



BAND
PROGRAM

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Stevenson High School Band Program! Inside this booklet, you will find information about our curricular ensembles, co-curricular ensembles, private lesson opportunities, leadership opportunities, registering for band and more. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

We look forward to having you become a part of our band family!

Additional Marching Band Staff

Marching Percussion–Drumline

Zack Marks

zmarks@d125.org

Marching Percussion–Frontline

Kevin Ray

kray@d125.org

Color Guard

Michael Tseitlin

mtseitlin@d125.org

Small Ensemble Directors

Flute Choir

Hideko Amando

hamano@d125.org

Clarinet Ensemble

Claire Werling

cwerling@d125.org

Double Reed Ensemble

Jennifer Speer

jspeer@d125.org

Saxophone Ensemble

Ben Voigt

bvoigt@d125.org

Brass Choir

Kendra Gohr

kgohr@d125.org

Percussion Ensemble

Zack Marks

zmarks@d125.org

Kevin Ray

kray@d125.org

Band Team



Caitlin McGovern

Director of Bands

cmcgovern@d125.org

847-415-4778



Mark Hiebert

Associate Director of Bands and Jazz Bands

mhiebert@d125.org

847-415-4759



Ben Voigt

Assistant Director of Bands and Jazz Bands

bvoigt@d125.org



Maddie Vogler

Director of Jazz Bands

mvogler@d125.org

847-415-4762

Stevenson High School Band Mission and Vision



D125 Band Mission

The Stevenson High School Band Program seeks to provide all of its students with opportunities to grow emotionally, socially and cognitively through shared musical experiences. We believe that these experiences foster values that will benefit students not only in their high school careers but throughout their lifetimes. These values are listed in our vision:

D125 Band Vision

Integrity

We seek to develop sound personal character through our daily choices and interactions.

Excellence

We aspire to make excellence a habit in all that we do as both musicians and citizens.

Family

We strive to create lasting and meaningful relationships through shared musical and social experiences.

D125 Music Consortium Mission

Our PreK-12 Consortium Music Mission is to provide an essential experience to all students through the study and performance of music that is purposeful, enduring and joyful.

D125 Music Consortium Vision

The Music Artistic Processes are: *Creating, Responding, Connecting and Performing*. Students will explore music as a whole body, mind and soul experience that provides: an intellectual pursuit that uniquely develops the full capacity of the brain, music literacy, opportunities to expand creative potential connections across history, cultures and other areas of study, a place of belonging and community, joy and accomplishment.

Ensembles

Curricular Ensembles

Band Courses

Freshman Band
Full-Year Course
MUS101/MUS102

Symphonic Band
Full-Year Course
MUS121/MUS122

Wind Symphony
Full-Year Course
MUS131/MUS132

Wind Ensemble
Full-Year Course
MUS141/MUS142



Our curricular ensembles are the cornerstone of the Stevenson Band Program. We perform a wide range of traditional and modern literature that features a variety of different musical styles and composers. Each band is an accredited class that meets everyday during the school day. Yearly performances include one concert first semester and two concerts second semester with additional performances in the fall for our advanced groups.

Each of these ensembles represent a level of a spiral curriculum that utilizes the Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance Model (CMP) as a framework for teaching and learning. The CMP Model emphasizes the literature selection process in determining learning outcomes for students. Therefore, in this model, the literature itself is selected with a purpose, and specific musical outcomes in mind.

All 10th-12th grade band students are assigned to an ensemble based on a performance assessment in the spring of each school year. All freshmen will be placed in the Freshmen Band for their initial year in the program. Exceptions to this may be made for specific instruments including oboe, bassoon, French horn and tuba. Contact the Band Directors for more information.

Co-Curricular Ensembles

Marching Band

The Marching Band is the largest co-curricular ensemble in our program. It is one of our most fun groups to be part of and is a favorite of many of our students! The season begins with Band Camp, which is typically from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. during the first week of August. The time commitment then drops to approximately once to twice a week through the end of October. **Students must be enrolled in a band class in order to participate.**



The Drumline and Front Ensemble are a part of the Marching Band. Audition information for these sections will be made available to all percussion students in the spring of each year. Non-percussionists are not eligible to be on the Drumline or Front Ensemble.

The Marching Band performs at all home football games and other community events. Those who elect to participate are also eligible to receive a one semester P.E. waiver for the fall Semester. Please see the “Band and Your Four-Year Plan” section for more information.



*“Band is an amazing opportunity to improve
as a musician and make a ton of friends.”*

—CURRENT STEVENSON BAND STUDENT

Ensembles

Co-Curricular Ensembles



Color Guard and Winter Guard

Band students may also be interested in being part of the Color Guard! The Color Guard performs with the Marching Band during the fall season. Students may also choose to continue throughout the year as part of the Winter Guard, a competitive indoor group. Color Guard and Winter Guard are open to all students who are interested and may be a great fit for those with a dance background! No prior experience is necessary. Please contact Color Guard Sponsor Michael Tseitlin for more information (mtseitlin@d125.org).



