-off game on that Friday night?

We understand that bands may still be involved in playoff games this time of year. Some directors may excuse their students from the game to attend the Honor Band Festival. If you are a student that will still be involved in performing at playoff games, you are still **STRONGLY** encouraged to participate. If you must miss the Friday session due to a conflict with a playoff game, please arrive promptly by 7:15 AM on Saturday morning to register and audition prior to the morning session.

How do I audition?

The Pioneer Honor Band is by nomination only. There are no auditions involved. Students will be assigned seats and parts based upon director nomination.

Is there a schedule of events for the weekend?

A schedule of events for the weekend can be found on the TWU Pioneer Honor Band webpage which can be found here: <https://twu.edu/music/camps-and-workshops/pioneer-honor-band-festival/>

Division of Music/TWU Bands

305 Pioneer Circle | Denton, TX 76209 | 940 898 2689 | twu.edu/music

**How do you get to the TWU Music Building?**

Directions to the Texas Woman's University Music Building can be found by searching a GPS for the address, 305 Pioneer Circle, Denton, TX 76209, or written directions can be found on the TWU Pioneer Honor Band webpage which is located here:

<https://twu.edu/music/camps-and-workshops/pioneer-honor-band-festival/>

Is housing available?

Unfortunately, there is no on-campus housing available for this event. For anyone unable to commute to the event and would like to spend Friday and/or Saturday night near campus, select rates are currently being negotiated with area hotels. When this is completed, information will be updated here. There will be a limited number of rooms available at each hotel at the discounted rates.

CURRENT DISCOUNTED RATES

Will be updated as they become available

Where should we park?

Parking can be found all around the Texas Woman's University campus. Feel free to park in any open spot after 5pm on weekdays and anytime on weekends. All lots are free to use EXCEPT the parking garage. At this time the TWU parking garage does not allow non-permitted vehicles to use the facility. A parking map can be found here - <https://twu.edu/parking/parking-maps/>

Where do we eat?

There are several restaurants nearby, or you can have food brought to the music building.

What should I bring?

Your instrument, TMEA/ATSSB All State etudes, proper maintenance supplies (valve oil, etc.), water bottle, pencil, and concert attire should be brought with you on Saturday.

Can you tell me more about the final concert?

The final concert will be held at Margo Jones Performance Hall at 6:30 pm on Saturday, November 21 at and all Pioneer Honor Band participants will perform. This concert is free of charge and family and friends are encouraged to attend.

Will the concert be recorded?

Yes, a professional recording will be made and given to each band director for distribution, but no copies will be sold. Also, no flash photography or recording will be allowed during performances.

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