

# NHASTA Fall Orchestra Festival 2023 at UNH

## Student Information Letter

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Dear String Student and Parent,

I would like to tell you about an exciting festival that will be held in the Fall of 2023—the NHASTA Fall Orchestra Festival at the University of New Hampshire. The festival is open to any student who will be in grades 9-12 during the 2023-24 school year. Home-schooled students of the same age are also welcomed to attend. Participation is open to any student who wishes to join and is not limited to New Hampshire residents or the students of NHASTA members.

On **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, students will assemble in the on the UNH campus in Durham, NH, for a full day of rehearsals and an evening performance. The festival orchestra(s) will be made of the high school string students, together with students from the UNH Music Department and NHASTA members. At this point in time, we are planning to create at least one string orchestra for sure. If enrollments allow, we will add a second orchestra and/or include full orchestra repertoire. A concert will be given that evening at 7:00 pm.

Students register for the festival this spring, after receiving a recommendation from their teacher. Students receive music for the festival early in the fall semester and are expected to prepare the music before the day of the festival.

The cost of attending the festival is \$25, and all students receiving their teacher's recommendation will be accepted to the festival. Meals are not provided as part of the festival registration fee, and information about food service options will be sent to students in the fall. Likewise, transportation to and from the festival will need to be arranged by the parents and/or teachers of the students. Complete information regarding meals, parking, schedule, concert attire, and other details will be sent in the fall. A brief "Fact Sheet" is included with this letter.

Please know that if NHASTA or UNH needs to cancel the festival for any reason, all registered students will retain their registration fee. NHASTA will hold all payment checks and not cash them until we are certain that the festival will run. This will avoid the need to issue numerous refund checks. Therefore, interested students should go ahead and register this spring without fear of losing the registration fee. However, students who withdraw individually or otherwise choose to not attend the festival are not eligible for a refund.

I hope you will consider attending the 2023 NHASTA Fall Orchestra Festival at UNH. To register, please return the Student Registration Form, Emergency Information Form (health-related), and registration fee of \$25 to your teacher. We are also requesting that you provide an email address that the festival organizers will use to send information directly to you or your parents. Please provide an email you will be checking over the summer months. Please also note that your teacher must send in your application form on or before Friday, June 9, 2023, so be sure to turn in your paperwork before that date. We are looking forward to working with you at this year's Fall Festival. If you have questions, you may reach me at [David.Upham@unh.edu](mailto:David.Upham@unh.edu). Thank you for your time and consideration!

Musically Yours,



David Upham

*Secretary, New Hampshire American String Teachers Association  
Director of Orchestral Activities, University of New Hampshire*

# NHASTA Fall Orchestra Festival 2023 at UNH Fact Sheet

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*Approximate schedule ~ Subject to revision*

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

Location: Paul Creative Arts Center  
30 Academic Way  
Durham, NH 03824

Tentative Schedule:

**9:00-9:30:** Registration

**9:30-noon:** Rehearsal (locations TBA)

**Noon-1:30:** Lunch

**1:30-3:00:** Rehearsal

**3:00-3:30:** Break

**3:30-5:00:** Rehearsal

**5:00-7:00:** Dinner

**7:00 PM:** Festival Concert in Johnson Theater, Paul Creative Arts Center

Cost: \$25 Registration Fee.

Meals: Lunch and Dinner are not provided as part of the registration fee. Information about food service options will be sent to students in the fall.

Deadlines: Return your Registration Form and Health Release Form, along with your payment, to your teacher by \_\_\_\_\_.

Registration forms must be received by NHASTA on or before June 9, 2023.

Additional Information (music, maps, parking, concert attire, etc.) will be sent in September of 2023.