

# **AVC Band & Orchestra Festival**

## **Director Information Packet**

**3041 W Ave K, Lancaster, CA 93536**

**March 11th & 12th, 2026**

**7:30AM-6:00PM**

*If viewing on a mobile device, tap the three dots and select “Print Layout” for  
best results 😊*



**Updated 11/13/25**

# AVC BAND & ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

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March 11th & 12th, 2026

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Register here: <https://forms.gle/abKTGdtoRqAwNti36>

Dear Band & Orchestra Directors,

Thank you for your interest in the **2026 AVC Band and Orchestra Festival**! We look forward to welcoming you to our campus for another year. For 2026, we have expanded to a TWO DAY Festival!

The festival will be held in the **Antelope Valley College Performing Arts Theater** on March 11th & 12th, 2026. Registration is open to all Junior High & High School Ensembles. Adjudication & Clinicians will be provided by the **West Coast Performance Association**.

In this packet please find general information and a campus map for parking, warmup, staging, and on-campus routes of travel.

Please reach out if you have any questions - we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, March 11th & Thursday, March 12th!

Sincerely,



**Gary Heaton-Smith (he/him)**

Department Chair, Performing Arts  
Assistant Professor of Music  
Symphonic Band Director  
AVC | Performing Arts Department  
[gary.heatonsmith@avc.edu](mailto:gary.heatonsmith@avc.edu)



**Meenah Alam (she/her)**

AVC Adjunct Faculty  
Applied Music - Percussion  
Marching Marauders Drumline  
Palmdale HS Instrumental Music Teacher



Updated 11/13/25

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## NEW for 2026 - TWO DAY Festival!

For 2026, we will be expanding our festival to TWO DAYS! Please register for whatever day you prefer. Availability is on a first come first serve basis; Register EARLY to ensure you get your preferred day!

## Check-in & Parking:

Please see the attached map for parking areas. Parking is available in lot **E1**, off of **Avenue K and 32nd St. West**. Parking will be COMPLIMENTARY for this day-please DO NOT pay!

- ❖ There will be a **check-in table** located **in the ARTS QUAD behind the FA3 Building (follow signs)** to **drop off your scores & seating charts, pick up your welcome packet, and meet your ensemble host**. The welcome packet will contain the *most updated* schedule.

## Holding Area:

Weather permitting, the holding area will be outside in the **Arts Quad behind the FA3 Building**. Students are welcome to line up their **CASED-instruments** anywhere in the quad in an orderly fashion. We ask that you please be mindful of other bands' space, to avoid mixing instruments and confusion.

In inclement weather, holding areas will be moved to classrooms inside the FA3 building.

## Warmup:

Warmup will be held in the **Band Room FA3-176**.

- ❖ All students should set up their instruments OUTSIDE IN THE QUAD, re-line up their empty cases OUTSIDE, and enter the warmup room with ONLY THEIR INSTRUMENTS AND MUSIC.
- ❖ Please *DO NOT BRING EMPTY CASES* into the warmup room.

## Staging & Performance:

10 minutes before performance time, your ensemble host will guide you to the AVC performing arts theater for staging. Your performance time is the ENTIRE TIME you have on stage to set up, perform, and tear down. Please plan accordingly.

## Clinic:

After performance, clinics with the adjudicators will be provided by the West Coast Performance Association. Clinics will be held in the Green Room backstage.

## Rating:

Adjudication will be provided by the West Coast Performance Association. Ensembles will be rated **Superior (I), Excellent (II), Good (III), Fair (IV), and Poor (V)**. Ratings will be showcased in the Arts Quad.

Comments will be recorded and sent to each director post-performance. Sheets and scores will be returned back to the director by your ensemble host post-performance.

### **Spectators & Performer Re-Entry:**

Parents, families, and performers (pre/post-performance) may enter through the front of the performing arts theater.

- ❖ Yes, you have to walk around to the front.
- ❖ We ask that spectating students be respectful and quiet during ALL performances.

### **Restrooms:**

Restrooms will be open in the FA3 Building, Backstage, and Performing Arts Theater Lobby.