Pep Band

Pep Band is a co-curricular ensemble that performs at 10 varsity boys and girls home basketball games each season. These performances are high energy and a ton of fun! Students are able to create their own performance schedule and choose five+ games out of the scheduled 10 that they would like to participate in. Performances are typically on Tuesday, Friday or Saturday nights. There is only one rehearsal for this group at the beginning of the season. Come join the party! **Students must be enrolled in a band class in order to participate.**

Jazz Bands

The Jazz program at Stevenson High School consists of four co-curricular groups with two big bands, a jazz combo, and Jazz Workshop. Placement in a jazz group is determined by an audition at the beginning of the school year. Any instrument can be played in Jazz Workshop, our ensemble focused on learning the basics of improvising, composing and arranging, but all other groups use traditional jazz instrumentation. All jazz groups have regular performances at school and in the community throughout the year.

Wind and Brass players must be enrolled in a band class in order to participate. Rhythm Section positions (bass, guitar, piano and drum set) are open to all students.



Small Ensembles

Our Small Ensembles include Flute Choir, Double Reed Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Brass Choir and Percussion Ensemble. Each group meets between one to two times per week before or after school from September-April. These groups are led by professional specialists in each respective instrument and are a great musical and social opportunity for students! **Students must be enrolled in a band class in order to participate.**



Additional Opportunities

Student Leadership Positions

We are proud to say that the Stevenson High School Band is first and foremost a student organization. Students in the Band program are given multiple formal opportunities to take personal ownership and to develop their leadership skills. The Band Executive Board, the core of our student leadership team, consists of students who are elected by their peers to plan important band events and serve as their representatives with the directors. There are also a variety of additional positions through Marching Band, Jazz Band and the Small Ensembles. Band student leaders have the opportunity to be part of leadership training at the start of each year and receive extensive mentoring and guidance from the directors throughout the year.



“Band is encouraging. It provides opportunities to develop both as a musician and person by teaching skills like listening, patience, and adaptability in a safe environment.”

—CURRENT STEVENSON BAND STUDENT



Private Lessons (PREP)

It is highly recommended that all band students sign up for private music lessons. Lessons are offered on a weekly basis and can be scheduled during students’ band class, before school, after school or during other free periods. For more information, please visit the D125 PREP Private Lesson website at www.d125.org/prep.

Private Lesson Instructors

Bassoon	Jazz Bass
Jennifer Speer	Sam Peters
Clarinet/Saxophone	Jazz Saxophone
Andy Carpenter	Brent Griffin
Claire Werling	
Euphonium/Tuba	Oboe
Kendra Gohr	Julie Koscinski
Flute	Percussion
Hideko Amano	Zack Marks
	Kevin Ray
French Horn	Trombone
Emma Sepmeier	Colleen Bayoneto
	Trumpet
	Josh Jern

Band and Your Four-Year Plan

No matter what your academic and co-curricular goals may be, there are many ways to fit Band in your schedule for all four years of your high school career! Check out these example schedules to see some of the ways that our students have achieved this, all while remaining involved in clubs, sports and maintaining a commitment to academics.

Freshman Year Schedule Examples

Options A and B reflect the use of a P.E. Waiver, which is available for all Marching Band members every first semester in the years that they participate.

Option A		Option B	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
English	2	English	2
Mathematics	2	Mathematics	2
Science	2	Science	2
Elective or Study Hall (Semester 1)	0-1	Elective or Study Hall (Semester 1)	0-1
P.E. (Semester 2)	1	P.E. (Semester 2)	1
Band	2	Band	2
Elective	2	Elective A	2
World History* (Lunch/Advisory)	2	Elective B (Lunch/Advisory)	2

Options A and C include the two semester World History* course that must be taken prior to junior year. Alternatively, Option D assumes the student takes World History during freshman or sophomore summer school.

Option C		Option D	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
English	2	English	2
Mathematics	2	Mathematics	2
Science	2	Science	2
P.E.	2	P.E.	2
Band	2	Band	2
World History*	2	Elective A	2
Elective or Study Hall (Lunch/Advisory)	0-2	Elective B or Study Hall (Lunch/Advisory)	0-2

Other schedule configurations exist, so students are encouraged to use the Four-Year Course Plan worksheet to review their options.



“Band is a way for me to excel in something I’ve been committed to for a long time and make relationships with people that share their love of music with me.”
— CURRENT STEVENSON STUDENT

Sample Four-Year Plan

While any amount of time in our program is beneficial and positive, band is most impactful as a comprehensive four-year experience. Band not only fit into a freshman year schedule, it can also be maintained consistently throughout your high school career. The students in the example schedules below were both a part of the Class of 2023. They were also involved in athletics and other clubs during their time at Stevenson and went on to attend college.

