

Clarinet Choir Day: Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: I just started playing clarinet in beginning band this fall. Can I still participate in Clarinet Choir Day?

A: YES!! Beginning students are assigned to the Middle School Clarinet Choir, and your part will be in the lower register with notes you've probably already learned. And if you haven't, we'll teach them to you!

Q: I used to play clarinet in school, and now I just play clarinet for fun. Can I participate in Clarinet Choir Day?

A: YES!! Clarinet Choir Day is for clarinetists of all ages and experience levels. Don't worry – just attend the event. You'll have fun!

Q: I play bass clarinet. Can I attend Clarinet Choir Day?

A: Yes!! In fact, the more bass clarinets, the better! We are always in need of bass, E-flat, alto, and contra clarinets in the group, so if you play one of these instruments you are strongly encouraged to participate.

Q: What should I wear to Clarinet Choir Day? Do we need to dress up for the final concert?

A: You should wear whatever is comfortable for you. You do not need to dress up for the final concert.

Q: What should I bring with me?

A: Your clarinet, reeds (be sure to have a couple of spare reeds), a water bottle, a pencil, and if you want to print out your music, you can bring it. If not, we will provide you with printed copies of the music.

Q: I have a food allergy. Will I be able to find something to meet my dietary restrictions?

A: Yes!! We will eat lunch at the Piazza, one of UNI's Dining Halls. There are options for every type of diet, including gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, dairy-free, etc. If you are having difficulty finding an option when we are in the dining hall, just ask one of the UNI clarinetists to help you. If you have an allergy, be sure to bring any necessary medication, just in case.

Q: I am a parent or teacher who is bringing students to Clarinet Choir Day. Are there things for me to do while the students are participating in the event?

A: Yes!! The Cedar Falls Tourism Bureau (<https://www.cedarfallstourism.org/>) and the Experience Waterloo (<https://experiencewaterloo.com/>) have extensive lists of activities and business in the Cedar Valley.

Parents and teachers are also welcome to stay and observe as much of the event as possible. If you would like to eat lunch with your students, please make sure to register as a teacher/parent so you can pay the lunch fee.

Q: Is the final concert open to the public? How much is admission?

A: The final concert is open to the public and admission is free. We request that students and families stay for the entire concert to support all performers.

Q: I can't attend the final concert in person. Will it be live-streamed?

A: Yes, the final concert will be live streamed via YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/@unisomdavishall>

Q: What music are we playing? Will it be difficult?

A: Registered participants will start receiving music in September. Generally, we play transcriptions of traditional works, original works for clarinet choir, and some pop music as well. The music will likely be challenging, but not too overwhelming. And you will have plenty of time to practice and prepare for the event, and we will have lots of time to work on the music together.

Q: Why did I get assigned to a specific clarinet choir and/or a specific part in the ensemble?

A: Dr. McCandless assigns the parts for students in both the middle and high school choir. You are assigned to the clarinet choir you choose on your registration. If you decide you'd like to move from one clarinet choir to another, you may if you email Dr. McCandless a week before the event. Dr. McCandless assigns parts based on students' years of playing experience and clarinet achievements. If you would rather not play a specific part, you can contact Dr. McCandless at amanda.mccandless@uni.edu and request a specific part. She will try to accommodate you, but it is important that the number of participants on a specific part is balanced, so please try to make your request as early as possible.