

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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From the desk of Mr. Brown

I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend! We are back for what should be two reasonably normal weeks of band. Small steps toward normalcy continue to be made: we had our first recital (albeit a virtual one) for the Performing Arts Magnet last week, and one of our ensembles (Concert Band) is due to begin some live playing during class this week. We have rehearsals for the Pep Band on Tuesday and Thursday and a football game on Friday, which makes it feel like an almost-normal fall week. The band's design team has also been getting excited as we look toward the future, getting a jump start on show planning and investigating some possibilities for the spring semester, so keep your eyes out for upcoming announcements about that.

Pep Band Performance

The first public performance of the University Band in the 2020 – 2021 school year took place last week as the Pep Band performed at the varsity football game vs. Olympia High School. It may not be what we're used to, but the kids had a blast anyway. Special thanks to **John Marsden** for setting up the audio board and microphones to help our small ensemble fill up the stadium! We also want to thank all



our parent volunteers, especially **Doug Byington** and **John Bailey** for helping us to get equipment set up, and **Marlene Martin, Scott & Anna Elias, Mary Ambrose, Anna Gonzalez,** and **Zaida Torres** for chaperoning to make sure our performers were ready to go. The band is also grateful to **Neil Thatcher, Stacie Martucci** and her son **Nick, Kim Roman,** and **Kim Knarr-Soto** for keeping the concessions stand running to help support our program.

Recital Consortium



Congratulations to **Pharit Smitasin** (12), **Nozomi Devine** (11), and **Kayla Elias** (12) on their selection as University High School's representatives in the 2020 Recital Consortium. These students will perform solo literature in a joint virtual concert along with students from Apopka High School, Oak Ridge High School, Winter Park High School, and Windermere High School.

The recital is scheduled to be broadcast on October 30, although this may change slightly depending on the needs of each school.

Senior Night

Next week's football game, the "Boot Game" vs. Colonial High School, will be University High School's official **Senior Night**. Band seniors will have the opportunity to be recognized in the stadium and have a formal photograph taken with their parents, our principal Tom Ott, and band directors. Please note that only parents will be allowed to escort students this year.

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

Seniors in the hornline and percussion section will be wearing band uniforms, at least for the pre-game ceremony. Please plan to stop by the uniform room on **Tuesday, October 20** or **Thursday, October 22** from **4:00 – 7:00 PM** so that Ms. Martin can get your uniform fitted and adjusted. Students in the color guard may simply dress formally for the photograph.

Rehearsals This Week

Pep Band rehearsals for everyone – Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion, and Color Guard – will take place this week on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** from **5:00 – 7:00 PM**. On **Friday**, the Pep Band will end the week with a performance at the varsity football game vs. Hagerty High School; report time for the game will be **6:00 PM** and the game should be over around 9:30 PM.

Pep Band Guest List

Students who are performing with the Pep Band are still allowed to bring two guests to the game. Please see the Members Page of the band website and click the "**Pep Band Manager**" link to set your guests. This must be done by **4:00 PM** on **Friday** in order to guarantee admission to the game.