

Fall 2021





DIVISION 3A 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE 10/2/2021



#### FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings Band Families!

The season is off to a terrific start, and we are very excited about the way the students are striving for excellence in every rehearsal. It's going to be a great year.

The Band will be going to Florida in April of this year and will be performing at Walt Disney World. Details about the trip are posted on the front page of the band's website: <a href="wmhighlanderband.com">wmhighlanderband.com</a>. You can find information about the cost of the trip and the payment schedule. As our itinerary becomes more solid we will post that information on the website as well. If your student is going, be sure to get your first payment in as soon as possible. All payments MUST be mailed to the PO Box listed on the payment coupons. I hope that all our students can attend such an enjoyable and exciting trip!

Eyes with Pride, Dr. Mac

# 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MILITARY CONCERT AND TATTOO

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

WMHS GYMNASIUM DOORS OPEN AT 5:15 PM

ALL FAMILIES NEED TO PITCH IN TO MAKE THIS EVENT A TRUE SUCCESS!

WATCH FOR SIGN UP GENIUSES COMING SOON!



## TATTOO WMBPA 50/50



Raffle Benefits Band Operations

Tickets: \$2.00 donation per ticket

Drawing: Saturday, November 13th at the

21st Annual Tattoo!

Prize: 50% of Cash Receipts

Winner Need Not Be Present!

Take a Chance!

Previous winners have taken home amounts in the THOUSANDS of dollars!

Buy now! Sell more!

See Angie McDonald for raffle tickets angie.mcdonald29@gmail.com



Fall 2021

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2021 Marching Band Season is ramping up and the first competition is coming up fast! After a rather strange season last year, it feels good to begin resurrecting the many Band Parent activities that support the band, and even better to see the generosity of our members in action!

The WM Band Parents Association exists for the single purpose of enhancing your student's band experience. Among our direct support activities are supplying food before home games, an ice cream social during band camp, being the roadies that set up and break down the show, sewing Baldricks, organizing the end of year band banquet, supplying scholarships, building props, and of course organizing a trip to Disney. The other significant part of the BPA activities revolve around fund raising, two of our biggest fund raisers are running the concession stand at football games, and the Annual Tattoo, but we have numerous other fund raisers, like Shoprite cards, Hoagie day and various other sales. Fund raising helps reduce the cost of the program to the parents. BPA volunteers also perform numerous less visible tasks on an ongoing and ad hoc basis like the management and finance activities of the board, fixing things, designing t-shirts, or making sure that the quad has gas.



• EAT
• SLEEP
• BAND
• REPEAT

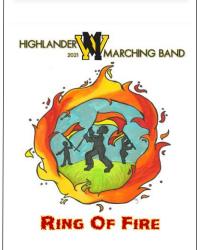
Yes, all of us as parents put significant amounts of money into this program for our kids. Many parents who are able to do so supply additional donations of money or goods. I would like to thank everyone who donates, as these contributions are a necessary component to making things happen for our kids.

The most important contributions that can be made are donations of time. Volunteers make everything happen in this organization. COVID has resulted in reduced student involvement in band, with fewer students, we have fewer parents to spread the work out among. With the latest COVID wave spreading through our country and our community, we have been having reductions in available volunteers, as some of our volunteers need to quarantine due to exposures (not related to band!). On a recent prop construction day, I know of several regular volunteers that could not help due to quarantine issues. Had those people been available, it would have increased our work crew by almost 50%. The result was that the people who were available worked much longer than expected to get everything done. I would like to thank the for their perseverance, and I hope they enjoyed the projects despite the long day!

We need all parents to help out! We have a huge shortfall in volunteers for various reasons (almost all are indirect COVID side effects). The board has been mobilizing alumni parents volunteers to try and make up the shortfall. Alumni parents know how much the band program has enhanced their kids lives, and truly believe in the program. The alumni parents are donating their time and experience to YOUR kids. I would hope that every parent in this organization has the same commitment to their own kids.

