

An exciting musical event is planned for all Band and Orchestra members on Friday, May 13, 2011. We will be participating in the Second Annual Connecticut Valley Music Festival along with the Dodd 8th Grade Band, Chorus and Orchestra. This performance adjudication clinic will feature Dr. Anthony Maiello from George Mason University. Each ensemble will have one hour performance adjudication with Dr. Maiello who will provide taped and written comments followed by a clinic where he will work directly with students in each ensemble. Dr. Maiello is one of the most sought after conductors/clinician's in the United States, and we are confident that he will provide our students with an exceptional educational experience. For more information regarding Dr. Maiello, please visit <http://music.gmu.edu/facstaff/maiello.html> .

In the past, we have participated in similar adjudication festivals that required us to transport instruments and equipment to another school in order to perform in adjudication. This year in collaboration with Ms. Lynn Esposti, Ms. Kim Yannon, and Mrs. Janet Royce at Dodd Middle School, we have worked together to present this unique Festival experience to our students to be held right here in Cheshire, using our own equipment, on our own stage! This Festival at CHS will cost less and provide a richer educational experience for all of our students.

On May 13th, the Orchestra will perform during their regularly scheduled class period at 9:30 a.m. The Concert Band will be excused from class at 11:30 a.m. to perform; and will eat lunch during the last lunch wave during session five/period one. Symphonic Band will be excused from class to eat during first or second lunch and then report to the stage to perform at 12:30 p.m. During each performance Dr. Maiello will evaluate the ensemble's performance while recording his critique into a tape player that simultaneously records the ensemble and his voice. Dr. Maiello will then rate each ensemble on specific criteria, assign the ensemble an award plaque, and give a *half-hour* clinic to each ensemble.

The **Festival Only Clinic Judge Fee** is **\$5 per student**. Students who opt to go to **Six Flags** later that afternoon will need to pay additionally for **Park Admission**, and **Bus** transportation @ **\$40 per student**. (Please note: Students should plan to bring approximately \$15 - \$20 for dinner at Six Flags.)

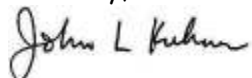
The \$5 + \$40 (\$45 total) fee is due by Monday, March 7, along with the attached Field Trip Permission Form. All payments must be by check made out to "Cheshire High School Music Department". Please include the word "Festival" in the Memo. Attached is a payment form that should be placed in an envelope with payment and then dropped off in the forms box. Students who have a positive balance in their student trip accounts may apply those funds to this trip. Student account balances are posted in the band room foyer. Please make sure to indicate the request to use these funds on the payment form.

All Cheshire High School Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Orchestra members are eligible for this Festival provided there are no issues concerning behavior in or out of class prior to the trip. It is expected that each student will work hard to learn the music we choose to perform for the Adjudication. Any student not meeting performance expectations on the music chosen for the Festival will be refunded their participation fee by May 2. *Unfortunately, no refunds can be given after May 2 to a child who develops a scheduling conflict or illness.*

Parents interested in chaperoning should indicate that on the attached form. If we have more interest than available chaperone tickets, names will be drawn at the end of April and all parents will be notified either way by May 2. Cheshire Public Schools requires a background check for chaperones. (More info will follow)

Please encourage your son or daughter to begin practicing the music for the Festival. Encourage them to maintain high expectations for themselves. This event is a great deal of fun, as well as a lot of hard work; and a wonderful way to end a successful year of music making at CHS!

Sincerely,



John L. Kuhner CHS Band and Orchestra Director

Connecticut Valley Music Festival - Participation Fee - Due by March 7, 2011

Student Name _____ DATE _____

Enclosed is a check made out to "Cheshire High School Music Department" as payment towards my son/daughter's Connecticut Valley Music Festival Participation Fee. *I understand no refunds will be given after May 2 for any reason.*

Please check all that apply:

___ Payment of **\$5** for Festival Only Clinic Adjudication

___ Payment of **\$45** for Festival and Park admission

___ Please apply \$_____ from my son/daughter's student account to the trip balance.

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___ I wish to chaperone this event. I am willing to ride on the bus and be present for the entire length of this field trip. I will fill out the necessary paperwork.

___ I wish to attend the Festival and Park, but do NOT wish to act as chaperone. Enclosed is payment for ___ adult ticket(s) at **\$20** each. I know I must provide my own transportation.

Parent Signature _____ Email _____