### **Ticket Price:**

FREE 😊

### **Concessions:**

The AVC cafeteria will be open with many reasonably priced options. Schools may also elect to feed their students independently.

## **Special Guest Performance**

Various Ensembles from the **Antelope Valley College Music Department** will be performing TWICE each day for all students to enjoy (Once at Lunch, Once at the end of the day). All students are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to return to the theater and watch one of the performances.

# Director Information

## Registration Information:

- ❖ **Register *EARLY* to ensure you get a spot on your preferred date!**
- ❖ **Registration deadline:** February 27th, 2026\* or whenever spots are FILLED.
- ❖ **Registration fee:** \$150 per ensemble. Invoice with payment info will be sent after registration.
- ❖ **Payment due:** Before you perform. Bring Cash or Check the day of is fine, but it must be CLEARLY LABELED in an envelope with your School/Ensemble name.
- ❖ **Register HERE:** <https://forms.gle/Y8gwk2fvXvhkbbEC9>

## Scores/Seating Charts:

- ❖ Please plan to bring 3 Scores for each piece.
- ❖ Scores do not have to be original; photocopies are acceptable.
- ❖ Please have seating charts prepared with the number of chairs and stands needed. Seating chart template is available at the end of this packet, or use your own.

### **Percussion Information:**

- ❖ Percussion may be VERY LIMITED during warmup; please plan accordingly.
- ❖ All LARGE PERCUSSION will be provided. Please indicate if you will need multiples on the registration form.
- ❖ Small percussion WILL NOT be provided. This includes Snare Drum, Concert Toms, Suspended cymbals, etc. Please plan to bring your own
- ❖ It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** for all percussion instruments to be CLEARLY LABELED with school name. It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** for small percussion instruments to be transported in a box, bin, or bag to minimize accidental loss.
- ❖ **Percussionists may be able to enter the stage early, depending on the status of the preceding performance.**

### **Selecting Music for Festival:**

- ❖ There is NO REQUIRED MUSIC LIST. All music is acceptable, however please refrain from tunes that are too “pop”
- ❖ Groups may choose to perform one piece only but will receive Comments Only, rather than a rating
- ❖ A minimum of two selections are required to be awarded a rating (Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor)
- ❖ All groups are encouraged to perform three selections as long as the total performance time does not exceed 20 minutes, preferably not exceeding 18 minutes.

### ***Thoughts on selecting music for performance***

(following the recommendations of the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association)

