Nebraska High School Orchestra Directors,

Hastings College is again pleased to announce auditions for our annual Honor Band, Choir and Orchestra Festival to be held on February 4-6, 2016. Auditions must be submitted online. As always, the intent of HBOC is to provide your students a quality and educational experience, so I hope you will encourage your best string students to audition. String players, grades 9 – 12, are eligible to audition for the Honor Orchestra. Those selected will be assessed a non-refundable $45.00 registration fee, paid at the time of registration. Hastings College provides lunch and dinner on Friday, and lunch on Saturday (students and directors). Breakfast will not be provided.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For legal reasons, Hastings College will no longer be able to provide housing and/or transportation for the Honor Music Festival.

On the reverse of this page are the audition guidelines for HBOC. All required registration forms as well as the audition guidelines are on our website at [www.hastings.edu/hboc](http://www.hastings.edu/hboc). Questions regarding orchestra auditions may be directed either to me or to our department chairman, Dr. Robin Koozer.

**E. Dan Long**, a friend of many of us here in Nebraska, is our guest conductor this year for the Chamber Orchestra. Mr. Long is the Founding Director of the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Youth Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Long has appeared as a conductor/clinician at the Midwest Clinic (Chicago), Music Educators National Conference (MENC), American String Teachers Association (ASTA), and national, state, and regional conferences. In 2007 Mr. Long was the Nebraska All-State Orchestra Clinician. *I know your students will truly enjoy their time with Mr. Long.*

It is important to note that the deadline for auditions is November 13, 2015. Complete audition instructions are on the reverse of this letter and on our website at [www.hastings.edu/hboc](http://www.hastings.edu/hboc). As in the past, I will strive to seat an orchestra with at least an 8.8.6.6.3 instrumentation, but much depends on the number of students auditioning and the overall quality of the players. Notification of accepted students will be posted on the website by **December 11, 2015**. Music will be mailed to the students’ director the first week of January 2016.

Thank you for your continued support of Hastings College and its Honor Band, Choir, and Orchestra Festival. I look forward to listening to your students’ auditions and fielding a great chamber orchestra for February 2016. Best wishes in all that you are doing.

Sincerely,

Byron W. Jensen, Ph.D.

(402) 461-7361

bjensen@hastings.edu
This year, the Hastings College Honor Festival will be accepting recorded auditions only. The following are the audition requirements for string students interested in participating in this year’s honor orchestra.

1. Scale requirements – Major scale (student’s choice/two or three octaves/ascending and descending)
2. Solo

Recording Procedure

1. Please state the following before the student performs:
   - Name
   - Instrument
   - School
   - Grade Level
2. Record scale.
3. Identify and Record solo.
4. Make sure the Audition Form has been filled out, including the title of the student’s solo.

Each online audition is due no later than November 13, 2015.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Dr. Byron Jensen at bjensen@hastings.edu or 402-461-7361

Or go to our website www.hastings.edu/hboc.