

Welcome To All UNT Trombone Students

The following information is very important for all new students, but returning students should also read it carefully, as there are changes from previous years. Please refer to it frequently as you plan for the beginning of the upcoming school year.

To expedite the registration and audition process, **a required informational meeting of all trombone students is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th at 11:00 a.m. in Voertman Hall (Room 254) in the College of Music.**

Audition Procedures

Audition materials and instructions for ensembles and studio placement auditions will be available at windstudies.music.unt.edu/auditions on/around Wednesday, July 15. Musical examples have been selected to provide ample opportunity to present yourself at the highest possible level and at the same time allow the faculty to prioritize the players. The audition for orchestras, wind bands, trombone choirs and studio placement will occur all in one hearing on Tuesday, August 11th and Wednesday, August 12th, using the posted materials. Go to windstudies.music.unt.edu/auditions to sign up online for an audition time beginning July 15th and before August 10th. **All students who plan to study applied trombone must audition, regardless of ensemble choices.** The *only* exceptions are graduate and upper division jazz studies majors (i.e. those who've passed the upper division exam) who plan to only study applied jazz trombone.

Auditions will begin on Tuesday, August 11th in the afternoon and will continue Wednesday, August 12th. You will be asked to indicate your ensemble choices (in priority order) at the time of your audition. Be aware of the ensemble requirements that are connected to your scholarship and be sure to check the UNT degree and laboratory requirements for your specific degree.

Ensembles

Symphony Orchestra (meets MWF 2:15 – 4:05 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Concert Orchestra (meets MWF 12:15 – 2:05 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Wind Symphony (TTh 1:15 – 4:05 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Symphonic Band (TTh 12:30 – 3:15 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Wind Ensemble (TTh 3:30 – 6:15 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Concert Band (MW 1:15 – 3:15 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
University Band (MW 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Brass Band (MW 2:15 p.m – 4:05 p.m.) (assigned by audition)
Marching Band (MWF 4:15 – 6:30 p.m.)
Lab Band (meets MTWTh – 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) (assigned by audition)

Preliminary auditions for all the above ensembles except Marching Band will be handled by the trombone faculty. Conductors Itkin, Couturiaux, Trachsel and Woody will be added for the final round of the wind and orchestral ensembles auditions at a time TBA.

Marching Band

Undergraduate music education majors are required to participate, and others are welcome. The audition process noted on the previous page does not pertain to Marching Band. For information about Marching Band participation, contact Professor Katharine Reed at katharine.reed@unt.edu.

Trombone Choir

All trombone students are required to participate in trombone choir and should register for credit (MUEN 2602.502 for undergraduates and MUEN 5602.502 for graduates). **NOTE:** Participation in the U-Tubes will satisfy this requirement for *jazz studies majors only*. The trombone choirs will meet on Tuesday and/or Wednesday evenings, starting at 6:00 pm. Placement in trombone choirs will be based on the results of the August 11th-12th auditions. Placement in U-Tubes will be based on the results of the lab band auditions (see below).

Brass Chamber Music

Brass quintets will be accepted for credit without an audition, so if you want to form a group, please do so. Each member must be registered for MUCM 3530.500 (undergraduates) or MUCM 5530.500 (graduates) to receive coaching.

Trombone quartets are also encouraged. Each trombone quartet member must register for credit. **Please note that trombone quartet has its own course numbers.** The course numbers are—MUCM 3530.501 (undergraduates) or MUCM 5530.501 (graduates).

Further instructions and contact information for the brass chamber coordinator will be provided at the beginning of the year studio meeting on Aug. 11th

Lab Bands

Jazz Trombone Lab Band Audition Information

Audition Signups:

[FALL_2026_Jazz_Trombone_Lab_Band_Audition_Signups.xlsx](#)

(you must be signed into your UNT account in the browser to edit the sheet)

Please indicate ALL ENSEMBLES you are available for. If there are other scheduling considerations you MUST email me (nicholas.finzer@unt.edu) BEFORE your audition time with these considerations or you risk being placed in an ensemble you are unable to perform with.

