

BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST

NOVEMBER 16-17, 2026
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM | ARMSTRONG CAMPUS

Schedule of events...



Monday, November 16, 2026

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 5:30 – 6:45 pm | Arrive in Savannah
Register at Armstrong
Campus Fine Arts lobby |
| 7:00 – 9:00 pm | Rehearsal No. 1 |

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 8:45 am | Arrive on campus |
| 9:00 am – Noon | Rehearsal No. 2 |
| Noon – 1:30 pm | Lunch |
| 1:30 – 3:30 pm | Rehearsal No. 3 |
| 3:30 – 5:00 pm | Dinner / Concert Prep |
| 5:00 pm | Report for concert |
| 6:00 pm | Concert |

CONCERT:

Tuesday | November 17, 2026 | 6:00 pm
Fine Arts Auditorium | Free Admission
GSU Armstrong Campus, Savannah

Performances by...

GSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble
BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST HS Honor Band

ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

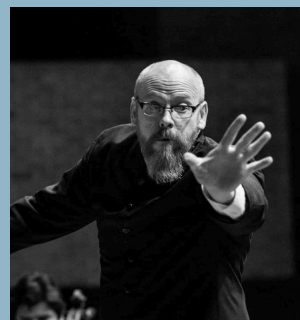


RUBÉN DARÍO GÓMEZ is a Colombian conductor and composer and Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Previously he taught at multiple universities in Colombia and served as a national advisor in the band program for the Ministry of Culture, as well as music director of his own school of music, Corporación Cultural Mochila Cantora. His commitment to the band movement in his home country is unquestionable.

As a composer, his compositions have been performed and published in Colombia, Europe, and the United States, including at events such as the Chicago Midwest Clinic. He has written works for artists of international prestige such as Jeremy Wilson, Manuel Martínez, and the Barcelona Clarinet Players, who have also recorded his works.

He is the current co-director of the Edwardsville (IL) Municipal Band and the Music Director of the Saint Louis (MO) Wind Symphony. He also has an active schedule as a guest conductor both in the United States and Latin America.

DARRELL BROWN is the Director of Bands in the Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music at Georgia Southern University where he also serves as the Coordinator of the Graduate Wind Conducting Program on the Statesboro Campus and coming soon to the Wexford, Ireland Campus. He is also the conductor of the Statesboro Chamber Orchestra at the Averitt Center for the Arts in Statesboro, Georgia.



As a guest conductor and clinician, he has recently fulfilled engagements in Abruzzo, Italy; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Lima, Perú; Havana, Cuba; and Budapest, Hungary. Groups under his direction have performed at conferences of the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA), Wisconsin Music Educators Association (WMEA), and the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEC). Dr. Brown serves as part of the administrative team for the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and has music published through Murphy Music Press and Subito Music, and writings published in *WASBE World*, *Alta Musica*, and the *Gesellschaft zur Erforschung und Förderung der Blasmusik-Biographien*.

BAND ORAMA PALOOZA FEST 2026

(formerly Winter Fest)

NOVEMBER
16–17, 2026

Concert: November 17th @ 6:00 pm

BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST

NOVEMBER 16-17, 2026
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM | ARMSTRONG CAMPUS

Dear Colleague:

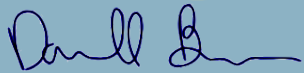
The faculty and staff of the Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music at Georgia Southern University are excited to invite you and your most outstanding students to participate in year two of BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST! This year's event will return to the Fine Arts Auditorium on the Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern University and will take place on November 16–17, 2026.

The BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST High School Honor Band promises to be a rewarding experience, and is open to all advanced woodwind, brass, percussion and piano/bass musicians in grades 9–12.

Directors, please encourage your top students to audition. All applications and audition materials must be received by November 2, 2026. The recordings are used to determine acceptance and seating placements. Only directors will be notified by email of the students' results. A \$20.00 participation fee is required for participating students. All students should be accompanied by their director or by a designated parent chaperone. Hotel arrangements are the responsibility of the director and/or chaperones, should accommodations be necessary.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and students' audition recordings and to seeing you in beautiful, historic Savannah in November!

All the best,



*Dr. Darrell Brown, Director of Bands
Coordinator, Graduate Wind Conducting Program
Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music
Georgia Southern University*

APPLICATION PROCESS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2

To apply, directors and students must submit all BANDORAMAPALOOZAFEST audition materials digitally via [THIS FORM](#). Directors may submit all auditionees together provided there are individual links or files for each students' audition video. Remember, all submissions should begin with the student stating their name, instrument, grade, and school.

All submissions should include: student bio info, chromatic scale, two major scales, and the GMEA lyrical etude as listed on the GMEA website (gmea.org - scroll over "Band," click "All-State Band," and find "All-State Band Requirements").

HONOR BAND AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

*Before you begin playing, please state your name, instrument, grade, and school; then perform in the following order:

1. Chromatic scale
(range listed on the GMEA website)
2. Any two major scales of your choice
(ranges listed on the GMEA website)
3. Current GMEA lyrical etude as listed on the GMEA website for your grade and instrument

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Percussionists should play excerpts of the etudes for snare, xylophone, and timpani (in that order) for preferential seating; however, percussionists who only play one instrument should not be discouraged from sending in an application.
- For ALL auditioning students: Piccolo and clarinet players who play E-flat, soprano, alto, bass, E-flat contra-alto or B-flat contrabass are encouraged to include themselves playing the appropriate etude for that instrument as well (indicate your willingness to perform these instruments on the application. Saxophonists and English horn players should do the same.



FRED AND DINAH GRETSCH
SCHOOL OF MUSIC