



Alberta Virtual Band Information for Parents

Congratulations! Your child has been recommended by their music teacher/conductor to take part in the 2020 Alberta Virtual Band.

The Alberta Virtual Band is Alberta's honour band program for outstanding band students from across the province of Alberta during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Virtual Band provides high school aged musicians the opportunity to work with members of one of Alberta's professional orchestras, play alongside professional musicians in a virtual band setting, and perform a world premiere of a new piece written by composer Allan Gilliland in a recorded virtual band setting.

AVB instrumentalists are selected by a panel of high school and university band specialists based on teacher recommendation and the responses provided on the Instrumentalist Questionnaires (attached). Once membership in the AVB has been established, parents/guardians will receive an email informing them as to whether their child has been selected for this year's ensemble. Instrumentalists who are not selected will be sent an encouraging letter congratulating them on their recommendation.

Parents of instrumentalists accepted into the Alberta Virtual Band will be forwarded the link to an online registration form shortly after the membership roster has been announced.

Small group coachings with instrument specific professional teachers will take place in January and February, pending completion of the piece by Allan Gilliland. Each participant will receive two professional coachings in a small group, online format. The specific dates for each instrument will be confirmed pending acceptance to the Alberta Virtual Band.

It is the expectation of AVB Instrumentalists that they will practice with their music so that they will know all notes, rhythms and fingerings prior to their first small group coaching.

The fee to participate in the Alberta Virtual Band is \$195. This includes two small group coachings with instrument specific professional musicians, a backing track to record the repertoire of the Alberta Virtual Band, the opportunity to perform a world premiere recording of a new piece, and a YouTube recording of the new piece. Please note that all participants will need to have a device on which they record their part of the piece. A smart phone is fine.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Alberta Band Association office by email (info@albertabandassociation.com) or by phone (780-800-0482 or toll free 1-877-687-4239). Thank you!



Instrumentalist Questionnaire

This form must be returned to your band teacher/conductor by December 9, 2020.
Information collected on this form will be used solely for the Alberta Virtual Band selection process.

Instrumentalist Name Grade Instrument
**Percussionists should indicate if they play mallets, snare, and/or timpani

Parent/Guardian Name Parent/Guardian Email Address

Student Email Address Family Telephone Number

Recommending School Music Teacher/Conductor Name

What other bands have you played in?

For how many years have you played in band?

Do you play any other musical instruments? Sing? Which instruments, and for how long?

Do you take private music lessons? What instruments and for how long?

I approve my child's nomination to the Alberta Virtual Band and understand that if selected, my child will be expected to participate in all components of the Virtual Band program. I also understand that the schedule is predetermined and that no adjustments can be made.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date