

Pioneer Band Association

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

NOTES

FROM THE PODIUM

Marching Band is over! This year's busy marching schedule was another notch in the amazing legacy of the Pioneer Symphony Band. The combined shows with both Concert Band and the Huron Band and Skyline Band (first time in their history) were outstanding. I wish to extend a special thank-you to senior parents who braved the football field; this is a wonderful new tradition of recognizing the important part that they play in their child's life and supporting their child's decision to pursue music in High School. Thanks!



If you don't hear music at your house, (from your child's instrument not the iPod) you and your child need to have a discussion. Your child's instrument can run several hundred (or thousand) dollars. In addition, reeds, lubricants, and lessons all cost \$\$\$\$. Are you making a wise investment? Practice is a dividend on that investment as well as on performances. In Math, Science and English your child is expected to complete assignments and Band is no different. Our assignments are our parts. Don't be satisfied with your child telling you, "I practiced before you got home." Encourage them to demonstrate their proficiency by playing their parts for you.

Speaking of practicing, chair auditions for each band are fast approaching. We only have one audition per semester as I don't use the "challenge" system.

Solo & Ensemble forms were due Thursday, October 28th. Symphony and Concert Band members are required to participate and Varsity Band members are STRONGLY encouraged to participate. Solo & Ensemble makes a great practice run to audition for one of the other bands at Pioneer.

Solo & Ensemble Festival is January 15, 2011.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you all for your time and support of your child's decision to become a high school musician. Your active support and presence is priceless!

David A. Leach Director of Bands

Nov/Dec 2010 Issue

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Next submission due date:
December 17th, Friday



FROM THE PODIUM

It was great to meet so many of you at Capsule Night, the band picnic and Parent Conferences!

Chair auditions for Varsity Band will take place in early November. They will be during class. There is only one audition per year. All students know what is expected and should be preparing their music.

Our first full rehearsal for the Varsity Band will be on Wednesday December 1st from 6 to 8 PM. Attendance is required and grades will be lowered if a student is not there. If there is a sports conflict (please see the music/sports policy) we need to be told in writing asap. I am really looking forward to putting both halves of the band together. We have only have a few evening rehearsals before our Winter Concert. It is crucial that all students plan to attend. Please check your band calendar for specific dates.

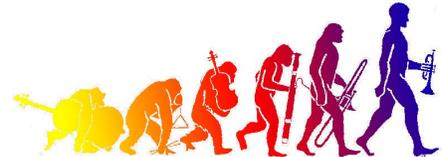
Auditions for Concert and Symphony Bands are the first week of March. The music has been available since August. It is not something that we rehearse during class so students need to be working on that on their own during their nightly half hour of practice.

Reminder that all students need to have their names on their instruments. Luggage tags work well for this, even if they are using one of our school instruments. Students have been advised to never leave their instrument in their hall lockers. We have a storage area in the band room for this purpose.

Although I direct the Varsity Band, the foundation of our program, I also work with every other band group at Pioneer. If you have any questions or concerns along the way please get in touch with me. The best way is via email (waring@aaps.k12.mi.us) or use the link on the www.aapioneerbands.org webpage.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Nancy Waring Associate Director of Bands



PTO Thrift Shop News

Unfortunately, due to IRS regulations, the PTO Thrift Shop is no longer utilizing volunteer labor, and it is no longer possible to earn credits in this way. However, there remain multiple ways in which the PBA can continue to participate in fundraising through the PTO Thrift Shop.

We will continue to participate in the “Show Your Support” program, in which the Pioneer Bands display a poster at the Thrift Shop and compete with 2 other posters to obtain the most “tokens”. Tokens are earned by Thrift Shop shoppers at a rate of one token per \$5 spent. These tokens are then used to vote for one of the 3 posters/organizations on display. The organization receiving the most votes/tokens receives the largest dollar award. Our week to participate will likely be January 2-8, 2011 — watch your email or the band website for more information.

We will also participate in the “Music and Munchies” program, possibly in February or March 2011. Small musician groups will be needed to perform in one-hour shifts on a particular Sunday at the Thrift Shop, as well as the contribution of “Munchies” for the event. More information will be forthcoming—again, watch your e-mail or the band website.

We are continuing to explore other ways in which the PTO Thrift Shop can help us reach our fundraising goals! As always, contributions of used clothing and other items to the Thrift Shop benefit all Ann Arbor Public Schools and students.

**Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop is located at 2280 S. Industrial Hwy.
and is open Mon-Fri 9-7, Sat 9-6 and Sunday 11-5.**

**More information at a2ptothriftshop.org or
for PBA related questions email Marc Renner at rennermb@comcast.net.**

November/December 2010 January 2011

BE AWARE THAT CHANGES WILL PROBABLY OCCUR. WATCH THE WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER, AND CLASSROOM ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DATE CHANGES.

