



Kalahari Band Festival FAQ



What is the Kalahari Band Festival?

The festival was developed specifically for 8th grade bands. However, bands consisting of 7th and 8th graders are accepted as well. The purpose of the festival is to give students the opportunity to perform music in a concert setting for an audience of peers, family members and a master adjudicator for this age level. It will also provide a clinic experience for the band immediately following the performance involving musical performance as well as discussion. The festival will create an opportunity for students to hear other band programs and concert literature. It will give students the chance to socialize, eat pizza and enjoy the waterpark/indoor theme park and other attractions at the Kalahari. It will also create an opportunity for parents and family members to listen to a festival performance. Family members will also have the opportunity to “make a weekend” out of the festival by taking advantage of discounted room rates at the Kalahari that weekend.

When Is The Kalahari Band Festival?

The festival dates have been set for the next few years. The festival typically is the last Thursday and Friday in April. However, this may vary due to Easter, and as you can see we will make a transition to a three day festival later in May starting in 2017.

- ✓ May 24-26, 2017 (Wed-Fri)
- ✓ May 23-25, 2018 (Wed-Fri)
- ✓ May 22-24, 2019 (Wed-Fri)
- ✓ May 20-22, 2020 (Wed-Fri)

Where is the Kalahari Band Festival?

The Kalahari Resort and Convention Center is located in Wisconsin Dells, WI. From Madison: I-90 westbound to exit #92, Hwy 12 (Lake Delton/Wisconsin Dells). Turn north (right) at the bottom of the exit ramp onto Hwy 12. At the first stoplight (Meadowview Drive), turn right to Kalahari Drive. Address is 1305 Kalahari Dr, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965 or go to Kalahariresorts.com

What are the performance facilities like?

The festival takes place in the beautiful ballrooms in the convention center. The Center boasts over 100,000 square feet of flexible space, ranging from the elite executive board room to the 17,000+ square foot ballrooms. Each band is assigned to a separate 1,300 square foot private homeroom area. The performances take place in one of the large ballrooms capable of seating any size ensemble and a large audience. Go to kalahariresorts.com to see pictures!

What is the format/schedule of the festival? (2 versions)

Festival Version (Wed. Only) Each band has a designated warm-up/homeroom indicated on the schedule. The afternoon groups will also have “MI” (move-in times designated). Each band will have 30 minutes to warm-up in their homeroom, followed by a 30 minute block to perform. The band will then walk to a clinic room for a 30 minute wind clinic from a master adjudicator. A separate percussion clinic will take place next door. The schedule also indicates preferred times for bands to listen to other groups as well as times to eat pizza/soda. Oh yes, not to mention your students will get to select from an all-day waterpark pass or an all-day indoor themepark pass for a great price!

Side By Side Version (Thur & Friday) Each band has a designated warm-up/homeroom indicated on the schedule. The afternoon groups will also have “MI” (move-in times designated). Each band will have 40 minutes to warm-up in their homeroom, followed by a 40 minute block to perform one or two selections and then participate in the side-by-side experience. The schedule also indicates preferred times for bands to listen to other groups as well as times to eat pizza/soda. Oh yes, not to mention your students will get to select from an all-day waterpark pass or an all-day indoor themepark pass for a great price!

Is the festival adjudicated?

On Wednesday the bands will be adjudicated. Bands do not receive ratings. We have some of the very best band adjudicators work with your students. You will have three adjudicators for your performance. One adjudicator will provide a 30 minute clinic, another will provide you with written comments and a third adjudicator will record verbal comments. The recording will contain two tracks. The first track will be a recording of your band’s performance in stereo. The next recording will be an adjudicator’s audio comments (right speaker) and your band’s performance (left speaker). The recordings will be available to director’s via Google Drive after the festival. Clinicians are selected not only for their knowledge and experience, but also for their compassion and enthusiasm. Our clinicians understand the importance of making this festival an educational and inspiring experience!

On Thursday and Friday, your band will be led in the side-by-side experience by a guest clinician and 30-35 members of the UWEC Band Program.

Do my students get to choose between the waterpark and indoor themepark?

Yes! Students will have a choice when registering if they would like a waterpark wristband or an indoor theme park pass (allowing students to enjoy the 6-story Ferris wheel, mini golf, go carts, rope climbing, ropes course, rock climbing and laser tag. Arcade games, bowling and golf simulators are not included in the pass). You do not need a pass to enter the indoor theme park, however you do need a wristband to enter the waterpark. So students electing to get the waterpark pass can still do indoor theme park activities; however they will need pay for each activity. To see all of the fantastic options, activities and events go to kalahariresorts.com for more information and pictures!

Do my students get pizza/soda with their registration?

Yes! Pizza will be located in rooms adjacent to the performance hall. Each paying participant will receive a token for a slice of pizza and a soda.. Cash will not be accepted in this room. If parents would like to purchase pizza or kids want more food, they should purchase it from the food areas in and around the waterpark and lobby.

