



WINTER GUARD

Handbook 2023 - 2024



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The University Winter Guard is one of the performing ensembles offered by the UHS Band in the spring semester. This ensemble performs throughout Central Florida as an active competitor in the Florida Federation of Color Guards Circuit (FFCC) and Winter Guard International (WGI.) Congratulations on being a part of this group! More information can be found at www.UHSband.com by 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.

The Winter Guard, unlike the Marching Band, is *extracurricular*, not co-curricular. Participation in this group is a privilege and must be earned and maintained through a great attitude, hard work, dedication, and the maintenance of strong behavior and academic excellence.

Weekly Schedule

The full winter guard calendar, including all rehearsals and performances, can always be found at www.UHSband.com by clicking "Calendar."

A typical rehearsal week is as follows:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Rehearsal 5:00 - 9:00 PM		Rehearsal 5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal 5:00 - 9:00 PM* *If there is a show the next day.	Performance (see calendar)

Full Calendar

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday, November 14, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Auditions
Thursday, November 16, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, November 28, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal



Date	Time	Event
Thursday, November 30, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 5, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, December 7, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 12, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, December 14, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 19, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, December 21, 2023	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, January 9, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, January 11, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Monday, January 15, 2024	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, January 16, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, January 18, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, January 23, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, January 25, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Friday, January 26, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, January 27, 2024	All Day	FFCC Premiere <i>Cypress Creek HS (no bus)</i>
Tuesday, January 30, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, February 1, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 6, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, February 8, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Friday, February 9, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, February 10, 2024	All Day	FFCC Orange City <i>University HS (Volusia - bus provided)</i>
Tuesday, February 13, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, February 15, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal



Date	Time	Event
Friday, February 16, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, February 17, 2024	All Day	FFCC Oviedo <i>Oviedo HS (no bus)</i>
Monday, February 19, 2024	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 20, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, February 22, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 27, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Friday, March 1, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, March 2, 2024	All Day	WGI Orlando (<i>no bus</i>) or FFCC Lakewood Ranch (<i>bus provided</i>)
Tuesday, March 5, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, March 7, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Tuesday, March 12, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, March 14, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, March 16, 2024	All Day	FFCC University <i>The One True University HS (no bus)</i>
Tuesday, March 26, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Thursday, March 28, 2024	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rehearsal
Saturday, March 30, 2024	All Day	FFCC Championships <i>Daytona Beach Ocean Center (bus provided)</i>

Attendance Policy

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

For off-campus events where no bus is provided, students must meet at the show site at the designated report time. Once dismissed, students are responsible for their own transportation home. For off-campus events where a bus is provided, students must be on campus for report time and 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 both the band directors and guard staff by sending an email with the absence date and a valid reason to guard@UHSband.com.

Financial Responsibilities

The University Winter Guard has a large operational budget 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 Winter Guard assessment for the 2023-2024 season will be \$400, due on the 15th of each month.

\$100.00	due December 15
\$100.00	due January 15
\$100.00	due February 15
\$100.00	due March 15

Please note that these assessments will not cover the full cost of the Winter Guard's operation. All guard members may be required to participate in additional fundraising activities, and small purchases of individual equipment (gloves, tights, makeup, etc.) may be necessary. Members who take no steps to fulfill their financial obligations may be removed from performance at the director's discretion.

Transportation

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

For this year's WGI competitions and FFCC Championships, a school bus will depart from University High School to transport students to and from the show. Students who wish to meet the group at the show site or depart early must arrange this in advance by emailing guard@UHSband.com. For this year's FFCC regionals (Premiere and Oviedo), students will report directly to the show site.

Requirements

A GPA of 2.5 is required to remain eligible for participation in the Winter Guard. Individuals whose GPA falls below this will not be invited to participate. If a member's GPA falls below this during the season, a director/parent/student meet must be held as soon as possible.

A week contains 168 hours; in any given week, there are 8-12 hours of Winter Guard rehearsal. It is not acceptable to use Winter Guard as an excuse to fall behind in your academics.



All members are encouraged to be enrolled in a dance 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.

Communication

Please use guard@UHSband.com for all Winter Guard related communications. Team members will also be given information about joining the “Slack” app for announcements and discussion.



WINTER GUARD
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