

# UNIVERSITY

# UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## This Issue

New Brown

“Indoor” Rehearsals

Assessments Due

Help Needed with Prop

## From the Band Office

It has been about a month since our last newsletter. I was out for most of November due to a combination of different factors. At the beginning of the month, I took a week teaching via LaunchEd after coming down with a mild cough. It turned out to be just allergies (I tested negative for you-know-what), but as we said at the beginning of the year, Mr. Willis and I are taking no chances when it comes to our community’s health. Then, after a week back on campus, I was out again as my wife and I welcomed our new baby boy, Julian Cornelius Brown, to the world. That dovetailed into Thanksgiving break and here we are in December, nearly done with the strangest semester in my thirteen years as a band director. However, we still have a lot going on in the University Band and some exciting times up ahead.



## Semester Wrap-Up

Grades for the second quarter are due next week. Please be checking your band classes on Canvas for any missing assignments. Although band is much more formative than summative (to use the ed jargon), there are graded assignments and we want everyone to do well on them.

## Indoor Ensembles

Our **Winter Guard**, **Indoor Percussion Ensemble**, and **Indoor Wind Company** are all several weeks into their rehearsal season now, and it is already exciting to see the progress being made. Already the shows are beginning to take shape and the talent in each group is clear to see. Above all else, it’s been wonderful to get back into a regular schedule of live rehearsal, to work together towards a tangible goal, and to get to see everyone in person again.

I'd like to thank **John Marsden** for volunteering his time – as always – to design and operate the digital audio equipment for the Indoor Percussion and Indoor Winds groups, as well as Union Park Middle School band director **Juwan Murphy** for helping the Winter Guard get access to the UPMS gymnasium so that they can have a consistent rehearsal space.

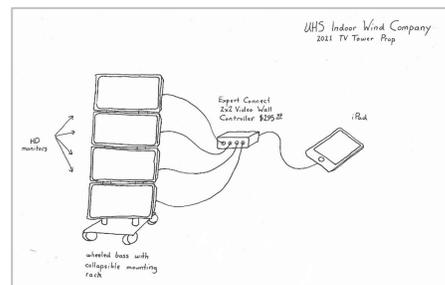
There are no rehearsals for these groups over the Christmas break. The **Winter Guard** will be rehearsing as usual on Tuesday, December 15 and Thursday, December 17 from 5:00 – 9:00 PM at Union Park. The **Indoor Wind Company** has rehearsals on those same days (12/15 and 12/17) from 4:30 – 7:30 PM. The **Indoor Percussion Ensemble** has a rehearsal on Saturday, December 12 from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, and then rehearsals on Monday, December 14 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday, December 16 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM, and Thursday, December 17 from 3:00 – 8:00 PM.

Please note that the **Winter Guard** and **Indoor Wind Company** will be having rehearsals on Tuesday, January 5, which is our very first day back from the break.

**!** As a reminder, the first installment of indoor assessments for members of these groups is due on **Tuesday, December 15**. The first payment is **\$75.00**. These fees help us to pay for instructional assistant staff, uniforms, staging, drill, choreography, show registrations, transportation, and everything else we need to get these groups equipped and successful. Please make sure you are doing your part!

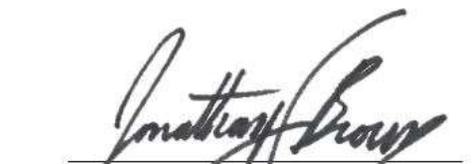
## Help needed with Show Prop

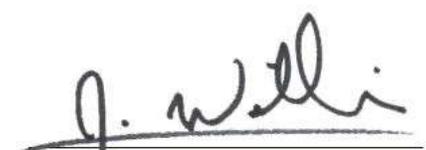
We are going to be building a prop for the Indoor Wind Company show and we need some of YOUR expert help to design and create it! What we are looking to build is a “video wall” tower consisting of four screens that connect to an Expert Connect Video Wall Controller, which allows us to play an image on a computer or iPad and split the image across the four screens. This prop will move on a wheeled base and needs to collapse so that it can be moved in and out of doors. I've attached an amateur drawing so you can see what I mean. If you have any expertise to help us find the right screens/monitors for the right price, install and operate the technology, or put this thing together, please contact Mr. Brown!



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.

  
**Jon Brown**  
Director of Bands  
University High School

  
**Jeff Willis**  
Associate Director of Bands  
University High School