



BAND

INDOOR ENSEMBLE HANDBOOK

Spring 2021



## 2021 INDOOR SEASON

The University Band will be fielding three “indoor” groups during the Spring 2021 semester. The basic idea of an “indoor” group is to take one section of the “outdoor” ensemble (i.e. the Marching Band) and feature that section in performance at an indoor venue, like a gymnasium or sports arena. Since we missed out on Marching Band for the Fall 2020 season, we believe these groups are important to maintain our program’s momentum and keep our students trained in the necessary skillsets for modern performance.

These groups will begin rehearsals after Thanksgiving Break and perform competitively next spring through events sponsored by the FFCC (Florida Federation of Color Guards Circuit.)

The three groups University is fielding will be:



Winter Guard



Indoor Percussion



Indoor Winds

### WINTER GUARD

University fields a Winter Guard every year, and the group is always a formidable competitor in the FFCC and WGI circuits. Last year, the Winter Guard was named a Finalist at the WGI Tampa Regional and won its class to be named Scholastic A Champion at the FFCC Oviedo Regional.

Auditions for the Winter Guard are held in November, beginning with an open seminar where students learn dance and equipment routines, and followed by a panel evaluation.

## INDOOR PERCUSSION

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Last year, we fielded an Indoor Percussion Ensemble for the first time in a decade. The group was incredibly successful even in the abbreviated season we had, being named a Finalist and Scholastic Open Champion at the WGI Percussion Orlando Regional. We intend to continue to build on that success in the Spring 2021.

The Indoor Percussion Ensemble will again include **Front Ensemble**, **Battery**, and **Visual Ensemble** (V/E) positions.

## INDOOR WINDS

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The “Indoor Wind Company,” as we are calling it, is a new group this year and will consist of woodwind, brass, and electronic instruments. This group will rehearse on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 – 7:30 pm at University High School.

All three indoor ensembles are part of the University Band, and members of these groups are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. Between our status as a Performing Arts Magnet and the success of our ensembles across the board in recent years, our band has a reputation as one of the premiere programs in the State of Florida. Students are expected to behave with professionalism, dignity, and humility at all times as representatives of our program.

## SAFETY

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All of these groups will be taking precautions to keep everyone safe and healthy. We take this very seriously and will be implementing a number of procedures to this end. Rehearsals will take place outdoors wherever possible or in large indoor spaces where the students can spread out. Social distancing will be enforced at all events.

The following personal protective measures will be in place:

- Personal Protective Equipment (face coverings) are mandatory for all groups at all times.
- Wind players will be (or have been) provided with special face coverings that do not need to be removed while playing.
- Wind players will be provided with bell covers to mitigate aerosol spread.
- Condensation keys must be emptied directly into a trash can.
- Percussionists and Guard members will keep face coverings on at all times.
- Rehearsals will take place outdoors or in large spaces where the students can spread out.

In addition to these personal initiatives, sanitation measures and health checks will be conducted:

- All students, staff, and parents will undergo a temperature check upon arrival.
- Anyone reporting symptoms of infectious disease or presenting a temperature above 100.4° will not be permitted to enter rehearsal and must return home.
- Hands-free sanitizer dispensers will be available at rehearsal check-in sites.

Breaks will be given frequently to give students the opportunity to hydrate, sanitize their hands, and engage in other self-care practices.

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

These three groups will maintain the same show schedule. We will be performing at the following competitive events:

**February 13** – FFCC Premiere (Cypress Creek)

**February 20** – FFCC Lake Howell Regional

**February 27** – FFCC University Regional #1

**March 6** – FFCC Oviedo Regional

**March 13** – FFCC University Regional #2

**March 28** - FFCC Championships (Daytona Beach)

## FINANCES

Like Marching Band, there will be a cost associated with these spring ensembles to cover our visual and musical instructional assistants, show design, drill, uniforms, props, travel, and other expenses. We have taken steps to reduce costs this spring while maintaining the production value our students, parents, and fans have come to expect. The cost for participating in one of our indoor ensembles this year will be \$300, payable in four installments:

<b>December 15</b>	\$75
<b>January 15</b>	\$75
<b>February 15</b>	\$75
<b>March 15</b>	\$75

Please note again that this is the minimum fair share we are able to charge and remain viable, so it is important to take these financial responsibilities seriously. All payments can be made on SchoolPay.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance at all practices and performances is mandatory. Students who miss rehearsals may be removed from performance at the director's discretion. Although there is seldom such a thing as a "typical week," rehearsal schedules generally look like this:

### Winter Guard

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>Practice</b> 5:00 – 9:00 PM <i>Union Park MS</i>		<b>Practice</b> 5:00 – 9:00 PM <i>Union Park MS</i>	<b>Practice*</b> 5:00 – 9:00 PM <i>Union Park MS</i>  * The day before a show only.	<b>Competition</b> All Day <i>Locations Vary</i>

*Please note that Winter Guard members will be responsible for arranging their own transportation to Union Park Middle School.*

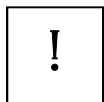
### Indoor Percussion

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Practice</b> 5:00 – 8:00 PM <i>University HS</i>		<b>Practice</b> 5:00 – 8:00 PM <i>University HS</i>		Some Fridays have individually schedule dates. See the full calendar.	<b>Competition</b> All Day <i>Locations Vary</i>

### Indoor Winds

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>Practice</b> 4:00 – 7:30 PM <i>University HS</i>		<b>Practice</b> 4:00 – 7:30 PM <i>University HS</i>		<b>Competition</b> All Day <i>Locations Vary</i>

All three ensembles may have additional rehearsals outside the typical practice schedule. Please keep your eyes on the master calendar at [www.UHSband.com](http://www.UHSband.com) to check for changes and updates.



Students are expected to leave their rehearsal site no later than 30 minutes after the scheduled end of an event. Parents, please pick up your child promptly or arrange alternate transportation if you are not able to do so.

If you must miss a rehearsal for an approved reason (sickness, family emergency, etc.) it is your responsibility to communicate with the band director.

## ELIGIBILITY

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A GPA of 2.5 is required to remain eligible for participation in spring ensembles. Individuals whose GPA falls below this level will not be permitted to participate. If a member's GPA falls below this level during the season, a director/parent/student meeting will be held as soon as possible.

There are 168 hours in a week; rehearsal takes 8-12 of them. It is not acceptable to use spring ensembles as an excuse to fall behind in any of your classes.

## COMMUNICATION

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The **band directors**, not the instructional staff, are the primary line of communication for parents and students.

Per OCPS policy, private communication between students and staff members via social media is not permitted. If for any reason you need to contact the staff directly, please contact the band directors and we will get you in touch.

**Band Website**

[www.UHSband.com](http://www.UHSband.com)

**Band Director**

Jon Brown

[director@UHSband.com](mailto:director@UHSband.com)

**Band Office Phone**

(407) 482-8709

**Band Director**

Jeff Willis

[willis@UHSband.com](mailto:willis@UHSband.com)



## MEMBER CONTRACT

### Student Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to abide by all the policies laid out in the University High School Indoor Ensemble Handbook.

### Parent Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to all the policies laid out in the University High School Indoor Ensemble Handbook. I give my child permission to participate in all University Band events for the ensemble(s) in which he or she participates throughout the school year (unless an absence is pre-arranged by me), including those that may be added to the calendar at a later date.

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Student Signature

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact E-Mail Address

(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone Number