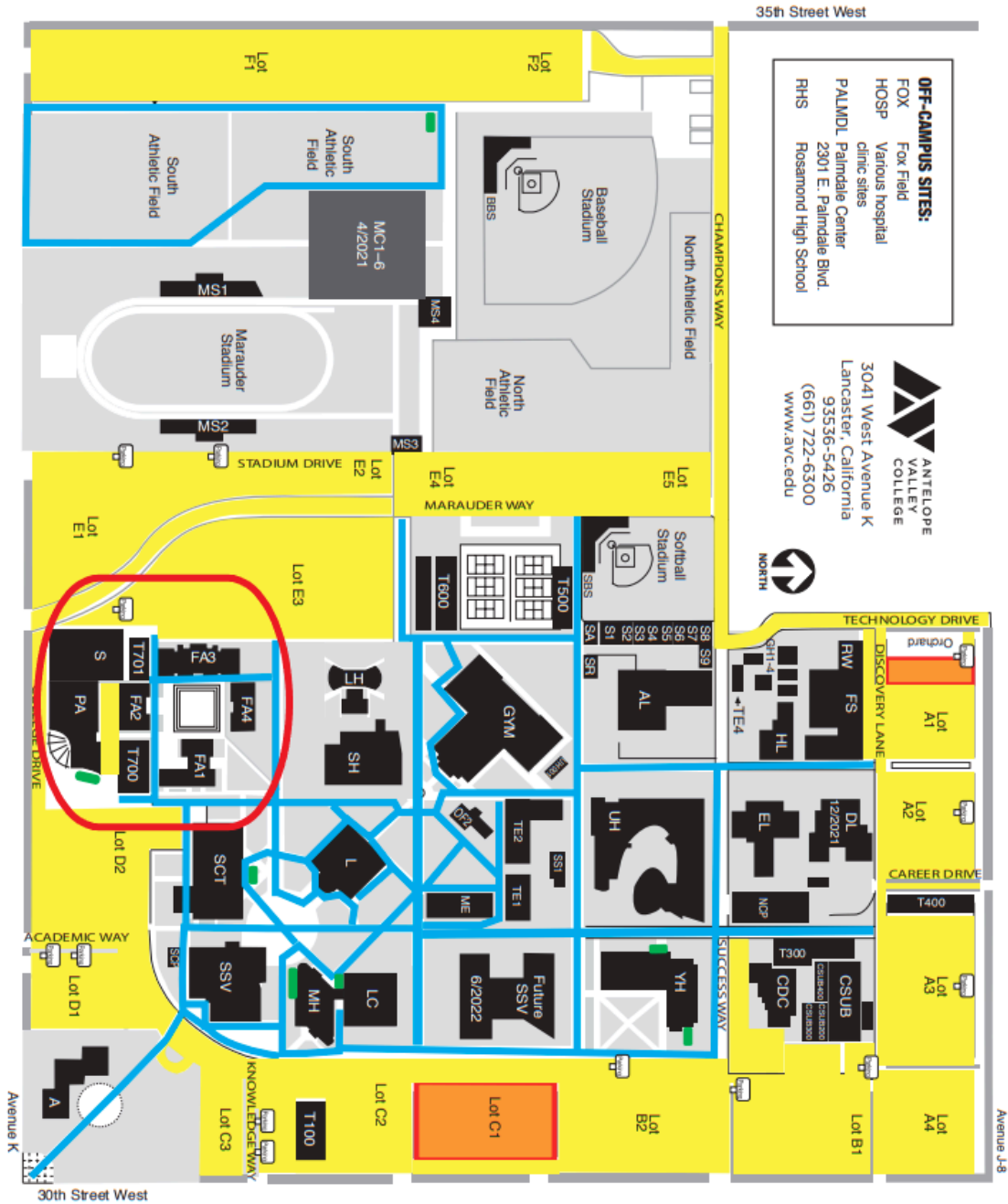
- ❖ Consider the practical ranges of your students and choose literature that doesn't exceed those ranges. If they are struggling with range, tone and intonation will most likely be affected.
- ❖ Avoid selections that feature instruments you don't have.
- ❖ Aim for variety in style, tonality and meter. Avoid tunes that all sound the same, have the same form, same key and/or tonality, by the same composer, etc.
- ❖ Consider the technical demands of the selections. If they are struggling with advanced technique, they will have trouble playing musically.
- ❖ Consider the total length of your program. Stay within your students' stamina/fatigue range.
- ❖ Consider your students' opinions about the literature. They don't have the musical education or sophistication that you do, but they do have a sense of what works for them and the group.



This aerial view of the University of Utah campus highlights several key locations with yellow boxes and arrows. The locations are:
 

- Bus Entry and Parking**: Located in the upper left quadrant, near the intersection of Ave K and 32nd St West.
- 32nd St West**: A horizontal road running across the middle of the image.
- Band Room**: Located in the upper right quadrant, near the intersection of Ave K and 32nd St West.
- Arts Quad**: A large open area in the center-right, with an arrow pointing to the **Arts Performing Arts Theatre** building.
- Main Entrance**: Located in the center, near the intersection of Ave K and 32nd St West.
- Monitor Building**: Located in the lower right quadrant, near the intersection of Ave K and 32nd St West.