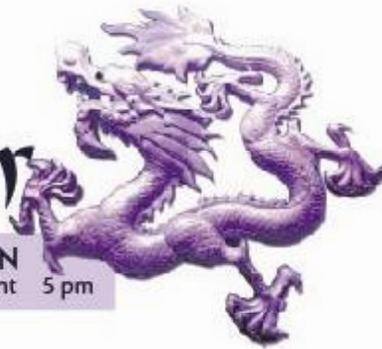
(SB=Symphony Band CB=Concert Band VB=Varsity Band JB=Jazz Band PBA=Pioneer Band Association)

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
NOVEMBER 2010				
1 Mon	ALL DAY	Candy Sale Ends	B-126	All Families
2 Tue	ALL DAY	No school for students		
7 Sun	2:00 am	Daylight Savings Ends		All
9 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
22 Mon	7:00-9:30 pm	Michigan Youth Ensembles	Hill Auditorium	All MYE Participants
24-26	W/T/F	THANKSGIVING BREAK		
29 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
29 Mon	All Day	MSBOA All State B/O Acceptance & Fees Paid		
30 Tue	2-4 pm	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	SB, PBA Uniform Team
DECEMBER 2010				
1 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB
6 Mon	8 pm	Pioneer Jazz Band with PKO	Keystone in Ypsi	JB
7 Tue	1:33-2:28pm	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	CB, PBA Uniform Team
7 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
8 Wed		Early Release for Secondary Schools		
13 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
16-18	T/F/S	Midwest Music Conference		Mr. Leach, Ms. Waring
17 Fri		End of day Winter Vacation Begins at end of school day		
JANUARY 2011				
3 Mon		SCHOOL RESUMES		
3 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
8 Sat	1-3 pm	BOWLING PARTY	Colonial Lanes	All Bands
11 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
11 Tue	7:40-8:35am /9:51-10:46am	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	VB, PBA Uniform Team
11 Tue	4-5:30 pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal	B-126	JB
12 Wed	7:30 pm	JAZZ BAND CONCERT	Little Theatre	JB
14 Fri	2nd Hour	MLK Assembly	SCHREIBER	JB
15 Sat		ALL DAY DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL, LIVONIA	FRANKLIN HS	All Band Students
17 Mon		NO SCHOOL – MLK Day		
17 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
20 Thu – 22 Sat		Michigan Music Conference	Grand Rapids	All-State Band & Orchestra participants
31 Mon	All day	No School Secondary Students	B-126	All
31 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB



Chinese New Year

PIONEER BAND GALA & AUCTION
February 13, 2011 Asia City Restaurant 5 pm



*One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.
~ Chinese proverb*

Bring your friends and join us for the Pioneer Band Chinese New Year Gala & Auction! The 7th Annual Pioneer Band Gala & Auction is our largest fundraiser and will be held on Sunday February 13, 2011 at Asia City restaurant in Ypsilanti. Last April, Pioneer Symphony & Jazz bands traveled to China and performed concerts at Tianjin University and on the Great Wall of China. Please come celebrate Chinese New Year with the Pioneer Jazz Band and imagine what it was like to be on tour! The evening will feature an extensive buffet, cash bar, raffle, live and silent auctions, and of course the beat of our own Pioneer Jazz Band. Tickets are \$25 per person.

Reservations must be purchased in advance by February 7th, via easy credit card order at the secure webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?page_id=540.

We hope you'll join us for an evening of fun and fundraising at the Band Gala. Help us bring good fortune to one of the best high school band programs in the country!

ONLINE BIDDING! Made up of donations from local merchants and our own generous PBA families, the Silent Auction has always been the cornerstone of the Gala. Bidding begins ONLINE a week before the Gala and continues at the event. The online bidding will close the night before the Gala, so if you can't make it to the Gala bid high! In February, be sure to check out the Online Auction webpage at <http://aapioneerbands.org/?p=551>. You'll be able to see photos and descriptions and enter bids on items that catch your eye. Plus friends and family who are unable to attend the Gala can bid, too! There are wonderful items to bid on and many guests go home with some great deals.

RAFFLE: "INSTANT WINE CELLAR" or "ZIPPY FAST PASS FOR A YEAR"

A big success at the last Gala was the Raffle, which raised over \$2,000! This year you may choose from two great grand prizes, either an "Instant Wine Cellar" comprised of dozens of bottles of white and red wine donated by our PBA families or a "Zippy Car Wash Fast Pass for a Year," a \$432 value, generously donated by Zippy Car Wash on Ellsworth Rd. Raffle tickets will be available prior to the event and are \$5/ticket. As an added incentive...[Receive a free Zippy Gold Car Wash with the purchase of 4 Raffle Tickets!](#)

We enthusiastically encourage all families to get involved in the Gala and Auction, the most important and fun filled fundraiser of the year. It is a great way to work together to give back to a program which gives so much to our children. All auction proceeds help support the band program by providing stipends and scholarships for band camp, tours, and competitions; sponsoring guest clinicians; and funding items like sheet music and instruments. Last year we raised over \$15,000 and we hope to be just as successful this year! So please, donate items, attend the gala and encourage others to attend!