Freshman Year		Sophomore Year		Junior Year		Senior Year	
First Semester		First Semester		First Semester		First Semester	
Algebra 1		Symphonic Band		Algebra 2		Wind Symphony	
Art and Design		Earth Science		Chemistry		Applied Health	
Biology		Geometry		Junior English		Government	
Freshman Band		Health Education		P.E. Waiver–Marching Band		Human Anatomy and Physiology	
Freshman English		Sophomore English		Symphonic Band		P.E. Waiver–Marching Band	
Mentor Math		Spanish 2		U.S. History		Precalculus	
P.E. Waiver–Marching Band						Writing for College	
World History and Geography							
Second Semester		Second Semester		Second Semester		Second Semester	
Algebra 1		Symphonic Band		Algebra 2		Wind Symphony	
Biology		Driver Education		Chemistry		Child Development	
Choice P.E.		Earth Science		Choice P.E.		Human Anatomy and Physiology	
Freshman Band		Geometry		Junior English		Personal Finance	
Freshman English		Sophomore English		Symphonic Band		Precalculus	
World History and Geography		Spanish 2		U.S. History		Text Exploration and Analysis	
						P.E. Waiver–Academic	

This student also took World History in summer school before their freshman year and Geometry in summer school before their sophomore year. Driver Education was taken off campus.

Quick Tips

P.E. Waiver

Students who participate in Marching Band may waive the P.E. requirement for the fall semester of that school year.

Scheduling World History

World History may be taken during sophomore year or during summer school before or after freshman year, making up to 30 semester credits available for electives.

Summer School

Many band students take advantage of Stevenson's summer school offerings to make room for more electives during the regular school year. For more information, review the sample schedule shared above.

Credit

All band courses earn regular credit that is counted in the students grade point average (GPA). Seniors who have been in the Band program for three years may receive accelerated-level credit if they are in Wind Ensemble during their senior year.

Grade Point Waiver

Students may take advantage of the Grade Point Waiver option. See the Coursebook for more information: www.d125.org/academics/coursebook.

Travel Opportunities

Did you know?

90% of our Band students participate in Stevenson clubs, outside of Band

72% of our Band students serve on a leadership teams or an eBoard of a club at Stevenson

75% of our Band students have participated in Stevenson's Marching Band

79% of our Band students have participated in Stevenson's Jazz Program

50% of our Band students have participated in Stevenson's Pep Band

—DATA COLLECTED FALL 2024



A highlight for many band students in their four-year experience with us is our travel opportunities.

The Stevenson High School Band takes a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida every four years. This includes a recording workshop with Disney musicians and a performance in a Magic Kingdom Parade.

Additional local and regional trips will be offered during each of the other three years that students are in our program. Fundraising opportunities are available to help students and families reach their travel goals.

“Band is a place to not only play some great songs, but connect with people you otherwise would’ve never even thought about talking to. It’s also a good opportunity to lead those who need help, and gain help yourself, along with furthering your own musical skills.”

— CURRENT STEVENSON STUDENT

Stevenson Band Parents' Organization (BPO)



The Stevenson High School Band Parents Organization (BPO) provides additional support for the many activities and events that are part of the Stevenson Band Program. The organization is far-reaching and assists with a variety of things such as:

- Organizing student celebrations
- Volunteering at football games
- Facilitating uniform fittings
- Photographing events and performances
- Chaperoning trips
- Fundraising and more.

With 300+ students in band every year, there are a lot of ways to help. We encourage all parents to get involved!



We have many volunteer opportunities and can help match your skill set to an appropriate role. Please contact our BPO Parent President (shsbpopresident@gmail.com) for more information about how to get involved.

Stevenson's Volunteer Policy

Please note that Stevenson district policy requires that all volunteers complete a background check through the Stevenson District Office every four years. Information and background check forms can be found at: www.d125.org/parents/volunteer-at-shs.



1 STEVENSON DRIVE
LINCOLNSHIRE, IL 60069
847-415-4000

Band

STEVENS ON HIGH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

"Band is a place to be accepted for who you are and who you want to become." —CURRENT STEVENSON BAND STUDENT



Stevenson Band Mailing List:

All band members and parents should subscribe to the Stevenson Band email list.

To subscribe, please send an email to:
shs_band+subscribe@d125.org.

Write "subscribe" in the subject line, and write "subscribe" in the email body.



Stay Connected



Fine Arts:
[@SHS_FineArts](https://www.X.com/SHS_FineArts)



Fine Arts Webpage:
www.d125.org/arts



Fine Arts: [@shs_finearts](https://www.instagram.com/shs_finearts)
Band: [@stevenson.band](https://www.instagram.com/stevenson.band)
Band Parents Organization: [@shs_bpo](https://www.instagram.com/shs_bpo)



YouTube:

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