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# SEATING CHART DIAGRAM

You may use this template, or create a chart at <https://www.bgreco.net/band/>

**Print and drop off at check-in table upon arrival**

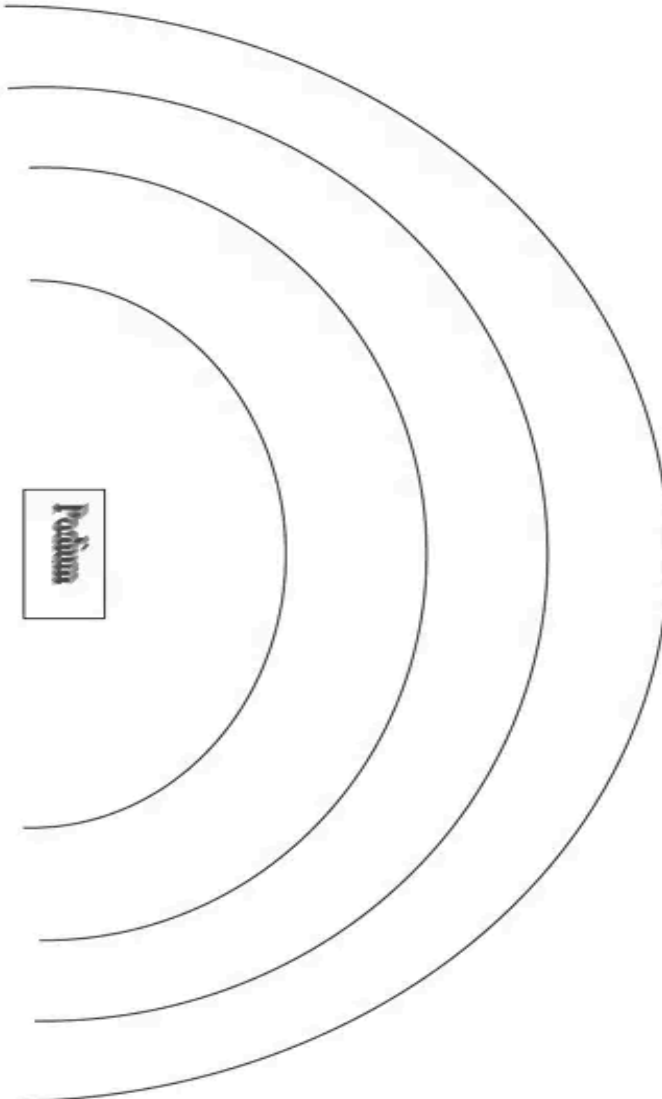
Name of Ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_

Director Name: \_\_\_\_\_

X = Chairs

O = Stands

Podium



Row 1	Chairs	_____	Stands	_____
Row 2	Chairs	_____	Stands	_____
Row 3	Chairs	_____	Stands	_____
Row 4	Chairs	_____	Stands	_____
Totals	Chairs	_____	Stands	_____

# West Coast Performance Association

## *Festival Adjudication Form*

Event: **AVC Band & Orchestra Festival**

Contest Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Director(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Teaching Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Years at this school: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:

Playing for Rating

Comments Only

### **Selections in Performance Order:**

***TITLE***

***COMPOSER***

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Instrumentation:**

Flute \_\_\_\_\_

Oboe \_\_\_\_\_

Clarinet \_\_\_\_\_

Bass Cl \_\_\_\_\_

Bassoon \_\_\_\_\_

Alto Sax \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor Sax \_\_\_\_\_

Bari Sax \_\_\_\_\_

Trumpet \_\_\_\_\_

French Hn \_\_\_\_\_

Trombone \_\_\_\_\_

Euphonium \_\_\_\_\_

Tuba \_\_\_\_\_

Percussion \_\_\_\_\_

Violin 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Violin 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Viola \_\_\_\_\_

Cello \_\_\_\_\_

Bass \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

# **Festival Announcement Form**

(Please print legibly - Directors Turn this into the Check-In Table ASAP)

**Please welcome from the city of:** \_\_\_\_\_ ,

**The** \_\_\_\_\_.

**They will be performing the following selections:**

***Title***

***Composer***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

(after all three judges signal the Host)

**Ladies and Gentleman under the Direction of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The** \_\_\_\_\_.

(after performance)

**One more round of applause for**

**The** \_\_\_\_\_!

**Up Next at:** \_\_\_\_\_ **is:** \_\_\_\_\_