

# Pioneer Band Association

## NOTES

**Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence**

**May/June 2010**

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### FROM THE PODIUM

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### PBA NOTES

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**Next submission due date:  
to be announced**

Spring has finally sprung and what a spring it is!

As we look forward to concluding another spectacular year in the Bands of Pioneer, we need to take time and congratulate each member of the class of 2010. Thank them for their dedication, and hard work during their careers as Pioneer musicians. We couldn't have done it without you. Here are a few things to place on your calendar so that you don't miss what could be the chance to see your young musician shine one more time. Sunday, May 16th the entire GRAMMY winning music department will be celebrating our 3rd GRAMMY Gold award with a spectacular concert featuring the Jazz Band, A Cappella Choir, Symphony Orchestra and the Symphony Band. Additionally, the GRAMMY Foundation always provides a special guest to present our department with the \$5000 check and the official GRAMMY Gold Award Trophy. This concert will be the concluding highlight of a truly wonderful year. Saturday May 22nd is the Ann Arbor Public Schools Picnic Pops, on the lawn of Pioneer High School (please hope for super weather). All Bands of Ann Arbor Public Schools will be performing, so come out, spread a blanket and listen to some of finest student musicians in the nation play familiar (and some not so familiar) "lighter" musical selections. On Monday, May 24th Pioneer's Jazz Band will be performing at the Keystone Martini lounge (located in historic Ypsilanti) between sets of the Paul Keller Orchestra. This night is always filled with exceptional music in a great atmosphere. Tuesday the 25th at Huron High School's Meyers Auditorium, the Huron, Ypsilanti, and Pioneer Jazz Bands join forces and raise the roof at the 12th annual (if you can believe it) Jazz Summit! Soon after that, Commencement will follow at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center where the Pioneer Symphony Orchestra will be performing.

This years Symphony Band tour to China was a "once in a lifetime" experience. If you haven't done so please check out the Pioneer Band website (<http://aapioneerbands.org/>) and check out the Symphony Band playing "Stars & Stripes Forever" on the Great Wall of China. Words cannot express how grateful I am to have shared this experience with the students, chaperones, and guests. We all learned so much, not only about this amazing country, but about ourselves. It was truly a life-changing experience for everyone.

During these first few weeks of April I placed students, based on their auditions, into next years Symphony, and Concert Bands. Please make certain you let your Pioneer counselor know of your ensemble selection. In addition we will be reviewing band scholarship applications and start planning for next year. Summer is just around the corner and it is time to think about Band Camp. The Dates are **August 17 – 23**. If you have a child in either Symphony or Concert Band you will need to plan your summer accordingly, as members are expected to attend. If you have a child that is in Varsity Band, I will let students know who was selected to attend Band Camp, in early June. Applications can be found on our web-site [aapioneerbands.org](http://aapioneerbands.org) or just ask at any PBA meeting.

All the best,

*David A. Leach* Director of Bands





## FROM THE PODIUM

We are currently preparing for Picnic Pops, our last concert of the year. We have chosen several pieces that I'm sure you will enjoy. Please note that in addition to Wednesday April 28th we have an evening rehearsal on MONDAY May 17th.

Picnic Pops is Saturday May 22nd and all Varsity Band students will report at 2:20. Providing the day is running on schedule, their thirty minute performance will begin at 3:15 PM.

The Varsity Band has made an incredible amount of progress this year. We have spent a great deal of time teaching our students how to practice, how to make the best use of their time. The skills that they have learned apply to everything else that they do. Mr. Leach and I need your help. In order to keep the momentum going during the summer please encourage your child to keep up with their 30 minutes of daily practice. Along with that perhaps you could include private lessons. We have a list of teachers who have worked well with our students. Let us know if you are interested and we'll be happy to provide you with names and phone numbers.

Regardless of which band your child will be in next year please know that each child is a critical part of our program. We are extremely proud of each and every member. If you know any middle school students please encourage them to participate in the Pioneer Band program.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Picnic Pops!

Thank you all for your continued support!

*Nancy Waring* Associate Director of Bands



## PTO Thrift Shop News

The Pioneer Bands were fortunate to be featured at "Music and Munchies" and in the "Show Your Support" program at the Thrift Shop in the past couple of months. These programs earned the band \$1250.00 due to be paid out on May 1st!

There are more options to earn money for the band at the shop, including holding a donation drive and sorting items. Please visit their website at [www.a2ptothriftshop.org](http://www.a2ptothriftshop.org) for more information.

