**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**746 Students from 117 Nebraska Schools to Perform in Lincoln in the 2023 Nebraska All-State Ensembles**

LINCOLN, NE (October 20, 2023) – The Nebraska Music Education Association (NMEA) is pleased to announce the high school students selected to participate in the 2023 Nebraska All-State Ensembles. Each year over 2,000 of the best musicians in the state in grades 9-12 audition for placement in one of four available ensembles. Selection in one of these groups is one of the highest musical honors attainable in Nebraska.

These selected students will take part in the 2023 Nebraska All-State Ensembles November 16-18, 2023 on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. This will include several rehearsals with nationally recognized conductors during the NMEA Conference/In-Service Clinic. Each ensemble will perform in concerts on Saturday, November 18 at the Lied Performing Arts Center.

Ensembles include the All-State Band, All-State Chorus, All-State Jazz Band, and All-State Orchestra. All are welcome to attend these incredible performances at the Lied Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available to the public beginning November 3 for $25 each.

The Nebraska All-State performers represent collaboration and creativity in its highest musical form. The high school ensembles consist of a concert band band, mixed chorus, jazz band, and orchestra. Students were chosen through an audition process. The band will have 155 instrumentalists, the mixed choir 440 vocalists, the jazz band 20 instrumentalists, and the orchestra 131 instrumentalists. Eligible students were chosen by their high school directors to audition and compete against top students for a spot in these state honor ensembles.

Selected students will be rehearsing a challenging repertoire in preparation for performing under the direction of four of the most prominent conductors in the United States: Dr. Alfred L. Watkins, conductor of the Cobb Wind Symphony in Marietta, Georgia (Band); Dr. Gary Packwood, former Director of Choral Studies at Mississippi State University (Chorus); Tito Carrillo, performer, composer, and professor at Texas State University (Jazz Band); and Luis Viquez, Director of Orchestral Studies at the University of Rhode Island (Orchestra).

Names and schools, as well as music directors of the 2023 Nebraska All-State students are available on the NMEA website: [www.nmeanebraska.org/press](https://www.nmeanebraska.org/press). For more information regarding students in your coverage area, please reach out to the music director.

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Founded in 1937, the Nebraska Music Educators Association (NMEA) has provided continuing education opportunities, recognition, and scholarships for music educators, as well as performance opportunities for students. We serve approximately 1,000 members from educational levels that include K-12 students and teachers, pre-service collegiates, and higher education faculty, in the fields of general music, band, chorus, jazz, orchestra, guitar, piano, popular music, and music technology. Go to [www.nmeanebraska.org](http://www.nmeanebraska.org) for more information.