2026 VanderCook College of Music Band Director Workshop

Time	Thursday, July 9th	Friday, July 10th	Saturday, July 11th	Sunday, July 12th
8:30 AM	Registration & Continental Breakfast *3125 Building*	Continental Breakfast *sponsored by Randall Standridge Music*	Continental Breakfast *sponsored by Quinlan & Fabish*	Continental Breakfast *sponsored by GIA Publications*
9:00 AM	The Kaminsky Method (Part 1): How Can I Get My Band to Sound Like That! *Alex Kaminsky*	The Kaminsky Method (Part 2): How Can I Get My Band to Sound Like That! *Alex Kaminsky*	Harmony Director: Improving Ensemble Intonation *Alex Kaminsky*	What Does an Adjudicator Listen For? *Alex Kaminsky*
10:00 AM	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:15 AM	Choosing Diverse Quality Repertoire *Stacey Dolan*	Balancing Act: Strategies for Life Balance as a Music Educator *Randall Standridge*	Developing Resilience in Your Program: Strategies for Success *Stacey Dolan*	Developing Student Leadership *Alex Kaminsky*
11:15 AM	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:30 AM	Reading is Fundamental: Teaching Music Literacy and Practice Skills in an Ensemble Setting *Randall Standridge*	New Music Reading Session (with Grad Band) *Randall Standridge*	25 Things You Can Do for a Better Rehearsal *Peter Boonshaft*	Ensemble Development Exercises That Work! (with Workshop Band) *Peter Boonshaft*
1:00 PM	Lunch Break *(lunch provided)*	Lunch Break *(lunch provided)*	Lunch Break *(lunch provided)*	Lunch Break *(lunch provided)* GROUP PICTURE
1:45 PM	Woodwind Session "Top Ten" Tips for Saxophone *Tony Kidonakis, Applied Saxophone*	Conducting Clinic (with Grad Conducting Class) *Randall Standridge*	Brass Session Breathing and Buzzing to Beautiful Sounds *Christopher O'Hara, Applied Trumpet*	Conducting Clinic (with Workshop Band) *Peter Boonshaft* (Participants interested in podium time will sign up in advance)
2:45 PM	Break	Break	Break	Break
3:00 PM	Arranging: How to Effectively Arrange and Rewrite for your Ensemble *Randall Standridge*	Percussion Session Percussion Methods 101 *James Yakas, Applied Percussion*	Ways To Improve Every Rehearsal Through Inspired Teaching *Peter Boonshaft*	How We Teach is as Important as What We Teach *Peter Boonshaft*
4:15 PM	Break	Break	Break	Workshop concludes at 4:00 PM to accommodate travel home.
4:30 PM	Q & A with Randall Standridge	Harmony Bridge *Special Guest, Michael Levine of Dallas Brass*	Q & A with Peter Boonshaft	
5:30 PM	Break	Break	Break	
6:00 PM	Optional Dinner & Event: ➢ Lou Malnati's ➢ Chicago Jazz Showcase	Optional Dinner & Excursion: ➢ Chinatown ➢ Chicago River Architecture Boat Tour	Optional Dinner & Event: ➢ Dinner on your own at Millenium Park ➢ Grant Park Music Festival Concert	