I am the parent of a senior, and my other student is at Skyline. So this school year marks the end of my tenure as the PTO Thrift Shop liaison for the Pioneer Band. The job is not a difficult one. Basically, you keep the PBA board informed of the volunteer opportunities at the shop and set up the activities. You would also be responsible for submitting an article to the PBA News. I have copies of previous articles as well as informative tips on handling "Music and Munchies" to pass on. I am happy to be a reference for whoever decides to take on the position. Let a board member know if you are interested.

In the meantime, remember to donate and shop at the:

**Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop**  
2280 S. Industrial  
996-9155

**Mary Topham**  
[marytopham@comcast.net](mailto:marytopham@comcast.net)



## *PBA Notes have 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](http://www.aapioneerbands.org).

**IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR MAIL SUBSCRIPTION** please contact:

Gloria Wilson, President: 734-975-0081 or [president@aapioneerbands.org](mailto:president@aapioneerbands.org)

or Kathy Toy-Nao, PBA Editor: 734-904-7225 or [newsletter@aapioneerbands.org](mailto:newsletter@aapioneerbands.org)



**We are very proud of each one of these students. Thought you would like to know!**

**David Leach, Jonathan Glawe and Nancy Waring, Pioneer Bands and Orchestras**

As a result of their performance at the STATE Solo and Ensemble Festivals on March 27th the following Pioneer Band and Orchestra students have been nominated from over 10,000 high school students from the State of Michigan to participate in the **MSBOA Youth Arts Festival SOLOIST Auditions:**

**Saunders Hayes (flute), Meekyoung Lee (flute), Carly Renner (flute), Andy Johnson (clarinet), Sarah Rontal (alto saxophone), Dylan Larkins (trumpet), Hope Wilson (trombone), Charles Geronimus (snare percussion), Duncan Polot (marimba percussion), Jacob Joyce (violin), Davis West (violin)**

The following have been nominated as **Outstanding Ensembles:**

**Trumpet Septet : Megumi Matsushita, Leila Hofer, Isabel McKay, Miriam Michaels, Emily Northrop, Niko Rombes, Jacob Swanson**

**Trombone Quartet: Hope Wilson (trombone), Max Hully (trombone), David Shapiro (trombone), Devin Webster (trombone)**

**Brass Ensemble: Andrew Chou (piano), Dylan Larkins (trumpet), Davis West (violin)**

**Brass Quintet: Megumi Matsushita (trumpet), Jacob Swanson (trumpet), Jay Yamakado (French horn), Jonathan Bower (trombone), Jonathan Evans (tuba)**

**String Ensemble: Dana Johnson (violin), Andy Johnson (clarinet)**

**String Ensemble: Davis West (violin), Alyssa Natoci (clarinet), Greg Fuller (piano)**

**String Ensemble: Davis West (violin), Dana Johnson (violin), Julia Markey (viola), Joseph Jang (cello)**

**String Ensemble: Nathan Carrillo (viola), Peter Bae (violin), Daniel Huang (violin), Joseph Jang (cello)**

The following Pioneer Band and Orchestra students have been nominated to the **Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honors Band:**

**Michael Sullivant (bass clarinet), Sarah Rontal (alto saxophone), Megumi Matsushita (trumpet), Max Hully (trombone), Duncan Polot (marimba)**

The following Pioneer Band and Orchestra students have been nominated to the **Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honors Orchestra:**

**Jacob Joyce (violin), Davis West (violin), Julia Markey (viola), Joseph Jang (cello), Meekyoung Lee (flute), Andy Johnson (clarinet), Dylan Larkins (trumpet), Elizabeth Cvercko (French horn), Jay Yamakado (French horn), Hope Wilson (trombone)**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!**



## 2010 PIONEER BANDS CALENDAR

BE AWARE THAT CHANGES WILL PROBABLY OCCUR.

DATE CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND POSTED ON THE WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER.

