



INSTEP

WE'RE ON THE VERGE OF SOMETHING BIG!

Fall 2022



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Mark your calendar for these
FUN-raising events.

Bottle Drive

September 17, 2022

October 22, 2022

Sponsorship Drive

happening NOW

Friends of Mac Band,

Greetings and welcome back to school! As most of you know, Marching Band has been up and running for a while now and the kids, parents, and directors are back in the groove! It has been wonderful to see our kids getting back to what they love!

My name is Pat Johnson, and I am the new President of the Mac Band Parent Organization (MBPO). I am very grateful to be serving in this capacity and I look forward to meeting each of you over time. If you ever need me, my email is Pat@PatrickLJohnson.com and my phone number is (541) 968-5655. Feel free to email, call, or text any time.

Last year was a capital year in the band program at MHS. Returning to in-person activities after such a time of upheaval was no small feat for all involved. In spite of all of the challenges, the Marching Band ended up with some of the best scores they have ever received! And while numbers may be smaller than they used to be, there is no less enthusiasm, commitment, or passion than there has ever been!

As we march into the 2022-2023 school year (yes..., that pun was totally intended), we find ourselves in a wonderful position of having enthusiastic kids, involved parents, and a band director to whom we are deeply grateful. Thank you, Mr. Barton, for all you do! It does not go unnoticed, and we appreciate you!

If I may leave you with one thing though, it would be an "ask". Would you consider being an active part of MBPO? Many of you are already, and that is excellent! However, we could use some more help for sure. We have lofty goals of fundraising this year, and there is always a need for support at competitions, etc. There is no effort of yours that we would consider too small, or unimportant - we would be grateful for any and all involvement.

I certainly hope to see you at the next band parent meeting - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:15 PM in the band room! Let's plan on having a wonderful year supporting fantastic kids, a great director, and a wonderful program!

Best wishes, Pat Johnson

A (Tentative) Look at the 2022 Season

- Tournament of Bands at **Linfield University on September 24th**.
- Pride of the Northwest at **Grants Pass High School on October 8th**.
- Sunset Classic at **Sunset High School on October 15th**.
- NWAPA Championships at **Autzen Stadium in Eugene on November 5th**.



We Need YOU to Have a Successful Season!

When the band performs at a competition, the audience sees the hard-working students giving their all, but they don't see all the hard work that went into the performance. This includes the many, many hours of practice by the students, but also lots of work by band parents and friends. From building props and fitting uniforms to moving equipment and feeding the students on competition days, the band needs lots of volunteers to thrive. We also need a great deal of financial resources.

While the school district provides some funds, MBPO provides the rest. Band students pay a participation fee, just like athletes do. However, that amount falls far short of covering the expenses involved in running a successful band program. Costs include competition entry fees, sheet music and compositions, material for building props, and a stipend for experienced musicians to teach small group sectionals so students have an expert on their own instrument keeping them challenged.

One of our major expenses is travel costs for all the band and color guard students. In addition to all of the travel costs for competition season, the band hopes to travel to Disneyland over Spring Break to march on Main Street and take part in other music opportunities. Lastly, but perhaps most important, **we provide scholarships for participation fees for many students who could not otherwise participate.** We have seen many such students blossom and do things that they never would have imagined possible by having the opportunity to be participate in Mac Band.

These expenses are a vital part of a successful band program. Without them, we cannot be competitive with other schools' music programs and our students will miss a wonderful opportunity. That is where you come in. There are a variety of ways you can help. You can participate in the monthly bottle drive the fourth Saturday of each month at Incahoots. You can make a financial donation directly to the band (see the information below). You can donate items from the wish list.

We realize that some in the community may not be able to give as generously as they might like, but there are other ways to support the band, such as allowing us to hang posters in your windows about fundraisers or asking a small group of musicians to perform outside of your business. Or simply talk about the band and put information about our program on your website with a link so visitors to your site can easily donate.

It is our goal for the band to become an integral part of the music culture in our community and with your help we can continue to press on toward that goal.

Email: mbpo40@gmail.com

To donate by check:

McMinnville Music Boosters with "Mac Band" on the memo line.

905 NE Baker Street McMinnville, Oregon 97128

Online at macband.net/donate

MEET THE BAND

Leading the ‘bones: Meet Trombonist Mya Budzik



Though she is only a sophomore, Mya Budzik is the section leader for the trombones. Last year Mya joined the band with two other trombone

players. The three of them were mentored by some strong senior trombone players, and Mya soaked up all they had to offer. She grew in confidence with both her playing and her marching and learned how to grow from her mistakes. “I really like the environment and the atmosphere that Mr. Barton creates,” she said.

Mya started playing the trombone in middle school where she saw Mac Band perform for her middle school. She immediately decided that she wanted to join. Mya said, “Now that I’m here, it’s surreal.” She added that “everyone is super nice and Barton treats everyone like family.”

Band is not her only extracurricular. Mya also runs track and cross country, which is another school activity that requires a lot of time outside school hours. According to Barton, Mya “is able to do all of her activities at a high level of success because she is really goal focused.”

Spinning flags with the guard: Meet section leader Olivia Akers



Another important part of the marching band is the color guard. Olivia Akers is in her fourth year of color guard. Olivia is the only senior, in a very young group of color guard members. The guard is heavy with

sophomores and a brand-new coach. Olivia has stepped up to lead this already impressive looking group.

Olivia has had to persevere through the pandemic and is now the only guard member in her class. She had to learn how to become a leader. This made her the obvious choice to be the section leader, “She is all about commitment,” said Barton. “She is committed to the group. She dedicates her time to it.”

Olivia joined color guard as a freshman because her brother was in band, but she did not want to play an instrument. “I’m a dancer, so color guard was the best option.” Olivia has brought with her 8 years of dance experience with Van de Veere to help when she is working through choreography.

Olivia feels that Mac Band is another family to her and she is grateful to be part of it. She feels that color guard is something “you can do even if you don’t know how.”

MEET THE BAND

Leading the Charge: Meet Drum Major Katie Hinthorn



Katie is a junior who has been playing clarinet since 5th grade. Katie might have joined Mac Band because a friend thought it was cool, but she has blossomed in this community. Katie feels that band is a safe place where you can learn leadership skills and stamina. Katie said, “it is like a big social gathering. Mac Band goes on trips together and competes together. Being part of the band is just fun.”

Like many other students her age, Katie did not have many opportunities her freshman year due to the pandemic. So, Katie’s real first experience with a drum major was her sophomore year. Katie felt that her drum major was someone she could trust, someone who she could go to if she needed help. Katie states that she would “like people to trust her like I did my drum major.”

When asked why he chose Katie to lead the band, Barton said, “She has a visual concept of what things look like and what they should be. She is super disciplined. I want to put someone exactly like Katie in front of everybody because that is the role model I want everyone to have.”



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