

Pioneer Band Association

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence



FROM THE PODIUM

UPDATED CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE AND IN THE BAND ROOM. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECK AND CHANGE YOUR HOME CALENDARS!!! PLEASE CONTINUE TO WATCH FOR CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE BAND CALENDAR.

PIONEER BAND GALA & AUCTION IS ALMOST UPON US! We are excited to present our annual spectacular, "The Pioneer Band Gala & Auction" on Sunday, February 12, 2006, at the Four Points Sheraton. It is our hope that Gala will eventually replace other fundraising activities, such as the candy sale and car wash, and eliminate the need for more than one fundraiser per year. Organizing this event is a labor of love, and the Gala committee is filled with happy volunteers. It is a wonderful way to get involved, meet more band families and have a wonderful time. Please see the information inside this issue to plan your auction item or family basket — and join the team!

CHAIR AUDITIONS for each band are ongoing and you should hear the sound of *wood shedding* (an ancient term for practicing) in the house. If you don't, please *gently encourage* your child to be prepared for auditions. The Pioneer Bands only have one chair audition per year, and we don't use the "challenge system". Band Placement auditions for the 2006-07 school year take place in the early spring (probably on or around mid March-2006).

DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE — JANUARY 28TH Members of Symphony Band and Concert Band are *required* to participate in Solo & Ensemble. Members of Varsity Band are *strongly encouraged* to participate in Solo & Ensemble, as this makes a great practice run to prepare to audition for one of the other bands at Pioneer. Your student may have chosen to perform a *solo* or to be a member of an *ensemble*. For more details regarding District S&E Festival, please see the information inside this issue of *PBA NOTES*.

MARCHING BAND IS OVER! This year's busy marching season was another notch in the amazing legacy of the Pioneer Symphony Band. The students' performances were amazing. Our combined shows with our incredible Pioneer Concert Band as well as with our Huron Band colleagues were outstanding, and I wish to extend a special thank-you to our **Senior Parents** who braved the football field to continue our Pioneer Bands tradition of recognizing the important part that our parents play in their child's life and supporting their child's decision to pursue instrumental music in High School. Special kudos to **Laura Machida** for organizing our **Senior Recognition** events. Thanks as well go to our **Marching Band Escorts** under the able leadership of **Jean Wedemeyer** and **Denise Held** who kept our students safe in the busy Pioneer parking lot (especially on "Michigan Football Fridays"), and to our **Hydration Team** parents who kept our kids healthy during our after school rehearsals. Thanks as well to our **Marching Band Reception** parents under the leadership of **KangQi Parsonage**.

CONCERT UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION DATES FOR ALL BANDS (see p. 4 for more information):

December 1	2:20 – 4 pm	Symphony Band	Band Room
December 2	2:20 – 4 pm	Symphony Band	Band Room
December 15	6 th Hour	Concert Band (Ladies)	Band Room
January 18	1 st /3 rd hours	Varsity Band	Band Room

Thanks so much to our uniform parents under the caring leadership of **Carol Burgener** and **Connie Hansen!!**

NOTES

**NOVEMBER/
DECEMBER 2005**

PBA CONTACTS

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—David A. Leach Director of Bands

FALL PIONEER BANDS FUND RAISING EVENTS OFF TO A GREAT START

CAR WASH Our annual Pioneer Bands Car Wash was an amazing success! We raised nearly **\$13,500** from pledges and the donation bucket on Car Wash day. Thanks to our Band Parent *Sultan of Soap*, David Wallner, for coordinating everything so beautifully, and thanks to the more than 200 student and adult members of the PBA who worked, got wet, and had a blast washing all those cars!

CANDY SALE The Fall Candy Sale is done, and to date we have collected nearly \$14,000! **These two fundraisers are a great start to our 2005-2006 fundraising effort! THANK YOU ALL!**

PTSO THRIFT SHOP Each year, Parents and Students from the Pioneer Bands donate four hours of time per family at the PTSO Thrift Shop, and a portion of the proceeds are then awarded to the Pioneer Bands. This year is special, as students and families are raising money for Symphony & Concert Band tours as well. The funds earned from every hour worked AFTER the first four can be applied to a student's tour payment. Thrift Shop Schedules are set up by the student and /or parent at the PTSO Thrift Shop. It is important to set your schedule EARLY in the school year, as often there are too many workers! Contact PBA Thrift Shop chair **Ann Antonuk** *phone: 994-1567 e-mail: a2bya2@comcast.net* with questions. **NOTE: In lieu of 4 hours of time donated to the Thrift Shop, band families are asked to donate \$40.00 to the Pioneer Band Association.**

WHAT'S ON THE PROGRAM?

