

Music Department Report
February 2024
Prepared by Nate Bankert

From Mr. Ackerman and Mr. Apgar:

4th grade band has started.

4/5/6 numbers are holding steady

Into the Mayhem – HS rock band has finished a recording session at studio at Lebanon Valley College. Six songs completed and will be mixed soon. They are also scheduled to do a rock video with a start-up video company out of Kutztown University.

Apollo's Axe – 8th grade rock band has been invited to be the studio band for a day at the Academy for Media Production in McSherrystown PA. Students in the sound engineer program will run microphones and recording software for the band. We will have a professional recording of a song or two, as well as experience in the process. On another day, the band will have photos taken by a professional photographer on location at Poole Forge mansion grounds.

From Mr. Corrao:

7-12 Band News:

Marching Band: The Marching Band staff has announced our leaders for the 2024 fall season: Maddie Heverin – Drum Major; Lana Willenbrock – Drum Major; Cameron Frank – Sergeant at Arms; Color Guard Section Leader – Ruby Byler. Stay tuned for our 2024 Field Show Announcement!

Concert Band:

LLMEA Band Festival: Quite a few band members attended the LLMEA All-County Honor Band Festival on Saturday, February 3rd.

LLMEA Middle School Honor Band: Axel Nelson (gr 7 – flute); Jaina Poirier (gr 8 – euphonium); Tyler Buzzard (gr 7 – battery percussion). The director of the middle school honor band was Howard Boots (retired from Cocalico SD and a PV alumnus!)

LLMEA High School Honor Band: Annika Hofstetter (gr 12 – flute); Briana Garbanzo (gr 12 – clarinet); Maddie Heverin (gr 11 – clarinet); Cam Frank (gr 10 – clarinet); Naomi Brumbach (gr 10 – alto sax); RJ Forsythe (gr 10 – euphonium). The high school band was directed by Dr. Joseph Cernuto of Millersville University.

The LLMEA festival was a great event and all of our learners did a wonderful job not only as musicians, but also representatives of the PV community!

West Virginia University: Cameron Frank (gr 10 – Clarinet) attended the West Virginia University Honor Bands Invitational from Feb 8-10 held on the campus of WVU in Morgantown, WV. Cam applied to the event and sent in an audition video which placed her in one of the three bands that were at the festival. (Cam's audition placed her in Clarinet 1, seat 3 of the Gold Band). WVU is one of Cam's potential schools to attend after graduation and she had a first-hand experience visiting the campus, taking a tour of the music facility and seeing student-life up close. The band concert was amazing and the event featured 270 high school music students from 7 states divided into three outstanding bands. Cam's director was Dr. Matthew Stratton – Director of Bands from Olivet Nazarene University (just outside of Chicago, IL).

On Monday, Feb 5th, the HS Symphonic Band hosted a virtual clinic with MSgt. Connor Mikula from the President's Own U.S. Marine Corps. Band. The clinic lasted 45 minutes and discussed the importance of practicing long tones. The discussion started with hearing a sampling of MSgt. Mikula's playing, the reasons for practicing long tones and the proper way to approach practice sessions so that you are always developing your sound. MSgt. Mikula was an entertaining clinician and fielded questions from our learners as well as giving them an insider's perspective of music careers in the military.

Jazz Ensemble:

The Jazz Ensemble is busy planning and preparing for its 3rd Annual PV/Solanco JazzFest to be hosted this year at PVHS on Wednesday, March 27th. This will be an all-day jazz event featuring clinics and workshops from members of our guest band, the Corsair Blue Jazz Orchestra. Workshops will include: Rehearsal Clinic for each band, sectionals on like instruments, a jazz improvisation clinic and a combined band rehearsal for our grand finale. Clinics will be led by Dr. N. Keith Wiley, retired from Millersville University, and guest musicians of the CBJO. The day will conclude with a free concert performed in the PVHS Auditorium featuring all the Solanco MS Jazz Band, Solanco HS Jazz Band, the PV Jazz Ensemble and the Corsair Blue Jazz Orchestra. The concert is free and will begin at 6:30pm!

From Mrs. Trescavage:

Brave Sounds performed the National Anthem at the Reading Royals to over 3,000 audience members.

PVIS will present Legally Blonde Jr. on March 21, 22 and 23.

7 middle school singers will represent Pequea Valley at LLMEA Middle School County Chorus on April 13th.

From Mr. Bankert:

Saturday January 27, two singers (Madeline Heverin and Nicholas Ammon) participated in the PMEA District 7 Chorus festivals. It was an extraordinary concert! Dr. Ryan Beeken from Wichita State University was the guest conductor and he was fabulous. The singers had a lot of fun and learned so much. Maddie and Nick represented PVHS with class and professionalism throughout the entire experience.

NEWSIES opens NEXT week! It's going to be a very exciting and entertaining show! I hope you can make it! Board members- please reach out to me if you would like a ticket(s) to the show and I will send you a promo code.

The PV Chamber Singers will be performing "Passion Music" with the Brandywine Valley Chorale, Kennett High School, and Unionville High School Thursday February 15. This is a very special event where the composer (Will Todd) will be there!



2024 PMEA District 7 Chorus

Dr. Ryan Beeken - Conductor

Melodie Fair - Host

Miller Chapel - Lebanon Valley College

**PEQUEA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS**

Disney NEWSIES
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW!

Order tickets at
www.PequeaValley.org

Thursday, February 22 • 7pm
Friday, February 23 • 7pm
Saturday, February 24 • 2pm & 7pm

Doors open 30 minutes before curtain • PVHS Auditorium

NEWSIES is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Brandywine Valley Chorale
with choirs from Unionville, Kennett,
and Pequea Valley High Schools
PRESENTS

WILL TODD

Passion MUSIC

February 15, 2024
Thursday at 7:30 PM
Unionville High School Auditorium
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Featuring guest composer **Will Todd**
with Gospel Soloist and Jazz Ensemble

\$20 Adults • \$15 Seniors & Students
Tickets available at thebvc.org

BVC
BRANDYWINE VALLEY
CHORALE
JASON THRONE, Artistic Director

Nativity • Passion! • Resurrection