Can parents/guardians stay for a discounted rate during the dates of the festival?

Yes! Family members can stay at the Kalahari on Thursday, Friday and/or Saturday for a discounted price while rooms are available. Reservations can be made on an individual basis by calling 877-253-5466 at least one month in advance of the festival. Please ask for the **Patrick Marsh Middle School Band Room Block**.

What is the cost?

\$225 registration fee per band – payment for adjudicators, room usage, equipment transportation (Due Early October)
\$27 per student (approx.) – pays for waterpark pass or indoor theme park pass and a slice of pizza and soda. (Due 1 month before festival) *****Prices are subject to change from year to year...please check most current prices by contacting Chris Gleason.**

What if our band is considering staying overnight at the Kalahari?

Bands are welcome to stay over at the Kalahari. A certain number of rooms are reserved and available at a discounted price for this purpose. One benefit of staying at the hotel is that waterpark passes come with each room. Consequently, your students would only need to pay for the pizza lunch/dinner when registering. The hotel does strongly recommend you hire a security guard to watch the halls. This is approx. \$30 per hour with 6 hours minimum. So that would be \$180. The hotel has a company they work withso it is easy to do. My advice would be to call the Kalahari and ask for the "group sales office" they will help you make reservations or answer questions. Call 877-253-5466 *****Prices are subject to change from year to year...please check most current prices by contacting Chris Gleason.**

What happens if I have a student who is ill or cannot attend?

If a pre-registered child is sick or cannot attend the festival you can return the waterpark wristband or indoor themepark wristband for a voucher good for a future visit (within a few months of date issued). The wristband needs to be turned into the group sales office at the Kalahari on the same day as the band performance for a voucher to be issued. There are no refunds for the pizza ticket. You are encouraged to eat extra or give it to hungry student!! . The wristbands and pizza tokens you receive at the festival are only valid on the days of the event and cannot be used at any further dates/times.

How Do I Register for the festival?

Entry into the festival is on a first-come, first serve basis beginning at 8 AM on the first Monday in March.

To reserve a spot simply use the online registration form found at <http://www.spbb.org/band-festival-at-the-kalahari.html>

1. Performance times will be reserved without the \$250.00 band entry fee until October 1st . (send a check made payable to "Patrick Marsh Middle School") Band applications will be accepted until we fill the schedule or we reach January 1st.
2. The student fee (approx. \$28 ea.) will need to be paid in full one month in advance of the festival. Refunds will not be given after that time.

What is the typical attire for the students while performing?

Most bands have their students wear their typical performance attire. The facility is air conditioned so temperature is not an issue. While there is no formal dress code for the performance, we do encourage a more formal approach to the performance and save the Hawaiian shirts for later! Students are required to wear shoes and shirts into the indoor themepark.

Do chaperones, bus drivers and directors need to pay?

Each band will receive two free "observer" passes for the waterpark. This will allow two adults to enter into the waterpark in street clothes. These passes do not allow you to utilize the waterpark. Bands can purchase more observer passes through the registration process for \$10 each. The indoor themepark does not require admission to enter. Chaperones, bus drivers and directors will need to purchase passes like the students if they want to use the themeparks. Chaperones, bus drivers and directors can also purchase the pizza lunch/dinner for the same cost as the students. Parents, friends, etc cannot purchase pizza or themepark tickets through this festival if they are not directly involved as a chaperone.

How many selections do bands usually perform?

The number of selections varies between ensembles. You are welcome to play as many or as few as you wish within the 30 minute time allotment on Wednesday. Bands will perform one to two on Thursday and Friday.

Will there be someone to help us on the day of the festival?

Yes! We will have a band host meet you on your bus when you arrive. The host will give you your packet containing the themepark wristbands and pizza tokens. The host will also talk to your students about the policies and procedures for the festival and themeparks. You will have a person come to get you when your band can enter the performance hall. We will have a stage crew preparing your setup. The Kalahari catering staff will have the pizza and soda ready when your band is ready for lunch/dinner. Finally, I will be attending the festival and can help answer questions at any time.

Is there a festival program?

Yes. Thanks to the generous support of Ward Brodt Music in Madison, WI, we will provide free to each student and director(s) with a beautifully designed 50+ page program! Information including your performance selections, student rosters and band photo will be collected prior to the festival.

Are there official "Band Festival at the Kalahari" Tshirts for sale?

Yes! Tshirts are available to students, parents, and directors in advance of the festival. Shirt orders will be done online when you order your waterpark and indoor themepark passes etc.

*High Quality Cotton Tshirt

*List of Participating Schools on the Back

*Many Sizes Available: Youth S, M, L and Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

*Only \$11 per shirt!



Who do I contact if I have questions?

Contact the festival manager - Chris Gleason

Patrick Marsh Middle School

Atten: Chris Gleason

1351 Columbus Street

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Email – cpleas@sunprairieschools.org

Phone – 608-834-7625

Fax – 608-834-7692

Website – <http://www.spbb.org/band-festival-at-the-kalahari.html>



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