The Pioneer Bands are preparing the following repertoire:
VARSITY BAND: *The British Eighth* by Zo Elliott, *Que Pasa Medico?* by Hugh M. Stuart, *Irish Washerwoman* by Leroy Anderson, and *Festa!* by Elliot DelBorgo

CONCERT BAND: *Brighton Beach* by William Latham, *Sundance* by Frank Ticheli, *Elegy* by John Barnes Chance, and *Chorale and Shaker Dance* by John Zdechlik

SYMPHONY BAND: *In The Spring, At A Time When Kings Go Off To War* by David Holzinger, *Bacchanal* by John W. Stout, *First Suite in Eb* by Gustav Holst, *Niagara Falls* by Michael Daugherty, *Blue Shades* by Frank Ticheli, and *Stars & Stripes Forever* by John Philip Sousa

PBA MEETINGS

Our December PBA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, at 7:30 pm in the Pioneer Band Room (B-126), and the January PBA Meeting takes place on Tuesday, January 10th, 7:30 pm in B-126. Meetings are a wonderful place to hear all of the "inside information", ask questions of the directors, hear updates about what's happening in the classroom, and find out all that your student doesn't tell you!

PIONEER BANDS STUDENTS SELECTED TO COLLEGE HONORS BANDS

Congratulations to the following members of the Pioneer Symphony Band Class of 2006 who have been selected as members of The University of Michigan Marching Band High School Honors Band and who will perform with the Michigan Marching Band on Sunday, December 4th in concert at Crisler Arena: **Amy Fingerle**, Percussion; **Liliana LaValle**, Clarinet; **Maria Princen**, Clarinet; **Mike Thompson**, Trumpet; **Jacob Trithart**, Euphonium; and **Eddie VanRiper**, Clarinet/Drum Major.

Congratulations as well to Pioneer Bands Juniors **Charlie Dill** (Trombone, Concert Band) and **Lauren Stout** (Trumpet, Symphony Band) who have been selected as members of the Albion College High School Honors Band, and who will perform in concert with the Albion College Symphonic Wind Ensemble on December 3rd.



CENTENNIAL PROJECT CONTINUES

Congratulations to our Class of 2014 (4th grade) students for making history last weekend. Organized by PBA Past President Daryl Hurst, 18 students were members of an historic photo taken on the steps of Old Ann Arbor High School to mimic a historic photograph taken of the very first Ann Arbor High School Band in 1914. This new picture will then be used in feature articles and displays about The Centennial Project, and Hurst hopes to track the students as they progress through their instrumental career, culminating in the students participation in the centennial year celebration when they are seniors.

MSBOA DISTRICT XII

SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Saturday, January 28, 2005

WHERE IS IT? Hosted by Livonia Franklin High School, the MSBOA District XII event allows participants to perform before an adjudicator either as part of an ensemble or as a soloist. Events receive ratings from *I - V*, with *I* being the best. Each event receives written comments from the adjudicator, and often receives a mini-clinic. Medals are awarded to events which receive *I* or *II* ratings.

WHO GOES? Pioneer Symphony Band and Concert Band students are **REQUIRED** to participate in District Solo & Ensemble Festival. Varsity Band members are *strongly encouraged* to participate. Solo & Ensemble Festival is a very important part of the bands curriculum at Pioneer.

WHAT MUSIC? Mr. Leach has a great deal of ensemble music available (just ask), while solo pieces can be chosen with the help of your private teacher. Students are encouraged to put together duets, trios, quartets, and quintets. Mr. Leach is often available after 7th hour to guide and encourage these small ensembles. *Soloists and Ensembles should be aware that their music must be prepared and practiced OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CLASSROOM.*

DO I NEED AN ACCOMPANIST?

All events *must* be accompanied if an accompaniment is written, or no rating will be given. Students needing accompanists should contact an accompanist **NOW**. Anyone may act as an accompanist. *Fees for accompanists vary widely — make sure you know how much your accompanist charges. Some have one fee for rehearsals and performance, others are paid each time you meet.* Recorded or electric (i.e. synthesized accompaniments) are not allowed. Piano solos with orchestral accompaniment must be performed without that accompaniment.

HOW MANY EVENTS? Each student is limited to *three events*. Make sure you know your performance and warm-up room numbers. All events will be called from the warm-up room approximately 30 minutes before their scheduled playing time.

WHEN DO I PLAY? Mr. Leach will notify students when and where their event(s) are scheduled about 10 days before the District Festival. *It is the student's responsibility to get to Livonia Franklin High School well in advance of his/her earliest performance time.* Arrival at least one hour before the earliest scheduled warm up time is *HIGHLY* encouraged.