Please sign up for 1 slot at your soonest available time. (I will be moving audition slots to close large gaps of time). You should sign up for 2 times if you plan to play tenor in one group and bass in another.

Lab Band Auditions are also used for U-Tubes auditions

Lab Band Auditions will be held

August 11th and 12th, 2026 ONLY - no other dates are available.

Part 1: Prepared Piece (Provided)

- A prepared piece will be distributed in advance. (IT IS ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL)

- You may perform it at a **tempo of your choosing**.
- **Bass trombone players** may choose to play in **any octave**.

Part 2: Sight Reading (Tiered Excerpts)

- You will sight-read **three excerpts**, one at a time.
- To proceed to the next excerpt, you must score **6 out of 10 or higher** on the current one:
 - **Excerpt 1 → Excerpt 2:** Score ≥ 6
 - **Excerpt 2 → Excerpt 3:** Score ≥ 6
- If your score is **below 6**, you will not continue to the next excerpt.

Part 3: Optional Improvisation

- You may choose to **improvise on a standard tune of your choice**.
- Limit your performance to **2 choruses maximum**.
- This section is **optional** and may be used to inform placement or improvisation-focused ensemble assignments. Students enrolling in JCM are Required to Improvise.

Lab Band Assignments are made based on:

- 1.) Total Score
- 2.) Scheduling Considerations
- 3.) Jazz Major vs. Other Majors
- 4.) Year of Enrollment
- 5.) Needs of the Ensemble Director(s)
- 6.) Consultation with your Studio Professor

Applied Trombone Study and Teacher Assignment

It is important for both new students AND returning students to note that the results of the August ensemble auditions will be used in decisions regarding teacher assignment. **Regardless of your ensemble intentions, you must play this audition if you plan to study applied trombone.** Again, the *only* exceptions are graduate and upper division jazz studies majors who plan to only study applied jazz trombone.

New students and returning students who studied with a TF last year will have the opportunity to indicate a teacher preference on an information form that will be distributed at the August 11th meeting. It is not necessary to indicate a preference if you do not have one. Efforts will be made to honor requests wherever possible. But both new and returning students should understand that during the August ensemble auditions, you will also be auditioning for studio placement. Returning students who studied with a faculty member last year should **NOT** indicate a teacher preference. If a change is contemplated, there must be private discussions with the appropriate teachers in advance.

All music major applied trombone courses include a 50-minute lesson, participation in a trombone choir and a required weekly trombone departmental meeting described below. It is **CRITICAL** that you complete your applied trombone registration by the end of the day on Friday, August 21st, and be aware that payment may be necessary that day as well. If you have trouble registering for applied lessons, please obtain help from the Instrumental Studies Administrative Assistant in Room MU245.

There will be no applied lessons during the first week of school except by special arrangement or unless your applied professor says otherwise. Applied lessons will begin the following week on Monday, August 24th.

Trombone Departmental Recital Hour

Each Wednesday at 12:00 noon throughout the semester all trombonists meet for a recital/master class hour. Attendance is required for those enrolled in music major applied trombone study, so be sure to inform your advisor of this requirement as you prepare your class schedule and make every effort to avoid a conflict. Private teaching and other outside jobs are **NOT** acceptable conflicts. Only unavoidable class conflicts are acceptable excuses and must be approved in advance by the trombone faculty. The first Departmental Recital Hour will be at 12:00 noon, August 19th in Voertman Concert Hall (Room 254).

Trombone Specialty Classes

In addition to the normal selection of ensembles listed above, two special “elective” classes are available for trombonists. Late registration for any of these classes can be accomplished during the first week of classes.

Jazz Performance Fundamentals for Trombonists (MUJS 1131.506)—this one-credit class is required of all new jazz studies majors, but others are also strongly encouraged to gain this valuable experience. Contact Professor Nick Finzer at nicholas.finzer@unt.edu for registration and details. The specific meeting time will be announced later.

