

INFORMATIONAL MUSIC CAREER/FIELD NIGHT

Mrs. D and Mr. C will be hosting a music career informational meeting on Tuesday, November 7th in the band room at 7 pm. We will have several guest speakers to inform parents and students of what is expected at the university entrance levels for various possible careers in music.

MARCHING BAND PERFORMS FOR THE VETERANS

The Marching Grey Ghosts will be performing on Friday, November 10th at CEC to honor the veterans at 9 am. The members are asked to wear Red, White and Blue tops and nice blue jeans. We will then travel to Evergreen and perform for the residents at 10:15 am. We will then conclude our performance at the 11:11 am Veterans Memorial across from Pearce. Color guard and some front ensemble members will not be performing since we are only performing patriotic selections.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 ILMEA DISTRICT II JAZZ/CONCERT/ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

The following students will be spending a weekend making amazing musicians in their respective ILMEA ensembles. These students were selected as the elite musicians in our district after countless hours of practice throughout the summer and fall months. We are very proud of their accomplishments and appreciate their talents as fine musicians in our district! The jazz band members performed at Mendota HS on November 4th. The orchestra and concert band members will be performing at Augustana College on November 14th. (Bus leaves at 6:30 am)

Dawson Oullette – Jazz band - Drum set
Breanna Harman – Jazz band - Bass guitar
Rachel Mattson – Concert band - French horn
Nicole Vandervlugt – Concert band - Bass clarinet
Allison Sniff – Concert band - Trombone
Nathan Nigus – Concert band - Trombone
Aidan Jones – Concert band - Trombone
Jonah Brabant - Orchestra - Bass trombone

2017 FRESH/SOPH BRADLEY HONOR BAND

Congratulations to Braydn Taylor (Tenor saxophone), Jacob Prayne (Bassoon), Luke Liety (Euphonium) and Aidan Jones (trombone) for being selected as members of the 2017 Freshman/Sophomore Bradley Honor Band this semester. They will be performing a wonderful concert on the campus of Bradley University on November 14th. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments!

FLORIDA FRUIT and COFFEE CAKE ORDERS/PICK UP

Thanks once again to Beth Hying for working behind the scenes to make this annual fundraiser a huge success. On line sales are still currently going on so if you missed the initial sale, you can still have fruit delivered to your door. The scheduled fruit pick up is scheduled for during the first week of December in the band room from 2:30 – 5 pm. Thank you for ordering fruit to support our students. If you have questions, please contact Beth Hying. The Coffee Cake fundraiser is still on and any questions can be directed to Deb Reginald.

CHILLICOTHE CHRISTMAS PARADE

All members of the Marching Grey Ghosts, except a few Front Ensemble members(banner), are expected to perform on November 18th in the Chillicothe Christmas Parade. Students can pick up their equipment and get their uniforms any time after 12:30 pm. The band will meet at the corner of 2nd and Second St. at 1:30 pm with the parade starting at 2:00 pm. The parade should be done by 2:30 pm and the band room will remain open for equipment/uniform drop off for 30 minutes once we complete the parade. Line up again is at 1:30 pm in uniform. Santa Hats are optional.

2017 MARCHING BAND BANQUET

Following the Christmas parade festivities on Saturday November 18th, we will hold our 5th annual marching band banquet at the IVC commons for a time to look back at the amazing things our band family accomplished this fall. Some guard and drum line awards will be given along with a few senior awards. We will provide a nice dinner for all so please let us know how many family members are attending (invitations will be distributed). If you would like to help or donate, please contact the lovely Kelly Welch and let her know how you can help her in this huge event. Donations are highly encouraged and will be asked at the door to cover the costs of this banquet. Doors will open at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm.

2017 - 2018 WINTER COLOR GUARD

Winter guard season is right around the corner. This is a very demanding activity that takes a ton of dedication and commitment to make them really succeed. Parental help is definitely needed. Many of the performances are in the Northern parts of our state. I want to thank all the students for taking on this highly demanding activity. Just a reminder, the activity code will be enforced as well as eligibility regarding grades. We wish you all the best and looking forward to hearing all the great things to come with this amazing opportunity. Please see the schedule for rehearsal and competition dates. If you have questions, please contact Rebecca.

2017 RECORDER AND MAD BRASS REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN

Rehearsal schedules have been handed out and are up and running. Each ensemble has several "gigs" planned for the next few months. Please be aware of the schedule and commitment you have made.