[Donating is easy! Here is how you can help...](#)

Do you have or know someone who has a **vacation home or time share** which sits empty or **theater, sporting or concert tickets** which go unused? These items are big "sellers" and you can receive a tax deduction by donating them! Would you be willing to donate a **professional service or do you have a hobby which you could share with others**, such as flying, cooking or sailing? Do you make fabulous dinners, cookies or pies? These items are great sellers which we'd be thrilled to have in the auction!

The "Instant Wine Cellar" Raffle, was a big success last year. Pioneer Band families can simply **donate a bottle of wine**. It can be any type, pulled from your own shelf or purchased from a local purveyor.

Donate a **merchant gift card** – of ANY VALUE! We suggest you support our local merchants by donating gift cards from their businesses, but we'll TAKE ANYTHING. You might even consider "re-gifting" a few of those cards you may receive over the holidays. Or perhaps you could purchase a "voucher" for lesson time from your child's private teacher to donate to the Gala. And don't forget to involve the whole family - you could even ask your student to craft a "voucher" for babysitting or snow-shoveling time.

A fun, creative way to donate is to assemble a **“Family Basket”** for the Silent Auction. Pick a theme that reflects your family’s personal interests. And don’t limit your package to a “basket” – think outside the box with your packaging and items. Join other families, or band sections, and work as a team to assemble theme baskets. Sports tickets, electronics, items signed by celebrities (books, baseballs, hockey sticks, etc.), and photography all go great in baskets. Anything purple or musical to evoke Pioneer pride, too. Theater/concert tickets and dinners are often best sellers, and “experiences” are very popular – a gourmet cooking lesson, for instance. But remember, all items should be new, non-perishable, and attractively packaged using clear wrapping material.

So whether you’re “crafty” and enjoy the creativity of putting together a basket, or feeling time-crunched and would simply like to donate a gift card or a bottle of wine, we are grateful to our wonderful band families for their continued support. Thank you!

Delivery Instructions

•Wine bottles, gift cards, and baskets can be dropped off at the Bertram Swanson household at 3632 Wagner Ridge Court. Please contact Holli Bertram at (734)649-7937 or hbertram@umich.edu to arrange a time.

•Gift cards can be mailed to school, care of the Pioneer Band Association Attn: Band Gala, at 601 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor MI, 48103. Your student can also bring gift cards to school and deliver to Mr. Leach or Ms. Waring.

•Bring wine bottles, gift cards, and baskets to the Jan. 8th Band Bowling party at Colonial Lanes.

Questions?

Check out the Gala & Auction webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?page_id=71

Or contact Lisa McKarns at lmckarns@comcast.net

Pioneer Band Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Auction purchases & donations may offer tax advantages.

***Great blessings come from heaven; small blessings come from man.
~ Chinese proverb***

Pioneer Band Gala & Auction – Please Include This Form With Your Donation

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Student: Band: _____

Describe Your Donation: _____

If donating a Family Basket....

Theme/title: _____

Description of basket contents: _____

Basket’s Estimated Value: \$ _____

Donations must be delivered by **January 21, 2011**.

Questions~contact Lisa McKarns at lmckarns@comcast.net or call 994-1052



Volunteers Still Needed to Lead Events, Programs, and Newsletter Publication

We are still looking for parents to take charge of a few more PBA events/programs. None of these positions require a lot of time, but doing any one of them would be a great service to our kids! They are:

* **Newsletter Editor** -- collect articles and announcements for and publish Pioneer Band Notes, the PBA's bi-monthly newsletter (one issue every two months)

* **Zippy Car Wash and Community Car Wash Fundraiser Organizer** -- procure, distribute and keep track of sales of coupons for these two car washes, which raises \$\$ for PBA.

* **Incoming 9th Grade Orientation Coordinator** -- help organize and prepare materials and forms for orientation for incoming students, which takes place immediately following "Bands In Review" concert in late March.

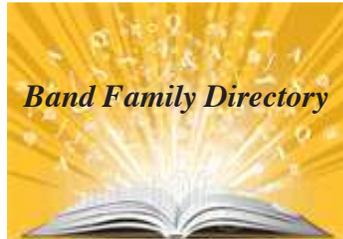
If you are interested in any of these positions -- or even if you are potentially interested and have questions -- please contact

David Baum, 734-662-9095 or dbaum@umich.edu.

Thanks in advance for considering all of these opportunities. With your help, we can keep the Pioneer Bands one of the best music programs in the country!

News from Gloria Wilson

The **2010-11 Pioneer Band Directory** is available in the band room now. All band students have had the opportunity to bring them home, but many may remain in backpacks or instrument cases!



PBA Notes Has Gone GREEN!!!

Our goal is to reduce our paper output and reduce the cost of mailing PBA Notes newsletter.

You will find our 4 color bi-monthly newsletter on our website www.aapioneerbands.org.

While online you may print the pages as you need, eg. calendar, special article, etc..

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE A MAIL SUBSCRIPTION
please contact:

Gloria Wilson, President: 734-975-0081
or president@aapioneerbands.org
or PBA Editor: newsletter@aapioneerbands.org

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