Trombone Orchestral Excerpts MUGC 4890.025 (for undergraduates)/MUGC 5890.025 (for graduates) will meet on Fridays at 11 a.m. and will offer an introduction to the study of the standard trombone audition passages. Contact Professor Baker at tony.baker@unt.edu if you are interested in enrolling in this course.

Fall 2026 Studio/Ensemble Audition Repertoire

Kazik—Etude No. 9

Note: Listening to these passages is strongly recommended.

Williams—Imperial March (**Prepare one octave lower**)

Williams—Scherzo for Motorcycle and Orchestra

King—Barnum and Bailey’s Favorite

Note: These selections must be performed from memory, by ear and without printed music.

If I Were a Rich Man (6 keys of your choice—3 in flat keys and 3 in sharp keys)

Modal Scale Pattern (6 keys of your choice—3 in flat keys and 3 in sharp keys)

Audition passages on following pages.

BASS TROMBONE

ETUDE #9

JAMES KAZIK

Andante (♩ = 72)

mf

4 *mp* *mf* *p* *cresc. poco a poco* *poco rubato* *mp*

7 *f* *A Tempo* *Poco meno mosso* *mp*

10 *f*

12

15 *p* *cresc. poco a poco* 3 3 3

18 *mf* 3 3 3 *f* 3 3 *mf* 3

21 *poco rubato* *mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

24 *rall.* *meno mosso* *mf* *p* *mf*

Listening to multiple recordings of the next three passages is strongly recommended.

Imperial March

Darth Vader's Theme

NOTE: Please prepare and perform passage one octave lower if able to do so.

La Marcia (♩ = c. 84 - 92) **John Williams**

The musical score for the Imperial March is presented in six staves of bass clef notation. The tempo is indicated as c. 84-92. The score includes various dynamics and articulation marks. The first staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and features several sforzando (*sfz*) accents. The second staff continues the melody with more *sfz* accents and a crescendo leading to a double bar line. The third staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a crescendo. The fourth staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*f*) dynamic and features a crescendo. The fifth staff starts with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic and includes a crescendo. The sixth staff begins with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic and features a crescendo. The score includes various articulation marks such as accents, slurs, and triplet markings.

Williams—Scherzo for Motorcycle and Orchestra

Trombone 3

Dotted Quarter=128

98 102

sfz

105 108 With driving force

f > mf

111

117 Triumphantly

ff *mf*

127 Soli

f

134

141

f

140

6 7

King—Barnum and Bailey's Favorite

♩ = 160

2.

f

mf *f*

mf

1. 2.

f

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a piece titled 'King—Barnum and Bailey's Favorite'. It is written for a single melodic line in bass clef, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 160. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a second ending bracket over the first two measures, followed by a repeat sign and then a series of eighth and quarter notes, ending with a fermata. The second staff starts with a half note, followed by a quarter rest, then a half note, and continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a fermata. The third staff begins with a half note, followed by a quarter rest, then a half note, and continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a fermata. The fourth staff starts with a half note, followed by a quarter rest, then a half note, and continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a fermata. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* (forte). There are first and second endings marked with '1.' and '2.'.

These selections must be performed from memory, by ear and without printed music.

Please prepare them in 6 keys of your choice—3 in flat keys and 3 in sharp keys.

If I Were a Rich Man
From Fiddler on the Roof

6

11

This block contains the musical notation for the song 'If I Were a Rich Man' from the musical Fiddler on the Roof. The score is written in bass clef with a 2/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat), which is then changed to a bass clef. The second staff is marked with a measure rest '6' at the beginning. The third staff is marked with a measure rest '11' at the beginning. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests.

Modal Scale Pattern

This block contains the musical notation for a 'Modal Scale Pattern'. The score is written in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat), which is then changed to a bass clef. The second staff is marked with a measure rest '6' at the beginning. The third staff is marked with a measure rest '11' at the beginning. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests.