

Pioneer Band Association



Welcome to Band Camp from the Director of Bands

Our 62nd Annual Band Camp kicks off another great year for the students and families of Pioneer Band Students. Band Camp is the much-anticipated activity for students, staff and alumni as new and returning students get back in shape mentally and physically for the challenges of the upcoming year. There is no other activity that builds a sense of family in our program so quickly and easily as this exciting week, in the beautiful surroundings of Michigan's north country. We are so fortunate to again have the facilities at Interlochen Arts Camp reserved for our use this August. This year, like all Band Camps before it, is certain to create lifelong friendships and musical memories which all begin at band camp.

David A. Leach, DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Band Camp Basics

The key to a successful Band Camp Experience is to prepare well and follow these basic steps:

- ♫ **Review Bulletins No. 1 and No. 2:** These were distributed to you already and contain valuable information you should read as a family. You will receive Bulletin No. 3 on the day of departure.
- ♫ **Start to Pack:** Remember, you can only bring **one** suitcase, so pack accordingly. Start with your **camp concert uniform**: White blouses/shirts and dark skirts/trousers with black shoes are to be worn for the Sunday concert—no jeans, shorts, t-shirts or tennis shoes, please. Ladies may substitute capris or slacks for the skirt. Pack your everyday clothes and don't forget plenty of socks, tennis shoes (for marching), sweatshirts, sweater or light coat, slacks, swimsuit, raincoat and a flashlight. Pack blankets or a sleeping bag, sheets, pillow, two bath towels, washcloths, soap, toothbrush, and a drinking cup. Bring a folding music stand, clothespins (for holding music to your stand), and a pencil for rehearsals. Bring your instruments (**concert and marching instruments**). **All items should be marked with your name.** If you wish, bring money for the Interlochen Store—gifts and snacks are available. Remember, you need to bring **\$10 for lunch for the bus trip to camp AND \$10 for lunch for the bus trip home!**
- ♫ **Report for Registration:** Band Registration is on Monday, August 10th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. **Seniors:** Arrive 9:00–9:40 a.m. **Juniors:** Arrive 9:40–10:20 a.m. **Sophomores:** Arrive 10:20–11:00 a.m. **Freshmen:** Arrive 11:00 a.m.–Noon. You will go through several stations

2009

Band Camp Issue

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The Band Camp Experience

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which will ensure you are prepared for camp. Some will pick up a school instrument; the school will provide large instruments and special marching instruments. You will also fill out information forms, receive your camp t-shirt, and sign up on the bus list. **All students must turn in their 2009-2010 Pioneer Band Registration Form at this time.**



Daily drills on the tennis courts stress physical endurance, discipline and proper technique.

- ♫ **Report for Departure:** The buses leave from Pioneer on **Tuesday, August 11!** Report to the Pioneer Band Room at 8:00 a.m. for loading, briefing, your cabin assignment (remember, no changes in cabin assignments), and departure preparation. The buses will stop at a fast food restaurant for lunch; **BE SURE TO BRING \$10!** Buses should arrive at Interlochen around 2:00 p.m. and your first concert rehearsal in the Bowl is at 3:30 p.m.
- ♫ **Plan for a Safe Stay:** Carefully review the conduct and safety guidelines outlined in Bulletins No. 1 and No. 2 as a family. In case of emergency, you may contact the Pioneer Band Camp at Interlochen by telephone at 231-276-7600; ask for the Pioneer Band Camp Headquarters in the Intermediate Girls Division.
- ♫ **Plan for Band Camp Sunday:** On **Sunday, August 16th**, parents and families are cordially invited to a joint **concert** of the Pioneer, Huron & Skyline ensembles at **1:30 p.m. in the Kresge Bowl**, concluding with a Pioneer marching demonstration at the Braeside Tennis Courts which should end by 4:45 p.m. The Pioneer Band Association table will be open on Band Campus grounds just outside the Bowl starting at 12:45 p.m. with important information for parents.
- ♫ **Prepare for the Return Trip: Bring another \$10 for lunch!** Students return to Ann Arbor by bus on **Monday, August 17th**, arriving at Pioneer High School about 2:00 p.m. for bus unloading and parent pick-up.

Why Do We Go Up North to Interlochen Center for the Arts? Interlochen Center for the Arts is the premiere music camp in the country, and Pioneer has had the privilege of sharing the facility with the Huron band and choir for many years. Skyline will be joining us in this tradition and also will attend our annual band camp in August. More information about Interlochen can be found at their website **www.interlochen.org**.



Band Camp prepares musicians for pre-game and halftime shows at home football games.

Who Makes Up the Faculty at Band Camp?

Each year an army of assistants and counselors accompany the Director of Bands to help at Band Camp.

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The faculty is drawn from the Ann Arbor Public Schools instrumental music staff, and our well-qualified counselors are graduates of Pioneer High School. Our Band Alumni Counselors act as instructors for sectional rehearsals and other musical activities. Our Alumni take on the role as Band Camp Counselor with pride and musicianship. Most were group leaders as students, these young adults instruct, drill, and assist band students in every capacity while at camp. Lasting mentors are created, while Pioneer Band tradition and history are continued. Their fond memories of band camp are incentives for helping out the future generations. Parents are assured that the students are given personal attention when needed, and will have a great deal of fun while at Band Camp.

