



Texas Bandmasters Association Convention/Clinic July 22-24, 2021

Preparing Your Band for Success - Utilizing Consultants, Mentors, and Clinicians

CLINICIANS:

**Dr. Timothy Rhea, James F. Keene,
Dick Clardy**



HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Preparing Your Band for Success – Utilizing Consultants, Mentors, and Clinicians

Texas Bandmasters Association Clinic/Convention

Friday, July 22, 2021

11:00 AM – CC207

Dick Clardy, Director of Instrumental Music, Fort Worth ISD

James F. Keene, Director of Bands Emeritus, University of Illinois

Timothy Rhea, Director of Bands & Music Activities, Texas A&M University

Moderator – Bernard Rosenberg, Director of Bands, Tejada Middle School, San Antonio

Benefits of working with a clinician

Ideas communicated in a different way

New or alternative rehearsal techniques

Exposure to different style of teaching and conducting

New approaches to reach your students

Fresh set of ears for listening and evaluating

Goal setting for future rehearsals

Can provide a chance for the director to step back and hear the ensemble

Additional interpretive, historical and background on the music to be rehearsed

Invitation

Plan ahead

Selecting the clinician (good reputation – success with own ensembles as well as clinic settings)

Check school calendar for potential conflicts - avoid missing players (to include full percussion section) – rearrange private lessons

Invite by telephone or e-mail – avoid texting

Discuss fee up front – expenses should also be addressed (mileage, meals, hotel)

Paperwork should be completed in advance

Exact music to be rehearsed – offer to send recordings of your ensemble

Share goals for the clinic – offer strengths/weaknesses of your ensemble

Preparation for the clinic

Name tags on stands

Clinic length - minimum of 90 minutes to maximum of 180 minutes (need breaks)

Scores of music selections should be offered in advance to clinician

Share the most recent recording of the selections and add any additional comments in advance of clinic

Follow-up clarifying discussion via phone or email between director and clinician

Outline a suggested timeline of the repertoire and prioritize time and order

Directions to the rehearsal site – map – security procedures at the building

Inform front office to expect clinician – have someone to escort to rehearsal room

Provide your cell phone number to the clinician

Exact clinic itinerary

Rehearsal room neat and orderly

Confirm with the clinician two weeks prior – maintain regular contact with the clinician

Needs of the clinician – stool, water, metronome, tuner, etc. – lunch/dinner – white board – AV equipment – hand held recording device for making comments/suggestions

Restroom facilities available

Invite other colleagues if appropriate

Make clinician aware of any special needs students

Preparing your ensemble prior to the clinic

- Explain to students the benefits and purpose of a clinician
- Share the bio of the clinician with the students
- Start/end on time - prepared with everything needed for rehearsal – professionalism
- No talking and respectful during the rehearsal
- Rehearsal atmosphere and student attitude expectations should be discussed
- Students should be prepared to play something in a new or different way
- Have a pencil and make markings
- Measures should be numbered in all pieces
- Students should be proficient with their parts
- Cell phones and such not allowed
- Students should not wear hats or sunglasses
- All needed accessories – mutes, reeds, etc.
- No students should be involved in private lessons during the scheduled clinic time
- Everyone should be open minded to suggestions and trying new things – and required to follow all instructions of the clinician
- Students should feel comfortable to respond to questions and instructions by the clinician

The clinic experience

- Introduction of the clinician (name in front of room)
- Who conducts the ensemble? clinician/band director/combination – this should be clear up front – clinician's option
- Public thank you of the clinician at the end of the rehearsal
- If you plan to record/video, make sure to discuss with the clinician
- Do not interrupt or contradict the clinician during the rehearsal unless addressed
- The director should remain in the room at all times, following the score and taking notes
- Host director(s) should monitor student behavior/attention level during the clinic
- Allow clinician to make closing comments to conclude the clinic
- Do not invite additional guests to the clinic unless coordinated with the clinician

After the clinic

- Follow up conversation with the clinician – formulate plan of action
- Discussion with ensemble at the next rehearsal to reflect on the clinic
- Share what you learned – allow students to provide feedback for moving forward
- Thank you (e-mail/phone) to the clinician
- Make sure to take care of clinician payment – payment at the end of the clinic, if possible
- Use the suggestions of the clinicians as appropriate for your ensemble

Dick Clardy – dick.clardy@fwisd.org

James F. Keene – j-keene@illinois.edu

Timothy Rhea – trhea@tamu.edu