



# ILMEA BAND FESTIVAL

AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

## INFORMATION AND PACKING LIST

Bring your concert black, instrument, music, and all accessories to school. Please have your music stand nametag with you for the clinic. Pack a change of clothing for the trip home and for the mall!

Bring money for lunch, dinner, and entertainment, or bring food along with you. Parents should email Mr. B at [budzinsr@unit5.org](mailto:budzinsr@unit5.org) if they would like to chaperone (ride the bus) or if they plan to take their student home from NIU after the clinic, at 3:30 PM. (All students should plan to ride up with the band.)

You will be excused from classes for the festival, and the absence will be marked as "school-related," so there is no penalty. You are responsible for making up assignments missed that day.

Join the BAND App at [nwbands.org/bandapp](http://nwbands.org/bandapp)

In case of emergency, Mr. B's cell phone number is (815) 370-8730.

## ITINERARY

- 8:30 AM Meet in Normal West Band Room for combined rehearsal, including the 1<sup>st</sup> hour Symphonic Winds and the 4<sup>th</sup> hour Percussion Ensemble**  
After rehearsal, we will pack percussion equipment and change into concert black performance attire.
- 9:45 AM Load buses**
- 10:00 AM Depart from Normal West**  
We will stop for a fast food lunch en route. Bring money for food, or pack a lunch from home.
- 12:45 PM Arrive at the Northern Illinois University School of Music**  
Store instrument cases and belongings in the designated area.
- 1:00 PM NIU Wind Ensemble performance**  
We will be in the audience in the NIU Concert Hall. Remember to be a great audience – no phones or talking during the performance, and be sure to give a standing ovation at the end! Immediately following their performance, we will exit the concert hall and begin preparing for our warm up time. (Assembling percussion instruments is the top priority.) Do not play your instrument until our official warm up time.
- 2:00 PM Warm Up (location TBD)**
- 2:30 PM A Wonderful Performance!**  
Repertoire is *Inspiration Fanfare, Danny Boy, The Clapping Song*
- 3:00 PM Clinic with festival adjudication faculty**
- 3:30 PM Pack up, use restrooms, load buses**  
Plan to change out of concert black on the bus or when we arrive at the mall. The university does not have designated changing facilities aside from restrooms, so please plan accordingly.
- ~4:30 PM Arrive at Fox Valley Mall for dinner and entertainment**  
Fox Valley Mall includes lots of dining, shopping, and entertainment options, including Round 1, which has bowling, billiards, ping pong, karaoke, an arcade, and a Gashapon station. You must stay in a group.
- 6:45 PM Load buses, depart for Normal West**
- ~9:00 PM Approximate arrival at Normal West**