2017 – 2018 JAZZ BAND SEASON HAS BEGUN

The Jazz season is here. We have begun rehearsals and will run through the end of February. We have several gigs in January/February including our annual trip to Chicago to Rolling Meadows in late February. (2/23 - 2/24 or 2/25 depending on the schedule). The cost will include transportation and hotel room fee which will be between \$80 - \$100. We will know in early January the cost of the trip so you will have two months to budget. We will do our best to find the best rates on all fronts.

Jazz One Ensemble: Monday evenings from 7 – 9 pm
Jazz Two Ensemble: Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9 pm

BASKETBALL PEP BAND GAMES

Concert and wind ensemble members must attend and will be graded. Check the IVC calendar for game times and dates

COMMENTS

Congratulations to the 2017 Class 1A runner up Marching Grey Ghosts and band family. We were runners up at ISU and U of I. What an accomplishment. What a journey it has been for all of us. I can remember the first days of rehearsal in May and watching these kids push each other to be their best. We knew they didn't want to settle for average. It was very refreshing to witness them striving to be at the best all the time. I can't say enough about the kids that really practiced to become better at what they do. Thank you for your sacrifice and work effort. We learned 65 visual sets (pictures) for about 100 individuals per set, memorized seven minutes of music, learned a ton of body movement, shaped the music, learned flag work for over 200 measures of music (about 480 counts), added props and fronts, added voice overs, learned to march parades, pre-game selections and grew as a band all within about five months with a staff of seven adults and many parent volunteers. The pride in your performance shined through loud and clear and our students and parents worked their tails off! Regardless of all the trophies, the key was that our band family began to see the benefits of working together as one. We are determined, passionate and extremely proud to say "WE ARE IVC!"

As always it takes a small village to make this program a success and we have great parents who go well beyond the call to make sure that our kids have the right tools to succeed.

Thanks to Chris and the uniform cart moms who take care of the uniform related issues and all the kids at the events. All of these moms care so much to do their best for the program and the kids. To watch the band moms tend to each one of our band kids and solve all their issues in a little amount of time is incredible. The kids always go out onto the field looking and feeling their best. Thanks to Deb and Shari for making sure the kids had their equipment and health related issues all season long.

We also want to express our endless gratitude to our treasurers Eric and Vicki. They work behind the scenes and dedicate themselves to keeping the organization's finances in check. It has eaten into their family time and we really appreciate their sacrifice. Thanks to Melissa Ranstetter and Kelly for taking the time so we have the minutes for all the meetings.

Thanks to Eric, Tara, Stu, Todd, Rob and a ton of help making our incredible props and getting our show shirts printed. The props add so much to our show and we could not convey the meaning of the show without them. They looked awesome!

Thanks to Rhonda and Rodney for continuing to keep the website up to date. Thanks to Kelly Welch for also working hard behind the scenes to inform all the parents of the upcoming events through e-mails and charms. Thanks to Dianne for working in Charms to investigate how we can utilize the software.

Thanks to Rodney, Rhonda, Steve and Mike for pulling all the trailers and transporting all our equipment here, there and everywhere as well as making sure the maintenance on the equipment is also kept up.

Thanks to Kelly and Marcy for organizing the civic center fundraiser as well as Deb, Leigh and Beth for putting together the fall fundraisers. Thanks to Tara, Leo and the Ghost Chase committee for pushing hard to make it a success.

Thanks to the staff. They spend countless hours working and hammering out design and musical lessons to keep the standards very high! We couldn't do it without their talents!

We have great people that continue to work endlessly for the kids. It is solely about their amazing experiences and memories. Thanks for your dedication, passion and energy.

I would again like to congratulate all the ILMEA district members and Bradley Honor band participants. We had so many make it again this year! Those students work hard all year long. Way to go! Thanks for representing IVC through these ensembles.

Our jazz/indoor bands/small ensemble rehearsal schedules are all currently in full swing. It is requested that students make every effort to participate in those rehearsals. They are vital to our success and it is extremely hard to work music and technique when members are not participating.

Please come to the concerts this winter. Help support the kids as they prepare lots of holiday music for the Veterans, Christmas parade and indoor concerts.

Please look at the schedule on our web site, www.ivcbands.com. This winter season is crammed with great experiences for all of us. We look forward to seeing you at these future events and thank you for your continued support. Let's make some great memories!

Remember, our journey continues. Concert band, pep band, the jazz season are approaching quickly. We still need so many hands to make our future successful. Please do not leave our program for eight months. We need you!

Lastly, I would like to thank those of you that gave your time, dedication and passion for our band program during are successful marching season.

I hope you and your family have a safe and relaxing Christmas break! See you in 2018!