



Florida Bandmasters Association

2025 State Concert Band MPA

April 29 - 30, 2025

Mattie Kelly Arts Center

Northwest Florida State College

100 E College Blvd | Niceville, FL 32578



Matt

Richard

Neil

Tenore

Davenport

Jenkins

On-Site Host

FBA MPA
Site Manager

FBA Executive
Director

Northwest State Concert Band MPA Site Guidebook

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Welcome to Niceville & Northwest Florida State College

(*Mattie Kelly Arts Center = MKAC | Northwest Florida State College = NWFSC*)

If you have any questions or need information beyond this guidebook related to your time at Mattie Kelly Arts Center and Northwest Florida State College, please first contact Director of Bands at Niceville High School and On-Site Host, Matt Tenore, at Matt.Tenore@okaloosaschools.com.
Cell phone number will be provided upon request.

A Message from the On-Site Host

Welcome to Niceville and the site of Northwest State Concert Band MPA! As you arrive on NWFSC campus, be sure to adhere to the correct parking areas noted on the maps within this guidebook. When you unload, a Niceville HS Band Guide will be ready to greet you and lead you to your seats in the audience, the warm-up room, or onto the stage depending on your time slot. It is *strongly recommended* that those with “small” instruments (all but Large Reeds & TBA) bring their instruments into the audience with them, out of the case, to maximize efficiency. Our guides will lead those with “large” instruments to a large instrument storage area.

Mattie Kelly is a wonderful hall to perform in, and we ask that you help us in keeping it world-class by ensuring that no food or drinks enter the auditorium. Water fountains are located immediately outside of the auditorium. Please make sure students do not climb over/put feet on chairs, and please make sure they abide by the concert etiquette recommendations from our Executive Director noted in the February Bulletin.

There will not be any food served directly from us, so my recommendation would be to eat at one of the local dining areas in Niceville before arriving at NWFSC (feel free to contact me for suggestions).

I am here to help make your experience as smooth as possible. I look forward to serving your bands and hearing the hard work your students have put into their music! Best wishes to you and your students on a successful performance!

Sincerely,



Matt Tenore
Director of Bands, Niceville High School
On-Site Host, Northwest State Concert Band MPA

Traveling to NWFSC

Directions to Mattie Kelly Arts Center

From Fort Walton Beach

- Travel North on SR 85 toward Okaloosa Regional Airport for about eight miles
- Turn left after seeing green sign for the college, at Wolverine Ave., at yellow caution light
- Continue on to stop light intersection of SR 85, continue through onto College Ave.
- Continue for about one mile, second turn on left is the main entrance to NWF State College

From Destin/Panama City (Hwy 98)

- From Hwy. 98, turn NORTH on Danny Wuerffel Way at Destin Commons complex
- Continue on to Mid-Bay Bridge
- Continue on to White Point Road until reaching Hwy. 20, John Sims Parkway
- Turn left on Hwy. 20 until reaching Palm Blvd. in center of Niceville, adjacent to Niceville High School
- Turn right on Palm, continue through one stop light until reaching College Blvd.

From I-10 East (Pensacola)

- Take Exit 56, Crestview SR 85
- Travel south on SR 85 for about 18 miles to Niceville city limits
- Turn left on College Blvd. at the college sign
- Turn left after about one mile into main entrance to NWF State College

From I-10 West (Tallahassee)

- Take Exit 70, Niceville SR 285
- Travel south on SR 285 for about 16 miles to Niceville city limits
- Turn right on College Blvd., at the college sign
- Continue 1 mile, second turn on the right is the main entrance to the college

Parking

Refer to the maps on pages 6 (full campus map) and 7 (Main Building map) of this guidebook. All parking is on a first come, first served basis and is free of charge. Parking is plentiful at MKAC.

- Buses should park in the Arts Complex parking lot, past the main entrance to MKAC (See map).
- Spectators should park in the parking lot in front of the main entrance. (See map).
- Equipment trailers are to park next to buses, but if you need to drop off large equipment directly backstage (i.e. a 5-octave marimba), contact Matt Tenore for information on how to locate the loading dock. Equipment trailers and directors cannot park by the loading dock.

