

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NSB Symphonic Winds &amp; Big Band @ NFMY Birmingham</b> <b>Thursday 7 July &amp; Friday 8 July 2016</b></p>
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Following the Regional event in March, I am delighted to tell you that **Symphonic Winds** and **Big Band** have been invited to take part in this year's **National Festival of Music for Youth** in **Birmingham** during the first week of July.

***Symphonic Winds*** is scheduled to perform in **Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday 7 July at 6:09 p.m. (very precise!)**. We will be playing William Himes 'Fantasy on a Mountain Song' and 'Mambo from West Side Story' by Bernstein. To have started the year with lots of new players and to have ended the year on stage at Symphony Hall is a tremendous achievement by all concerned. Students should leave normal lessons at 3 p.m. (if applicable) and ALL members should meet in the Cripps Atrium with their instruments and black concert clothes by 3:15 p.m. ready to load the coach. We need to check in at Symphony Hall just before 5:30 p.m. Feedback is from 7 – 7:30 p.m. so we should be back at school by approximately 9 p.m.

Everyone who is a member of the band is expected to take part. It is our last performance of the year and follows on from our final school concert performance on **Wednesday 29 June – 'Summertime Celebration'**, where we will also be playing Concert Prelude by Philip Sparke.

***Big Band*** is scheduled to perform at **Town Hall, Birmingham, on Friday 8 July at 1:18 p.m.** We will be playing 'When You're Smiling' arr. by Tom Kubis, 'If I Could' by Pat Metheny and 'Paranoid Android' arr. by Ken Schaphorst. This will mean leaving earlier in the day **but** we have added complications on this day as both the County Concert and Brass Bands are performing at the same event. The Brass Band performance is early in the morning (pupils in this ensemble will travel up on the transport provided by County and come home with NSB). The County Youth Concert Band play just after the NSB Big Band – those players will have to switch venues to Symphony Hall for that performance as soon as we are finished with the Big Band performance. They will miss the feedback for our school ensemble and these pupils will travel up on the transport provided by NSB and travel back with County. Big Band should meet in the Cripps Atrium at 10 a.m. with their instruments and black concert clothes ready to load the coach. We need to check in at Town Hall by 12:30 p.m. Feedback is from 3:30 – 4 p.m. so we should be back at school by approximately 6 – 6:30 p.m.

Rehearsals will continue to run as usual throughout the examination period although years 11, 12 & 13 examinations must take priority. We would, however, appreciate members of those year groups attending as often as their examination/revision schedule allows them to.

Commitment and responsibility to both ensembles are key elements that ensure high standards of performance so if you cannot make a rehearsal please mark this on the schedule attached. If at a later date attending a rehearsal becomes an issue please send an email in advance to [odrucker@nsb.northants.sch.uk](mailto:odrucker@nsb.northants.sch.uk) as rehearsal schedules can be tweaked to accommodate any absences - every single player is vital!

Symphonic Winds rehearsals, lasting from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m., will take place on:

*Thursday 9 June*

*Thursday 16 June*

*Summer Celebrations Wed 22 June – Symphonic Winds performing first in the second half*

*Thursday 23 June – Woodwind sectional*

*Summer Celebrations Wed 29 June – Symphonic Winds performing first in the second half*

*Thursday 30 June – Brass and Percussion sectional*

**Wednesday 6 July – final rehearsal!!**

Other rehearsals, either sectional or full, may be called as we approach our performance dates.

Big Band rehearsals, lasting from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m., will take place on:

*Tuesday 7 June*

*Tuesday 14 June*

*Tuesday 21 June - Horn Sectional only – no rhythm section needed*

*Tuesday 28 June – Full rehearsal*

*Summer Celebration Wed 29 June – Big Band will be performing last in the concert*

*Friday 1 July – Trinity Jazz Workshop*

**Tuesday 5 July – final rehearsal!!**

*Jazz @ The Cripps Summer Picnic (with Hog Roast!) Sun 10 July 3 p.m. – Big Band will be starting the concert off.*

**Both the rehearsal and travel forms, along with the Medical Consent form, need to be completed for each participant and returned to the Music Office by Monday 6 June.**

Day tickets for the **National Festival** are on sale from the THSH Box Office (0121 345 0603) - priced £8 (concessions £5). To book tickets online, go to **[www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)**. Admission is subject to availability on arrival at the venue.

**‘Summer Celebrations’ tickets** are selling fast. Tickets for this event cost £9 Adults, £8 Concessions, £7 NSB Friends.

**Jazz @ The Cripps Summer Picnic** is also on sale with tickets at £8, £7 & £6. We will be serving a Hog Roast while the bands are playing!

I look forward to seeing you at our final concerts of the year and at Birmingham.

Oliver Druker  
Director of Music

**Please return this page and the following page, plus the Medical Consent Form, by Monday 6 June**

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I have received and read the information.

This confirms that \_\_\_\_\_ (Student's name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Form) also understands the expectations outlined above.

**Please complete the following grid:**

**Symphonic Winds:**

<b>Rehearsal/concert date</b>	<b>Mark X if not available</b>	<b>Reason (Examination; examination revision; etc)</b>
Thursday 9 June		
Thursday 16 June		
Summer Concert 1 22 June		
Thursday 23 June (Woodwind sectional)		
Summer Concert 2 29 June		
Thursday 30 June (Brass/Perc sectional)		
Wednesday 6 July		

**Big Band:**

<b>Rehearsal/concert date</b>	<b>Mark X if not available</b>	<b>Reason (Examination; examination revision; etc)</b>
Tuesday 7 June		
Tuesday 14 June		
Tuesday 21 June (Horn Sectional)		
Tuesday 28 June		
Summer Concert 2 29 June		
Jazz workshop 1 July		
Tuesday 5 July		
Sunday 10 July (Jazz @ The Cripps – 3 p.m. start)		

**Please return this page and the previous page, plus the Medical Consent Form, by Monday 6 June**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please insert a tick for the appropriate day(s) below:**

- I have read and understand the requirements for **Symphonic Winds** on Thursday 7 July

*Please tick the relevant box regarding the journey from Birmingham*

I will be returning on NSB coach

I will be making my own arrangements for the return journey

\_\_\_\_\_ (please specify exact details)

- I have read and understand the requirements for **Big Band** on Friday 8 July

*Please tick the relevant box regarding the journey from Birmingham*

I will be returning on NSB coach

I will be returning on NMPAT coach

I will be making my own arrangements for the return journey

\_\_\_\_\_ (please specify exact details)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/guardian)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_