WHAT ARE THE RULES? Students may perform in three events. The minimum time allowed for each event is two minutes, maximum six minutes. Repeats, D.C.s or D.S.s may NOT be added to the music to meet the minimum time requirements.

Each soloist or ensemble must provide the judge with an **ORIGINAL** score (NOT A PHOTOCOPY) with each measure numbered, or no rating will be given. If a full score is not published, a condensed score will be accepted. If no score is published, it is the responsibility of the event to make one. See Mr. Leach for clarification.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GET A 1ST DIVISION RATING AT DISTRICT?

Students receiving a *I* Rating at the DISTRICT 12 Solo & Ensemble Festival may register for STATE Solo & Ensemble Festival, held each March at seven different sites across the state of Michigan. This year's date is **MARCH 25, 2005** (Please note that State Festival takes place *THE SAME SATURDAY AS OUR BANDS IN REVIEW CONCERT*). 10th through 12th grade soloists are required to take a Proficiency Examination, with scales and sight reading, at State Festival. State Festival Registration materials are

available to those who qualify after District S&E Festival from Mr. Leach.

Soloists and members of Traditional Ensembles (e.g. woodwind and brass quintet) who excel at the State Festival level are often invited to perform at the **Michigan Youth Arts Festival** (MYAF) held each May at Western Michigan University. Only 250 out of the more than 80,000 instrumental music students who participate at the district level across the state will be part of the MYAF Honors Band or Orchestra, and Pioneer High School sends a large percentage of MYAF members each year. The very highest level soloists are recommended by their State Festival adjudicators to audition to be one of five soloists to play with orchestral accompaniment at the MYAF. These soloists are required to play a concerto at State Festival, as orchestral accompaniment is required.

MSBOA Contact Information:

www.msboa.org

Livonia Franklin High School:

www.livonia.k12.mi.us/schools/high/franklin/index.htm

Livonia Franklin HS is located at 31000 Joy Road; Livonia, Michigan 48150.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

TOTAL ESTIMATED DRIVE TIME is about 35 minutes. TOTAL DISTANCE is about 26 miles

- Take MI-14 EAST for 19 miles from Ann Arbor
- M-14 EAST becomes I-96 EAST; go another 4 miles
- Take the Merriman Rd. Exit
- Turn RIGHT onto Merriman Rd. and go SOUTH 2 miles
- Turn LEFT onto JOY RD and go EAST 0.2 miles
- LIVONIA FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL is on the left. There will be parking attendants to help you find a parking spot.



CONCERT UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION

All Pioneer High School Band students receive a uniform for concert season. The members of the Symphony Band who comprise the Symphony Orchestra Wind Section perform with the orchestra on December 15th. The Pioneer Jazz Band Concert is January 18th, and the first Varsity, Concert & Symphony Band performance is on February 2nd. **Symphony Band, Concert Band and Varsity Band** concert uniforms consist of black tuxedos (with bow tie) for men and black dresses for women.

FOR ALL BANDS:

Men are required to provide their own:

♪ **BLACK DRESS SHOES**

♪ **BLACK SOCKS**

In addition, Concert and Varsity Band Men provide:

♪ **WHITE DRESS SHIRT**

Women are required to provide their own:

♪ **BLACK DRESS SHOES**

All uniforms will be fitted and distributed in December and January. Pioneer Band Association members are in charge of the Uniform Team, and help is needed for distribution. Please contact **Connie Hansen (623-1484)** if you can help!

UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION DATES:

Symphony Band uniforms **December 1 & 2, 2005, 2:15-4pm** (Orchestra uniforms, December 3, during 5th hour)

Concert Band dresses **December 15th, 2005, during 6th hour** (Men already have received their tuxedos)

Varsity Band uniforms **January 18, 2006, during 1st and 3rd hours**



Pioneer Band Gala & Auction Needs You!

participation of Pioneer Band students & parents, Pioneer Alumni, and the community at large, we know the Gala will be both an

enjoyable and a successful event.

The PBA is working to make the 2006 Band Gala & Auction an entertaining and successful event, but we need your assistance:

- Do you have tickets to a sporting event that go unused or access to a corporate stadium box?
- Do you have a vacation home or time share that sits empty?
- Do you know a Pioneer alumnus who would be willing to support his/her alma mater?
- Do you belong to an organization or club that may want to extend a membership to a high bidder?

- Do you have a hobby or skill - such as flying, cooking, or sailing - that you would like to share with others?
- Do you own a running used car that you just want gone?
- Are you willing to donate your professional services?
- Do you have an idea for an auction item?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please contact Karen Field, Gala Chair, at (734) 769-1060 or by email at klfield14@aol.com.

