



WINTER GUARD

Handbook 2021 – 2022



UNIVERSITY
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The University Winter Guard is one of the performing ensembles offered by the band program during the spring semester. This ensemble performs throughout Central Florida as an active competitor in the Florida Federation of Color Guard Circuits (FFCC) and Winter Guard International (WGI). Congratulations on being a part of this group! More information can be found by visiting www.UHSband.com and selecting “Ensembles → Color Guard.”

Expectations

The Winter Guard is a component of the University Band. Guard members are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. Due to our status as a Performing Arts Magnet and the success of all our ensembles in recent years, our band has developed a reputation as one of the premier music education programs in the State of Florida. Students are expected to behave with professionalism, dignity, and humility at all times as representatives of our program.

Weekly Schedule

The full winter guard calendar, including all rehearsals and performances, can always be viewed online at www.UHSband.com by clicking “Calendar.”

A typical rehearsal week is as follows:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Practice (5:30 – 9 PM)		Practice (5:30 – 9 PM)	Practice (5:30 – 9 PM)* *only if there is a show the next day	Performance (see calendar)

Performance Calendar

- Saturday, January 29 FFCC Premiere
- Saturday, February 19 FFCC Lyman
- Saturday, February 26 FFCC Freedom
- Saturday, March 5 WGI Tampa
- Saturday, March 12 FFCC University
- Saturday, March 19 WGI Orlando Prelims
- Sunday, March 20 WGI Orlando Finals
- Sunday, March 27 FFCC Championships

Attendance Policy

Attendance at ALL practices and performances is mandatory. Students who miss rehearsals may be removed from performance at the director’s discretion.



Students must leave campus no later than half an hour (30 minutes) after the end of a scheduled rehearsal or the ensemble's return from an event.

If you must miss a rehearsal or performance, you *must* notify the *band directors and staff* by sending an *email* with the date and valid reason to guard@UHSband.com.

Guard Assessments

The University Winter Guard spends thousands of dollars each season to pay for experienced instructional staff, equipment, uniforms, props, and travel. Members of the guard must raise a small portion of this to help offset these costs. The total individual Winter Guard assessment for the 2021 season will be \$300, due on the 15th of each month:

- \$75 due December 15
- \$75 due January 15
- \$75 due February 15
- \$75 due March 15

Please note that these assessments will not cover the full cost of the winter guard's operation. All guard members will be required to participate in additional fundraising activities. Members who do not take steps to fulfill their financial obligations may be removed from performance at the director's discretion.

Transportation

The Winter Guard usually rehearses at Union Park Middle School. Students are responsible for securing their own transportation from University High School to rehearsal and must be picked up from Union Park.

On show days, a school bus will depart from University High School to bring students to and return them from the show site. Students who wish to meet the group at the show site or depart from the show site on a performance day will need to arrange this in advance with the band director.

Requirements

A GPA of 2.5 is required to remain eligible for participation in Winter Guard. Individuals whose GPA is 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 must be held as soon as possible.

A working week contains 120 hours; the Winter Guard rehearses for 12 of these at most. It is not acceptable to use Winter Guard as an excuse to fall behind in any of your classes.

All members are encouraged to be enrolled in the Eurhythmics class during the school day. Membership in the marching band is required during the fall unless a prior arrangement is made with the band director.

Staff Information

Parents and students with questions regarding the Winter Guard should direct all communication to the band directors.

Jon Brown
Band Director
director@UHSband.com

Jeff Willis
Band Director
willis@UHSband.com

Sabine Francois
Guard Instructor

Marla McGarvey
Guard Instructor

Michael James
Design Coordinator



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Member Contract

Member

I have read, understand, and agree to all the information and policies laid out in the University Winter Guard handbook.

Parent

I have read, understand, and agree to all the information and policies laid out in the University Winter Guard handbook, including all financial and attendance-related requirements. I furthermore grant permission for my child to attend all University Winter Guard events throughout the season, including any that may be added to the schedule after today's date.

Student Name (print)

Parent Name (print)

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date