I hope that I can compel some more of you to volunteer and help out your kids. This program does not run itself. We need all kinds of volunteers, from a new treasurer to burger flippers, as these roles are currently filled by parents of Seniors. If you just want to test the waters, help out with crew or concessions one day, you'll feel good about helping, and probably have some fun in the process! On top of that your kid will appreciate you more—or at least they will by the time they are seniors—freshman parents need to take the long view of things—Hang in there!!

Michael Brigante President, WMBPA



#### RING OF FIRE TOUR

YAMAHA CUP 10/02
SOMERVILLE 10/09
PEGUANNOCK 10/16
FAIR LAWN 10/23
US BANDS NJ STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 10/30
US BANDS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 11/06

21ST ANNUAL TATTOO 11/13

West Milford
Highlander Band
Tradition, Community, Excellence

Fall 2021

#### CONNECTIONS

DR. MAC's REMIND: https://www.remind.com/join/fd2gb7

BAND WEBSITE: www.wmhighlanderband.com

**FACEBOOK** \_ (private group – ask to join!) https://www.facebook.com/groups/WMBPA/

#### **GOOGLE CLASSROOM**

Various ensemble pages provided to students



YOUTUBE PLAYLIST



#### HIGHLANDER BAND STAFF

Dr. Brian McLaughlin & Matt Gramata, Directors

<u>Brian.McLaughlin@wmtps.org</u>

<u>Matthew.Gramata@wmtps.org</u>

Matt Leitner & Joe Smolinksi, Associate Directors Matthew.Leitner@wmtps.org Joseph.Smolinski@wmtps.org

Mike Monacelli, Percussion Director Michael.Monacelli@wmtps.org

Peter Shaver, Color Guard Instructor Peter.Shaver@wmtps.org

Kristy Smolinski, Bagpipe Instructor Kristy.Smolinski@wmtps.org

## WMBPA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Mike Brigante banddad2022@gmail.com

Vice President: Annette O'Mahoney annetteomahoney@gmail.com

Treasurer: Meredith Hall hall.meredith12@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Angie McDonald angie.mcdonald29@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Duffy <u>MaryDuffy625@GMail.com</u>

# **FUNDRAISING**



#### SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS

Chaired by Alyssa Hafner, 973-699-2696 Aly7143@gmail.com

#### **PLACING AN ORDER**

5% is earned by this fundraiser with 4% going into your child's Band Account.

Email your ShopRite gift card order by scheduled due date to:

Aly7143@gmail.com

Please include:

• Parent Name: last/first

•Student Name: last/first & (Band or Guard)

•# of Cards and Denominations: (denominations are \$5,

\$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, or \$100

Total \$ of your order:Parent Email Address:

• Parent Cell#:

Payment is due at pickup

Tentative pickup date for this order is next Band Parent meeting 10/19





#### **OCTOBER Orders**

Orders Due by: Oct 8th
Payment due/Pickup at
Parent Meeting
Tues 10/19 @ 7pm

#### **DECEMBER Orders**

Orders Due by: Nov 26th
Payment due/Pickup at
December WMBPA Meeting
Tues 12/8 @ 7pm

#### **JANUARY Orders**

Orders Due by : TBA
Payment due/Pickup at
January WMBPA Meeting
TBD



Fall 2021

# FUNDRAISING CIVES OUR SFUDENFS FILE ABULLTY FO ADD \$\$ FO FILER SFUDENF AGGOONFS AND HELP FILE BAND

# **ACTIVE FUNDRAISERS**



Your Shopping All Year Long Makes a Difference!
Simply Choose West Milford Band Parents
Association as your Charity



## **ASHLEY FARMS CHEESECAKE SALE**

**CHAIRPERSON: MIMI LINDSTROM** 

PICK UP DATE AND INFORMATION COMING SOON!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**PAINT 'N SIP** 

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH HALL** 



# **BUTTER BRAIDS**

**CHAIRPERSON: ANNMARIE POLGLAZE** 

**STARTS 10/8** 

**ORDERS COMPLETED BY 10/29** 

**DELIVERY BY 11/8** 



# CONCESSION STAND

The Concession Stand at the Football Field is owned by the WMBPA and provides a MAJOR source of income for the band! Check out the food – its outstanding! Help is needed for home game days around your availability. Volunteers are needed to from 1:30pm on game days, through pre-game, half-Otime and postgame cleanup. Whether you can assist early, late or throughout, the more the merrier and all help is appreciated!