We are looking for exciting, interesting and unique items for our live and silent auctions. With your help, we can make the Pioneer Band Gala & Auction a truly successful event!

Your continued support of our students and the Pioneer Band Program is much appreciated!

The Pioneer Bands and Pioneer Band Association are pleased to announce our showcase and fundraising spectacular: the **Pioneer Band Gala & Auction** on **Sunday, February 12, 2006**, from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton in Ann Arbor. This exciting evening will include a buffet-style hors d'oeuvre reception, live and silent auctions and a special concert representing our Grammy Award-Winning Pioneer High School Band Program.

Funds raised by the live and silent auction will be used to support our students to strive for excellence by providing supplemental aid and scholarships for in-need Pioneer Band students in 2006 and 2007. With the

BAND FAMILIES: Be Creative, Have Fun and Support The Bands — All at the same time!!

The **Pioneer Band Gala & Auction** is set for **Sunday, February 12, 2006**, at the Four Points Sheraton, Ann Arbor. We are getting ready for an exciting and successful event. This exciting evening will include a buffet-style hors d'oeuvre reception, live and silent auctions and a special concert representing our Grammy Award-Winning Band Program.

We are hard at work gathering auction items and cash donations from local businesses. Our goal for the auction is to raise \$50,000. This is an ambitious goal, but the support of our Band Families will help us meet this goal and raise the funds to support our students. You can make a difference and add something unique to the evening.

We would like families to select a theme and put together a “**Family Affair Basket**.” Be as imaginative and resourceful as you like. Your theme may reflect your family’s personal interests. (If you can’t think of a theme, we have included some suggestions on the back.) You may get together with other families, or sections may work as a team, to assemble your theme baskets. All items should be new, non-perishable, and attractively packaged.

All participating families will be recognized in the program brochure and listed on the auction item itself. Then, all the “Family Affair Baskets” will be auctioned off during the evening. (At our 2004 Gala, the “Family Affair” packages generated a lot of interest and contributed greatly to the success of the evening.) Participation in the Family Affair Basket program is optional; however, we encourage all families to be involved and participate in this event. This is a fun way for families to get together, be creative, and help us raise funds for the Pioneer Bands.

All Family Affair packages must be turned in by January 6, 2006.

Packages may be dropped off at the Field’s (2339 Sun Valley Drive 48108 – 769-1060) or at the Johnson’s (4019 Ramsgate Court 48103 – 663-0028). Just call first to make sure we are at home. ***If you would like your Family Affair package picked up, or if you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Karen or John Field at 769-1060 or by email at klfield14@aol.com***

We have an exciting year to look forward to with the Symphony Band traveling to Austria to perform at the Mid-Europe Music Festival and the Concert Band venturing to Canada to play before an international audience. Our students have truly captured the attention of many music lovers at home and abroad and have received many accolades. As we continue to strive for excellence, we are thankful to all of you for your past and continued support.

We encourage you to use your collective family imagination, inspiration and flair when coming up with a theme. But, if you are having difficulty, here are a few suggestions and ideas for themes that have been used and items that may be included in the packages:

Family Movie Night: A variety of DVD’s, popcorn, seasoning, and candy, packaged in an extra large popcorn bowl.

Pioneer Pride – A collection of Purple & White: Pioneer sweatshirt, lanyard, seat cushion, and other purple & white items, packaged in a laundry basket.

Breakfast Extravaganza: Gourmet pancake and waffle mixes, spatulas, pure maple syrup, fancy honeys, and pancake molds.

Baby It’s Cold Outside: Winter Theme: Hot beverage mixes and

scarves and mittens

Car Care: 12 volt air compressor, a battery charger, windshield protector, car wax, a tire pressure gauge, Armor All, and a “hot key.”

Coffee Break: A coffee maker, mugs, flavored coffees, syrups and fancy spoons.

Dutch Treat: Theme Celebrating Holland: Dutch cocoa, cookies, chocolate, wooden shoes, peppermints, licorice, Dutch figurine and a bulb growing kits

BBQ: Grilling utensils, mitts, barbecue cookbook, and a variety of sauces and seasonings.

Family Game Night: Board games, cards, and a CD of background music.

Luxury Bath Package: Bath salts, bubble bath, foot scrubber, exfoliating sponge, eye mask, soaps, a facial treatment and scented candle, packaged on a bath tray.

Dog Care: Dog bed, leash, assorted dog toys and gourmet dog biscuits. (Could also be adapted for cat or other pet lovers.)

Viva Italy: Theme Celebrating Italian Food: Pasta, sauces, biscotti, extra virgin olive oil, and chocolates. (Could also be adapted to food of other countries or regions.)

...or your Family Affair Basket could be an AUCTION ITEM (see opposite page for some ideas).

