

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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From the Band Office

The big news this week is that our “Indoor Season” is taking shape and getting underway. The Indoor Percussion Ensemble is already rehearsing; the Winter Guard has completed auditions; and the Indoor Winds group gets started next week. All three of these groups will provide excellent opportunities for live performance while keeping the environment safe for everyone involved.

To get everyone on the same page, there will be a **Parent Meeting** on **Thursday, November 19** at **6 o'clock PM** for people with a child who will be in ANY of these three indoor groups: Winds, Percussion, or Guard. We will discuss safety precautions, rehearsal schedules, financial obligations, and answer any questions. You can also join the meeting online by joining the Virtual Band Office at www.UHSband.com/hallway - see you there!

Master Class with Disney Musician

So far this year we've been treated to two great clinics from working professional musicians: John Marsden spoke to our classes about life as a composer and audio engineer, and Charlie St.Cyr-Paul put together a presentation on working as a band leader and producer. This week, our concert classes had the opportunity to speak to **Scott Devlin**, a local saxophonist with over 35 years of experience as a studio teacher and Walt Disney World. Like Mr. Marsden and Mr. St.Cyr-Paul, Mr. Devlin was able to do a live Q&A with the students to answer their questions about life as a professional musician. It is always exciting to see the great examples and resources we have right here in our own UHS Band community.



All State

The results for the 2021 FMEA (Florida Music Educators' Association) All State Band are out and FOUR University Band members were selected for these highly competitive groups! This is the most students we have ever had make All State in a single year. Congratulations to:

- Daniel Bonnet (All State Jazz Band)
- Joseph Cassidy (All State Symphonic Band)
- Pharit Smitasin (All State Symphonic Band)
- Jared Sta.Ana (All State Concert Band)

Here are some fun facts that make these students' achievements all the more impressive:

- All four of these students have represented us multiple times at the OCPs All County Band, FSU Tri-State Band, and other honor ensembles. Joseph, notably, performed with the Honor Band of America in 2019.
- Daniel was selected, as a sophomore, for one of just two available jazz alto saxophone spots across the State.
- This is Jared's second consecutive year making All State.
- Pharit also made the 2019 All State Band as a sophomore.

Winter Guard

Auditions for our 2021 Winter Guard were held this week. Students rehearsed with staff to learn exercises demonstrating proficiency in dance, movement, and equipment technique and performed in front of a panel with a short turnaround. Congratulations to the students who have been selected for this year's group:

- Valentina Betancur
- Xena Gonzalez
- Celimar Bonet-Lugo
- Hannah Benton
- Bianca McFarlane
- Gabrielle Young
- Yasmine Alpizar
- Jocelys Isaac
- Alyssa Connelly
- Kazimir Reyes
- Ryan Truong
- Jaelyn Rodriguez
- Carly Harbour
- Sarahi Gonzalez
- Aryn Shoemaker

Thank you!

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. Willis and we will do our best to make sure you have everything you need.



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