# **CREW**

The Equipment Crew handles the props for the marching band show. They design, build and move props and equipment at all of the marching band competitions and performances. Help is needed and gratefully accepted whenever you have time. The best part of all is that you get a field level up close view of the performance and gain free admission to the competitions and performances!



West Milford Highlander Band

# **ENSEMBLE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# pipes & drums

On September 11, 202, Pipe Major Madison Babcock performed at the West Milford 9/11 Memorial for the 20th anniversary of the attacks.



On September 18, Pipes & Drums participated in the 2021 Rockland County Fire Department Parade. The band escorted the West Haverstraw Volunteer FD among the 10 other music ensembles present. We are proud to announce that the Pipes & Drums were awarded first place in the marching music ensembles category.

Rehearsal every Sunday 3 - 5 pm unless announced otherwise Bagpipe Club at Macopin every Wednesday 2-3:30 pm Instructors: Joseph Smolinski & Kristy Smolinski @wmhpb

# COLOR GUARD

The Color Guard, under the leadership of captains Ashley Seclen and Rachael Cawley, is busy preparing for their first marching band competition of the season. The young team can't wait to sport their new fire costumes and flags at MetLife Stadium next week. The team is made up of one junior, one sophomore, 5 freshmen, 2 eighth graders, and 3 seventh graders. This young team is enthusiastic and has a great promise in growing the color guard program.

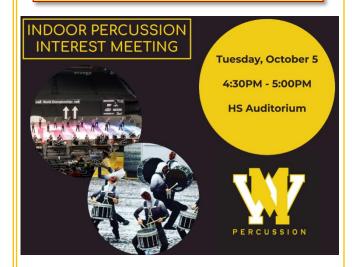
Mark your calendar for the Color Guard Preview Show at the high school on Saturday, January 15th. The guard will be hosting numerous school and independent color guard teams as they present their 2022 shows for the first time to an audience. Just can't wait!!!

Peter Shaver, Instructor Peter.Shaver@wmtps.org





# INDOOR PERCUSSION



Instructors: Michael Monacelli & Matt Leitner @wmpercussionni



Watch for Audition Music in November!

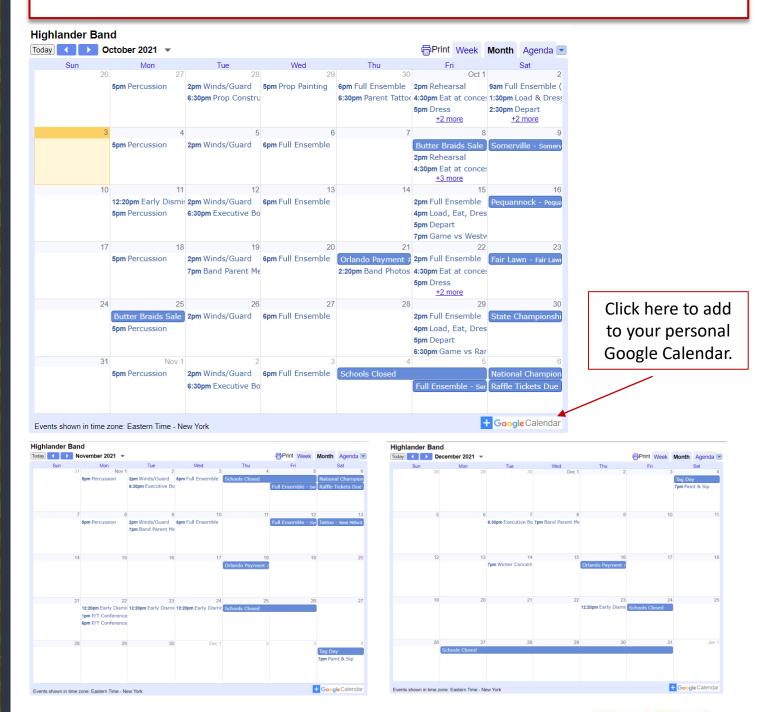
Matthew Gramata Instructor @wmjazznj

West Milford **Highlander Band** 

# DATES TO REMEMBER

The band calendar is constantly being updated!

