

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

THIS ISSUE

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FROM THE DESK OF MR. BROWN

Our football team played their first varsity game yesterday. Walking into the stadium without the band behind me was definitely a strange experience. Although we did have the national anthem, fight song, and a number of stands tunes recorded by the band, and our cheerleaders were livestreaming from the gymnasium, the stadium was still eerily quiet.

I put some of those recordings up at www.UHSband.com/football and send them to our faculty today, and was surprised by our teachers' overwhelming positive response. "Wow! This is so awesome!" "The band was always my favorite part of football games." "Such a talented group of students and leaders!" "Listening to the fight song made me tear up!" "Erstaunlich!" (That last one was from Frau Panton, our German teacher.) I've always known this, but it made me doubly aware just how important the band is to our school's culture and sense of community.

Having said that, we have some good news! However, it is good news that we are going to approach with a great deal of caution. The school district has now given bands (along with cheerleaders and ROTC) the "green light" to begin performing at Friday night football games, beginning on October 2. Returning to live performance would, of course, mean returning first to live rehearsal, and we'd like to begin by asking all our parents to answer a few questions regarding your comfort level with returning to live performance. We are asking all our parents to do this so that we can get an accurate read of our community's views about this very significant potentiality. You can find the survey at www.UHSband.com/Parents or access it by scanning the QR code above.



More details will be forthcoming over the next few days. We are still inching forward and are excited to cautiously take this next step!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to **Neil Thatcher, Kim Roman, Staci Martucci,** and **Nick Martucci** for helping out at the concession stand for our first varsity football game on Thursday!

ALL STATE

Those students who are auditioning for All State should have received your official FMEA contracts in your student e-mail inbox.

If you have not done so, please fill out the forms and send them back to Mr. Brown as soon as possible.

MASTER CLASS



This week, our concert band classes were treated to a master class presented by **John Marsden!** Mr. Marsden is a band dad (shout-out to Audrey) and works as a professional composer and audio engineer. The topic was “Scoring a Theme Park Ride.” Mr. Marsden then joined us virtually for a Q&A session with the students. We are so grateful to have such talented musicians within our own UHS Band community! Similar master classes are soon to come.

RECITAL CONSORTIUM



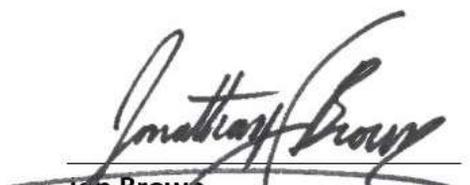
Recital Consortium

In just a few weeks, we will be beginning our “Recital Consortium.” This is a project that University is spearheading with the cooperation of several other schools in our district. The dates have been pushed back to allow students to be a bit more prepared.

Students who choose to participate will prepare a solo and play it for the band directors by **October 1**. Some of these students will then be selected to enter the next round, where a full panel of faculty and staff will select a pair of finalists by **October 15** to represent University in a joint recital with the other participating schools. The final concert will be broadcast on **October 24**.

As of right now, the following schools are participating: Apopka High School, Oak Ridge High School, University High School, Windermere High School, and Winter Park High School.

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


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