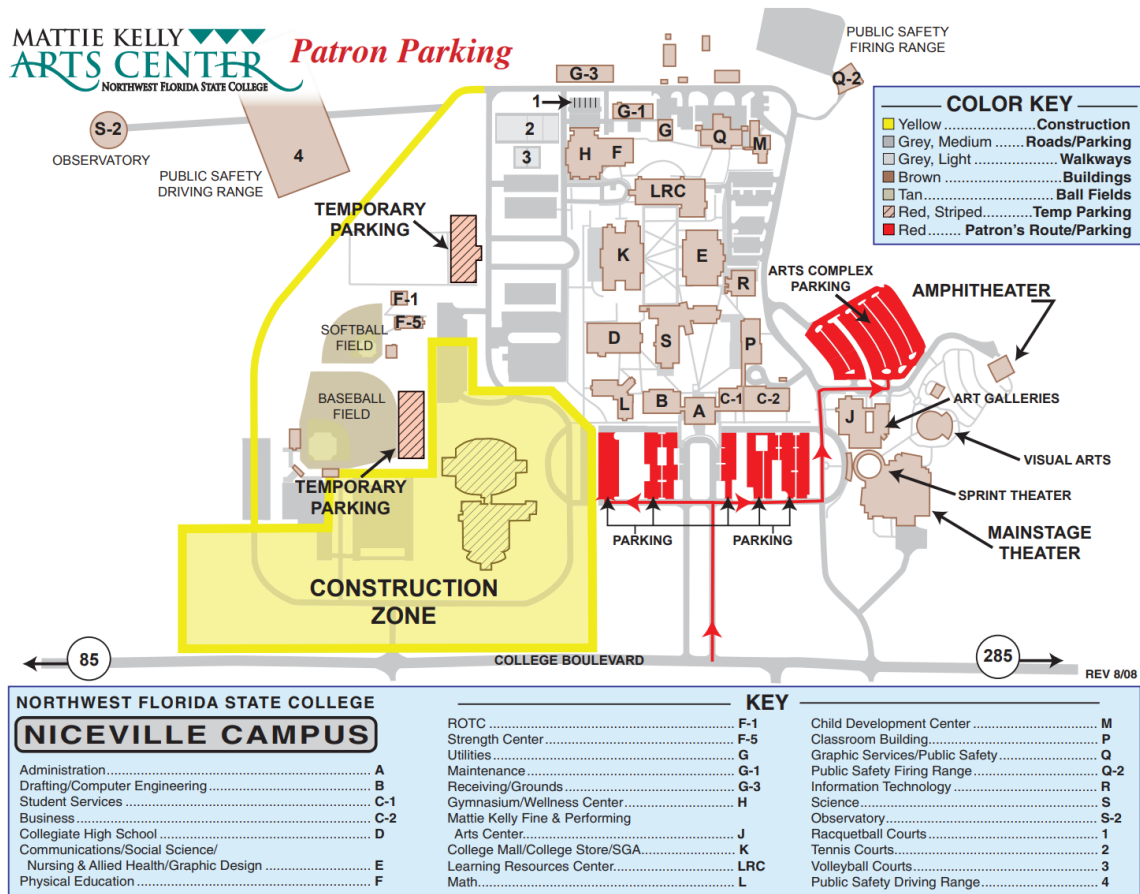
FBA Office

The FBA Office will be located in the lobby of MKAC. Directors should be the only people entering the FBA Office/communicating with the officials at the desk. As noted in the February Bulletin: "Sheets and audio files will ONLY be released at the end of your Performance Block;" after your performance, a guide will lead you to your seats in the auditorium rather than to your buses.

Percussion

MKAC and NHS will supply the following percussion: 4.3 octave marimba, vibraphone, xylophone, chimes, 4 timpani, bass drum, and tam-tam (gong). Please bring your own mallets, sticks, snares, cymbals, and hand/auxiliary percussion. If you need additional percussion not supplied and have hardship transporting your own, please contact Matt Tenore at matt.tenore@okaloosaschools.com. MKAC's grand piano is available for use, but you must communicate with Neil Jenkins and Matt Tenore before the event if you wish to use it.

Maps – Parking



Maps – MKAC Main Building Diagram



Required Forms

Please submit the following to Matt Tenore at matt.tenore@okaloosaschools.com no later than one week before your performance date to ensure an efficient and smooth process with stage set-up and announcing. Please plan to provide your own announcer.

Please put the subject of the email as: {SchoolName} HS Band – State Concert MPA Forms (e.g. Niceville HS Band – State Concert MPA Forms)

Please name your files as:

{SchoolName} HS Band – State Concert MPA Seating Chart
{SchoolName} HS Band – State Concert MPA Announcer Script

or combine them and name the file:

{SchoolName} HS Band – State Concert MPA Seating Chart and Announcer Script

Links to Seating Chart Creators & Editable Announcer Script PDF

1a. Seating Chart

or

1b. Online Seating Chart Generator (preferred - be sure to mark how many ***total chairs and stands there are per row.***)

2. Announcer Script

Excerpts from the February State Bulletin

The following are excerpts from the February State Bulletin about State MPA for your convenience:

DIRECTORS: Upon arriving at the MPA site, report immediately to the FBA office to sign in, to get last-minute information or changes, and to meet your student guide if one has been assigned.