SB= SYMPHONY BAND CB= CONCERT BAND VB= VARSITY BAND JB= JAZZ BAND PBA= PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION

| DATE            | TIME         | EVENT  | LOCATION               | GROUP                          |
|-----------------|--------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>MAY 2010</b> |              |  |                        |                                |
| 3 Mon           | 6:30 pm      | BANDQUET & AWARDS NIGHT                          | Pioneer Café/SCHREIBER | ALL BAND FAMILIES              |
| 10 Mon          | ALL DAY      | DEADLINE Band Camp Registration Forms & Fees Due | B-126                  | ALL PARTICIPANTS               |
| 10 Mon          | 6:30 pm      | Orchestra Banquet                                | Pioneer Café           | Orchestra Winds                |
| 12 Wed          |              | Early Release for High Schools                   |                        |                                |
| 13 Thu – 15 Sat |              | Michigan Youth Arts Festival                     | WMU                    | ALL PARTICIPANTS               |
| 15 Sat          | ALL DAY      | Concert Band to Cedar Point                      | Pioneer                | ALL CB PARTICIPANTS Chaperones |
| 16 Sun          | 4 pm         | Grammy Concert                                   | Schreiber              | SB, JB                         |
| 17 Mon          |              | DEADLINE for Band Camp Registration              | B-126                  | ALL PARTICIPANTS               |
| 17 Mon          | 6-8 pm       | Band Rehearsal                                   | B-126                  | VB                             |
| 18 Tue          | 7-9 pm       | Band Rehearsal                                   | B-126                  | CB                             |
| 19 Wed          | 7-9 pm       | Band Rehearsal                                   | B-126                  | SB                             |
| 22 SAT          |              | ALL DAY PICNIC POPS CONCERTS                     | FRONT LAWN             | ALL BANDS PBA Volunteers       |
| 24 Mon          | 3:30-5:30 pm | Band Rehearsal                                   | B-126                  | JB                             |
| 24 Mon          | 7:30 am      | Jazz Band at Keystone                            | Keystone               | JB                             |
| 25 Tue          | 7:30 PM      | JAZZ SUMMIT CONCERT                              |                        |                                |
|                 |              | Pioneer, Huron, & Ypsilanti Jazz Bands           | HURON MEYER AUDITORIUM | JB                             |
| 31 Mon          |              | NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day                         |                        |                                |

## JUNE 2010

|         |              |                                  |                  |                  |
|---------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2 Wed   | 11 am        | Senior Luncheon                  | 1060 Wing Dr, AA | Class of 2010    |
| 3 Thurs | 7 pm         | COMMENCEMENT (Orchestra)         | EMU              | Orchestra Winds  |
| 8 Tue   | 7:30-8:30 pm | Pioneer Band Association Meeting | B-126            | All Band Parents |
| 18 Fri  |              | LAST DAY OF SCHOOL               |                  |                  |



## Annual Pioneer Band Banquet & Awards Night May 3, 2009, 6:30 pm

Don't forget to mark your calendar and hold Monday, May 3th at 6:30 open for our Annual Pioneer Band Banquet & Awards Night. It will be an amazing evening!

## Band Camp Registration Information Band Camp Dates: August 17 to 23, 2010

Band Camp Registration takes place during the spring of the school year. Current Pioneer students receive the enrollment form from Mr. Leach or Ms. Waring in the classroom. Incoming 9th grade students receive the forms when they audition for Mr. Leach at their middle school. Forms are also available at the Incoming 9th Grade Orientation meeting immediately following Bands In Review.

Forms and deposits can be returned to the directors in the classroom or mailed to the address provided on the form. In order to notify Interlochen Arts Camp of our expected enrollment, the following deadline is enforced:

**Monday, May 17th - FOR ALL STUDENTS**

Only a very limited number of openings for Band Camp may be available after the registration deadlines. Registration for band camp is closed when our maximum enrollment is achieved or at the discretion of the band director.







## Looking for Leaders

Want to play a key role in the volunteer organization that supports the Grammy-winning Pioneer High School Band program? Please consider these two opportunities:

**Co-President** -- Gloria Wilson will be entering her fourth and final year as President of the PBA. We are looking for an enthusiastic, highly motivated band parent to step in and take the reins from Gloria for the 2011-2012 year. For the upcoming year (2010-2011), you can learn the ropes directly from Gloria and be a part of the PBA Board leadership team. If you absolutely love the Pioneer Band program and all that it does for your student musician(s), there is no greater or better way to give back.

**Webmaster** -- Steve Sullivant's son is a graduating senior, so we will be losing Steve's wonderful talent in maintaining and expanding the PBA web site. If you have experience with the web and want to enhance the way PBA communicates

with its member families, raises money, procures volunteers and shares with the community the amazing accomplishments of the Pioneer Bands, then this position is for you.