The easiest way to stay up to the minute is to add the band calendar to your Google calendar. Visit wmhighlanderband.com/calendar-1. And click on link at bottom of calendar. Viola!







Marching Mustangs among featured performers

Concert and Tattoo

The West Milford Highlanders'
Tattoo returns for the 21st annual
celebration of music and movement by bands guaranteed to have
you high stepping.

RING OF FIRE

After a hiatus in 2020, this indoor musical showcase of West Milford High School's bag piping bands, drum corps and Clifton's high-stepping Marching Mustangs, among others, is on Saturday, Nov. 13, 6:30 pm at West Milford High School, 67 Highlander Drive, West Milford.

Get there early for best seats as doors open at 5:15 pm. Advance tickets range from \$10 to \$20 while kids under age 4 enter free. At the

door, tickets are \$20 for seniors and \$25 for adults. To purchase tickets, visit wmhighlanderband.com or mail checks to WMBPA, PO Box 603, West Milford, NJ 07480.

But what's a Tattoo? The word dates to the 17th century British Army. Drummers marched through town to inform soldiers to return to their barracks.



Top of page: Meet the West Milford Highlander Drum Majors Maxine Kunz and Shane Duffy, who lead the Highlander Marching Banda and the Color Guard. The Pipes and Drums leaders are Madison Babcock, Ava Murphy and Julia Dan.

Their beats were doe den tap toe (old Dutch for "turn off the tap") instructing innkeepers to stop serving beer and send soldiers back to barracks. While the Highlanders will not be serving beer, the beats of seven bands will get you moving and keep you entertained.

The Highlander Band theme this year is entitled Ring of Fire. Expect music from Cirque du Soleil, The Po-

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and composer John Mackey. Led by Drum Majors Maxine Kunz and Shane Duffy, Ring of Fire opens with a bit of Bruce Springsteen's Dancing in the Dark, followed by Distorted from Cirque duSoleil. The middle section is a tango based on Roxanne by The Police.

After a bagpipe and percussion feature the Highlander's show closes with a hot interpretation of John Mackey's Asphalt Cocktail.

In addition to the Highlanders, other performers include the Claddagh Pipe Band, Clan Na Vale Pipes, Mag 7, Rory O'Moore, the Colonial Musketeers Junior Fife and Drum Corps, and the Marching Mustangs. Funds raised help support the Highlander Marching Band and their April trip to Disney in Florida.

For two decades, the Highlander Tattoo has become a must-see moving musical showcase of band precision, bagpipe glory and drum excellence.

The Tattoo has also become a way for the Mustangs and Highlanders to see and hear different genres of music and movement and to connect with high school musicians from the region.



The Marching Mustangs perform their 2021 music and movement score on the gym floor, and will join the Highlanders and other bands for a grand finale with a salute to the officers of the West Milford Police Department.



# THANK YOU Volunters! We couldn't do it without you



# WE'RE NOTHING WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS

From donating desperately needed items to precious personal time, the Highlander Band celebrates the most generous volunteer base on the planet! Volunteering creates incredible friendships while being part of something your high schooler is passionate about. So many areas can use a hand. The beauty of volunteering for the band is that you can give as much or as little time as you like. Not sure where to reach out? <a href="Email the EBoard"><u>Email the EBoard</a></u> and we'll hook you up.

#### WMBPA COMMITTEES

Show Props & Sewing Band Banquet Concession Stand Hoagie Sale

Macopin Band Day General Volunteer Poinsettia Sale Senior Night

Tag Day Webmaster Band Camp BBQ
Cheesecake Sale
Equipment Crew
Hospitality Committee
Merchandise
Military Tattoo
Publicity Committee
Shop Rite Gift Cards
Uniform Committee