What happens at Band Camp? Many students attend Band Camp throughout their four years at Pioneer. Here is a typical day at band camp described by a student: *"We wake to reveille and fumble to put on our shoes in the dark; we literally run down to the tennis courts for calisthenics at 6:30 a.m. After that we can take a quick jump in the lake, or go straight back to the cabins for cleaning duties. Then there is breakfast, sectionals, a marching drill, an hour or so of free time, lunch, more free time, a concert music rehearsal in the bowl, another marching drill, free time, dinner, and depending on the day, another bowl rehearsal or marching drill. After that the day is done, except for the square dance we have on one night or the normal dances, skits, or events we have on the other nights. Those are the best parts after a day of hard work. Then we go to bed at about 10 p.m."*

What will band camp do for Pioneer students? The Pioneer Bands always ensure that many freshmen attend Band Camp along with upper classmen. Pioneer Band Camp is an extremely important experience for students. Not only do band members meet their directors, learn the basics of band life at Pioneer, drill the concert performance and marching fundamentals (which will be used as students progress through their years at Pioneer from Varsity to Concert to Symphony Band), but band students form lasting relationships with students in every grade BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS, which makes their transition into and through high school much less difficult. When a freshman band student walks into Pioneer High School on the first day, he or she already knows almost 200 other students, many of whom will share classes and schedules. It's a wonderful way to ease into a big school like Pioneer. As students get to be sophomores and enter Concert and Symphony bands, they've already learned the basics of marching and have had a taste of what's to come as Pioneer Band juniors and seniors.

What will band camp do for Pioneer parents? Parents are an integral part of the success of the Pioneer Band Program. Parents and families are invited to come to Band Camp Sunday (step-by-step driving directions included) and look around Band Camp grounds. Visit the PBA Welcome Table, which will be open at about 12:45 p.m. to find information about the day, purchase Pioneer Bands Spiritwear, and get information about the great year in store for us! There will then be a concert at 1:30 p.m. by the Pioneer, Huron, and Skyline ensembles. Parents and guests will hear concert performances by each group, followed by a Pioneer marching demonstration at the tennis courts. Parents and guests will see what our band students have been drilling all week long in preparation for the 2009-10 marching and concert seasons.

**The Pioneer Bands
perform as *one awesome
concert ensemble***

**Sunday, August 16, 2009
1:30 p.m.**



DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM ANN ARBOR TO INTERLOCHEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

While there are many possible options (and many personal preferences), we recommend the following directions as the fastest and most direct way to get from Ann Arbor to Interlochen.

- Take US-23 North until it merges with I-75



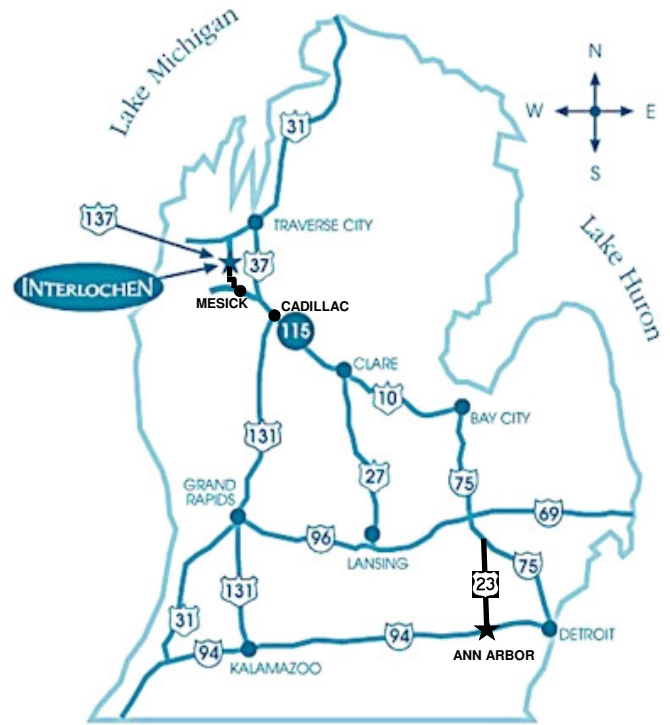
- Continue on I-75 North to US-10



- Take US-10 West to M-115



- Take M-115 North towards Cadillac



- Travel on M-115 for 57 miles, passing through the lakefront district of Cadillac, and on to Mesick.
- Pass through the village of Mesick and cross the Manistee River, approximately one-half mile outside the village.
- After crossing the Manistee River bridge, proceed one-quarter mile to County Road 9. It's the first road past the bridge and is marked with a small green "N 9 RD" street sign on a pole. You'll pass a green "Interlochen" sign on the right shoulder about 50 yards before the intersection. **Turn right on County Road 9.**



- Go up the hill, and proceed 7.2 miles to the stop sign, which will be at County Line Road -- it may or may not be marked by a small green "W County Line" street sign, but you will see a green "Interlochen" sign on the right side of the road just before the intersection. The road on the other side of the intersection is not paved. **Turn left on County Line Road.**



- Proceed exactly 1 mile to the first intersection, marked with a green "Karlin Road" street sign (Karlin Road is Grand Traverse County 137, which becomes M-137 near Interlochen). Look for a green "Interlochen" sign on the right just before Karlin Road. **Turn right on Karlin Rd.**



- Turn right onto Karlin Road and proceed 9.4 miles to the Interlochen Center for the Arts. The campus entrance is on the left, just before the Interlochen State Park entrance on the right. **Turn left into the main entrance of Interlochen.**



Total mileage: **239 miles**. Total driving time: **4 hours, 15 minutes or so**.
Allow extra time for construction delays, rest stops, meals, etc.
If you get lost along the way, call the Interlochen switchboard
Open 24 hours: (231) 276-7200.