NOTE: Only a director whose name appears on and signs the official MPA entry form may register or transact business for his or her school, unless another adult has a letter of authorization on that school's stationery signed by the director AND principal of that school. The director (or the appointed representative) **MUST** be on the premises during the hours students from a school are performing. **PENALTY:** Disqualification of band.

There are no risers. Make arrangements with the local host for any other equipment or **BRING YOUR OWN!** If you will need a **PIANO** on stage, you must notify [Neil Jenkins] at the time of entry and contact the site host.

BAND SCORES FOR ADJUDICATORS: Each of the 3 adjudicators must be provided with at least a condensed score of all three selections (this includes the march) with measures numbered, or the band will be disqualified. However, the band **MAY** (at the discretion of the Executive Director) be allowed to perform for comments only. Place a set of scores in **THREE (3)** separate envelopes with the school name clearly marked on each score and envelope.

DUPLICATED or PHOTOCOPIED CONCERT BAND SCORES are not allowed except as indicated in the FBA Handbook. Bands will not be allowed to perform for a rating if this rule is not observed. Recorded adjudicator comments are required for concert bands. The adjudicators will have equipment to record comments which will be uploaded into the MPA On-line program.

DIRECTORS WILL BE VIDEO RECORDED DURING THE CONCERT BAND PERFORMANCE, AND INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS MADE FOR YOUR BENEFIT. RECORDINGS WILL BE PROVIDED UPON DEPARTURE.

STUDENT CONDUCTORS - There are No Student Conductors at the State MPA.

BAND PERFORMANCE TIMES: Times listed on the **CONCERT BAND SCHEDULE** will be **WARM-UP TIMES & PERFORMANCE TIMES**. Time slots include set-up, performance & clearing the area.

PLEASE STAY ON TIME - BE CONSIDERATE OF THE BANDS WHICH PRECEED OR FOLLOW. If yours is the first band in any particular "Listening Block", you should check with the Executive Director if you wish to warm-up on stage. **PLEASE STAY ON TIME!!**

Bands are highly encouraged to stay and listen to other groups within their Performance Block. It is important for your students to hear other band programs and provide support for those performing on stage.

SCHEDULING: Bands are scheduled by days, according to classification and by the size of the band within each classification. Exceptions include late entries or other necessary scheduling considerations.

CHECKING OUT: You may pick up your adjudicator comment sheets, scores, Recording, Commentator recording, appropriate plaques, **AT THE CONCLUSION OF YOUR PERFORMANCE BLOCK.** Before you sign out, check everything carefully to be sure you have all scores, sheets, commentary recording, and the plaque to which you are entitled.

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ADJUDICATOR COMMENTS: Every attempt will be made to upload your adjudicator comments within 24 hours following your performance and may be heard and downloaded through your MPA On-Line login.

RECORDINGS: Your Concert Band will be recorded and provided to you when you are ready to check out. Recordings of your band's performance may or may not be made available for purchase by your students and parents. You will also receive your Director Commentator's Video. **(INFORMATION WILL BE ON THE WEBSITE WITH THE OPTION FOR QUANTITY DISCOUNTS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS FOR RECORDINGS OF ALL STATE PERFORMANCES, IF AVAILABLE)**

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION: It is our policy to deal with **DIRECTORS ONLY** (so that they will be kept informed) if problems occur. Instruct your students to find you if they need assistance.

CONCERT BAND MUSIC: Must be from the current FBA MPA Approved Concert Music List (except Selection #1, march) or have a **SPECIAL PERMISSION** form from the State Concert Music Committee Chairman attached to the Entry Form. There are no page numbers, so make sure it is on the List, or write in "SP" for Special Permission.

SPECIAL NOTE: TIME BLOCKS: Note that specific time blocks have been created for all sites which will usually accommodate four-six bands per block. You are being highly encouraged to listen to all the bands in your time block (excluding when you are in warm-up). Once the schedule is finalized, an explanation will be posted showing how your block will function. This will afford everyone the opportunity to hear other groups, and more importantly, guarantee an audience for any band performing.

Sheets and audio files will **ONLY** be released at the end of your Performance Block.