**Interested? Please contact David Baum at [dbaum@umich.edu](mailto:dbaum@umich.edu) or 734-662-9095**

## 2010 District Band Festival Concession and Judges' and Directors' Lounge Report



March 6 was a great day at the Pioneer High School. All the performances were a joy to listen to! Our Concert and Symphony Bands did a wonderful job. We are very proud of Mr. Leach, Mrs. Waring and of all our talented students. Band and Orchestra Festival is one of the annual MSBOA event where the PBA gets an opportunity to run a concession stand at the cafeteria and the Band Festival Concession Team would like to take this opportunity to thank:

- all the volunteer parents and students from Varsity, Concert and Symphony Bands who helped set up & later clean the concession area, helped sell foods & drinks and helped organize breakfast and lunch for Judges and Directors,
- the families who prepared delicious soups, salads, brought coffee makers, thermal carafes, cables, helped pick up bagels, donuts, ice bags and other supplies,
- the Concert and Symphony Band families for their generous foods, drinks and money donations for the concession,
- and a special thanks to Janene and Dan Centurione from Great Harvest for their generous cookie and roll donations. We cannot thank them enough!

A heartfelt thanks again to all the wonderful volunteers because without them, the concession would not have been successful. Our gratitude also to Mr. Leach, Mrs. Waring and all the PBA staff for the tremendous support and help. Thank you!

**Nair Matsuo, Nina Yamakado, Uyen Tonnule, Amy Olszewski**

# Pioneer Band Association

**Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence**

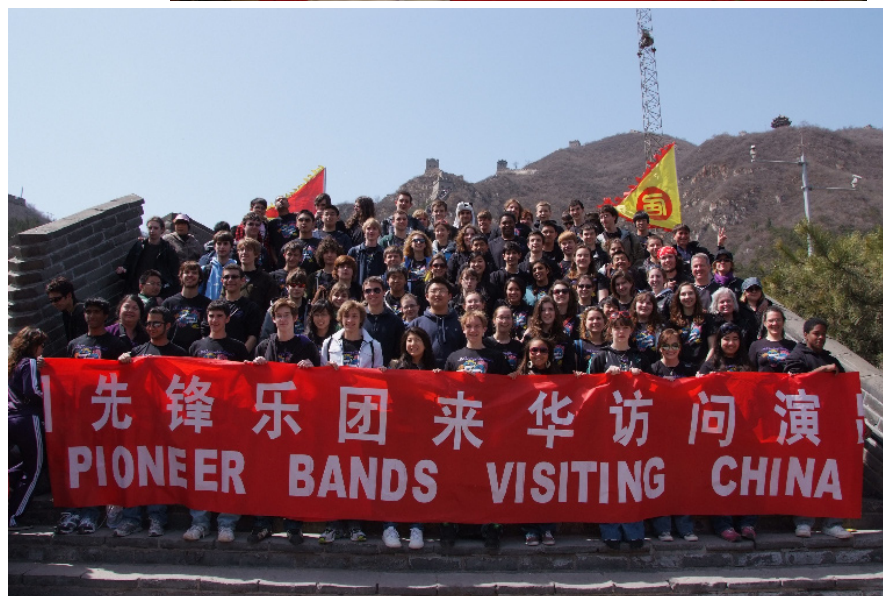
**PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION  
PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL  
601 WEST STADIUM BOULEVARD  
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



Check out photos of the China Tour  
taken by participants.  
Go to the following website.

<http://gallery.me.com/bnao>

username: **pioneerband**  
password: **leachwaring**



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## **Congratulations to our Pioneer Band Association Board Members for 2010-11**

**President:** Gloria Wilson (Hope '11)

**Co Vice Presidents:** David Baum (Alex '11 and Aaron '13)  
and Kathy Shipan (Becca '13)

**Co Treasurers:** Paulette Schonsheck (Kaylee '12) and  
Carol Flannagan (Kevin '12)

**Co Secretaries:** Bill & Jan Maxbauer (Abbey '13)

## **Welcome to our new PBA Editor for 2010-11**

**PBA Editor:** Maria Athanassiou  
(Konstantino Papaefthymiou '11)

# Payment Form

## Pioneer Band Association

This form may be used for all band program fees, activities, fundraising and donations.

Make checks payable to *Pioneer Band Association*.

☐ I am submitting a payment with this form.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Payment for \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Debit/Credit Card



Debit/Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: month \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code (3 or 4 digits on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am requesting to be invoiced via U.S. Mail for program fees, activities, and donations designated by me.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am requesting to be invoiced via e-mail for program fees, activities, and donations designated by me.

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am providing the PBA Bookkeeper my debit/credit card information listed above to keep on file to pay for program fees, activities, and donations as authorized by me. Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**PBA Mailing Address:** Pioneer Band Association  
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