

# Orchestra, Band, and Choir



# Orchestra

- Combined with the Joliet Central Orchestra.
- Under the direction of Peter Lipari.
- Currently holds 165 members
- Three orchestras: The JTHS Strings, Philharmonia, and the Symphony Orchestra.
- Orchestra camp
- All year fundraising
- Recently celebrated 115 years!



# The Conductor

- Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana.
- Master of music in orchestral directing from Northwestern University in Evanston.
- Certificate of music from the University of London, Royal Holloway, and Bedford New College, in the UK.
- Guest conductor for many well rounded professional groups.
- Only conductor for the JTHS district orchestras and the pit ensemble for musicals.



# The Three Groups

- Strings:
    - Freshmen group
    - Beginning level
  - Philharmonic
    - Top group
    - Upperclassmen
    - Prove you're responsibility throughout freshman year
  - Symphony Orchestra:
    - Out of school group
    - Consists of strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion
- Extra information:
    - Playing tests
    - Scale tests
    - Always offered to try and be in the highest ensembles
    - Concerts and rehearsals take place at different locations (West or Central)
    - 8 concerts a year
    - Partake in many clinics
    - Various ways of communication between the director and students
    - Touring happens every other year and have travelled to various places.

# Why Join?

- Gives you an opportunity to be involved with your school.
- Grow as an individual musically and individually
- Allowing yourself to express your emotions through music
- Can meet new people and make new friends





# Band

- Under the direction of Eric Wellman and Alyson Bauman
- Contains 8 groups: symphonic band, symphonic winds, concert band, concert winds, jazz band, pep band, and marching band.
- Environment is welcoming and accepting. Everyone is there to do what they love!



# The Directors

Eric Wellman (Director of bands):

- Fourth year at West
- Symphonic band, concert band, jazz band, and marching band



Alyson Bauman (Assistant director of bands):

- First year at West
- Symphonic winds, concert winds, and marching band



# About the bands

- Music For All National Concert Band Festival
- Super State at the University of Illinois in Urbana, Illinois
- ISU Concert Band Festival
- Solo and Ensemble
- TriM
- ILMEA
- Trips every other year:
  - Disney World
  - New York
  - Washington D.C.
- Fundraisers
  - Party Lite Candles
  - Cookie Dough
  - Spaghetti Dinner





# Concerts

- Fall Showcase Concert (October)
- Christmas Concert (December)
- Concerts with Troy and ISU (January/February)
- February Concert
- National Concert Band Festival (March)
- Final Concert (May)
- Jazz Concerts

# To be in band...

- Audition!
- Top bands ILMEA music and scales (blind audition)
- Any other band pick a piece (blind audition)
- In the end Mr. Wellman and Ms. Bauman make the decision!
  - Tone
  - Articulation
  - Rhythmic Accuracy



# Jazz Band

- Begins in November
- Jazz II
  - Entry level
  - No audition required
- Jazz I
  - Audition required
  - Mainly upperclassmen
  - Outside performances

- Performances
  - Spaghetti Dinner (February)
  - Pop/Jazz Concert (January)
  - Spring concert (April)
  - Hackneys (Jazz I)
  - Jazz Showcase (Jazz I)

# The Marching Tigers

- A group where instrumental musicians perform while marching and playing to give entertainment or prepare for competitions.
- Who makes up the marching band?
  - Brass instruments
  - Woodwind instruments
  - Percussion instruments
  - Color guard
  - Drum Majors





# Rehearsals

- 5 months long
- June rehearsals
- July/August band camp
- After school rehearsals are every week, Tuesday and Thursday 6-9pm and Monday 3:30-5:30. If you choose to be apart of the color guard or percussion, rehearsals on Wednesdays are 6-9pm.
- Saturday morning rehearsal ONLY on competition days.





# Leadership Opportunities

- Section leader
- Drum major





# Performances

- Parades
  - The Shorewood Fest
  - Homecoming Parade
  - Light up the Holidays Parade
- All home varsity football games (pregame and halftime)
- 5 competitions, most are at high schools and some are university hosted.
- Special performances
  - Joliet Slammers Baseball team



# Payment and uniforms

- \$140 for the entire season
- Uniform includes
  - summer band uniform of black pants, marching tigers polo and marching band black shoes.
  - show performance uniform includes jacket, pants, shako, plume, and gloves





# Why join band?

- Appreciation
- Behavior
- Authority or domination
- Wisdom
- Creative expression
- MUSIC IS A PLACE FOR EVERYONE



# Choir

- Fun Fact
- Choir counts as a foreign language
- Environment
- Tight-Knit Group
- Friendships
- Dedication and Passion
- LOTS of laughs, but deep moments too





# The Three Groups



- Mixed Chorus
  - Freshman Choir
  - Beginning Level
- Ensemble
  - Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
  - All Female Choir
  - Next Step Up
- Concert Choir
  - Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
  - Audition
  - Next “Next” Step up
  - Compete

# The Teachers



- Mr. DeBoer
  - Choir Director for all 3 groups
  - Music Appreciation and AP Music Theory
  - Great Life / Music Advice
  - Inspirational
  - Nominee for Golden Apple Award and named Teacher of Distinction
- Mrs. Villaseñor Brsan
  - Pianist
  - Great Technical / "hard spots" advice
  - Fun-Spirited



# Life of a Choir Student

- 4 Concerts
- Host 2 Contests
  1. Other High Schools
  2. Grade Schools
- Opera Scenes
  - Perform scenes from operas
- Travel (Concert Choir)
  - Every other year



# Related Out -of-School Activities

- j-Tunes
  - Acapella group
  - Audition
  - Run by Mr. DeBoer
- Jazz Cats
  - Jazz Group
  - Audition
  - Run by Mrs. Villaseñor Brsan
- Musical
  - In spring
  - Awesome stage experience
  - Great way to meet new people
- IMEA
  - Audition for District Choir
    - If you make it...
    - About 300 People
    - AMAZING experience
  - Opportunity to go to State



# Why Take Choir?

- Grown as a person AND as a musician
- Purpose of Music
  - Entertain
  - Convey a Message
- Music~ more than pretty noise
  - “One of the goals of the course is to give an outlet and understanding to the growing emotional wealth that adolescents attain.” ~Mr. DeBoer
- Choir is one big Brain-Training Exercise
- Choir can **Change Your Life**



# Questions?

