

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

This Issue

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From the Band Office

The “indoor” season has come to a close. Before their final performances at the FFCC State Championships in Daytona Beach this weekend, my primary reflection on the students who participated in our Indoor Wind Company, Percussion Ensemble, and Winter Guard is one of admiration for their fortitude, determination, and quite frankly, bravery. In a time

when so many bands have scaled back to the bare minimum of activity, the fact that so many of our students chose to seek out and commit themselves to a new and inherently social challenge is impressive and inspirational. The season was not only completely safe and successful but produced some excellent performances and favorable results. It was very rewarding to see the growth our students experienced as performers and musicians, when it would have been all too easy to be complacent, the talents that stayed sharp rather than atrophying, and the skills that developed rather than stagnating. The full benefits of what these students achieved will be felt in the coming months and well into the future.



FFCC Championships

To say our weekend at the FFCC Championships at the Daytona Beach Ocean Center was a logistically challenging one would be an understatement. We dealt with everything, it seems: late buses, equipment issues, broken truck engines, malfunctioning electronics, flat tires... but what kept things going through

it all was our students' incredible determination to do the job they had been preparing to do. We had three very strong performances, and with great results. Our first-ever **Indoor Wind Company** earned the Bronze Medal in Class Scholastic A Winds; our **Winter Guard** also came in with a third place finish in Scholastic A with one of the group's highest scores ever, and our **Percussion Ensemble** was named the Scholastic Open Percussion Champion. Congratulations to all these students for an excellent season and some great performances, even in the midst of a lot of adversity. Victory in the face of challenge is a greater victory than one that comes easily, and the University Band has put that to the test.

Ensemble Auditions

Auditions for our Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Big Band, and Intermediate/Advanced Percussion Ensembles will be submitted in a digital format. Auditions are open now and must be turned in using the Google Drive at www.UHSband.com/ensembles/auditions.php. The password can be found on the members page of the band website, or you can email Mr. Brown at director@UHSband.com for access. All auditions are due by April 15.

All County Jazz

While our indoor groups were performing in Daytona, freshmen **Alex St.Cyr-Paul**, **Connor Gotham**, and **Jan Ramos**, and sophomores **Daniel Bonnet**, **Alexis Lau**, and **Jared St.Ana** were in Winter Garden performing with the OCPS All County Jazz Band. Both groups delivered great concerts with minimal preparation time alongside some of the best student musicians in Orlando. Senior **Joseph Cassidy** was also in the virtual All County Jazz Band.

Student Leadership

Applications for the band's 2021-2022 student leadership team open on **April 1** and must be submitted by **April 15**. Joining the team requires a huge commitment of time and energy but the personal growth and development is highly rewarding. More information is available at www.UHSband.com/leadership. Leadership interviews will take place the final week of April and selections will be announced in May.

Upcoming Rehearsals and Performances

"Into the Woods" Musical

- 🚩 April 15 – 17, 7 PM
- 🚩 April 22 – 24, 7 PM
- 🚩 April 18 & 25, 2 PM

Big Band Rehearsal

- 🚩 April 20
- 🚩 April 27
- 🚩 May 4
- 🚩 May 11

3:15 – 4:30 PM

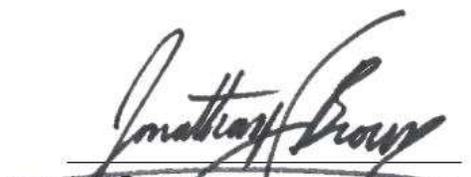
Wind Ensemble Rehearsal

- 🚩 April 22
- 🚩 April 29
- 🚩 May 6
- 🚩 May 13

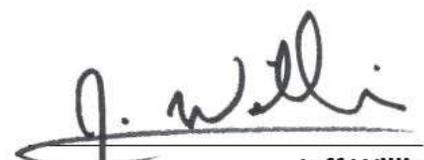
3:15 – 4:30 PM

Thank you!

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our band directors!



Jon Brown
Director of Bands
University High School



Jeff Willis
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