

Pioneer Band Association

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

NOTES

FROM THE PODIUM

Marching Band is over (almost, keep an eye on the state playoffs)! This year's busy marching schedule was another big step (pardon the marching pun) in the amazing ladder that is the legacy of the Pioneer Bands. Our new uniforms continue to add a touch of class to the halftime festivities. Seeing the old and new uniforms side by side was a beautiful sight... reminding me of our illustrious past and bright future! The combined shows with both the Huron Band and our Concert Band were outstanding (I especially enjoyed the dancing). I wish to extend a special thank-you to senior parents who braved the rain on the football field to help maintain our 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!*

Chair auditions for each band are fast approaching (or are currently happening) and you should be hearing the sound of "wood-shedding" (an ancient term for practicing) in your house. If you don't, please encourage your child to be prepared for their auditions as we only have one per year. It should be pointed out that we don't use the "challenge system" here at Pioneer, so it behooves your student to be well prepared for their chair audition.

Finally the deadline for Solo & Ensemble registration was Thursday, October 29, 2009. Members of Symphony Band and Concert Band are required to participate in Solo & Ensemble. They may choose either a Solo or be the member of an Ensemble. Members of Varsity Band are not required to participate, but are **STRONGLY** encouraged to participate. This makes a great practice run to audition for one of the other bands at Pioneer. Those auditions will take place in the early spring (usually around the beginning of March). Costs associated with S & E are:

Full payment for all participants must accompany the application.

INCLUDE:

\$10 for each solo

\$6 for each member of an ensemble

\$20 for piano solos (if you play the piano)

All the best,

David A. Leach Director of Bands



Nov/Dec 2009

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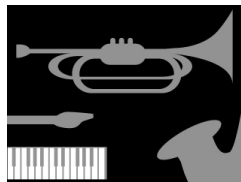
webmaster@aapioneerbands.org

PBA NOTES

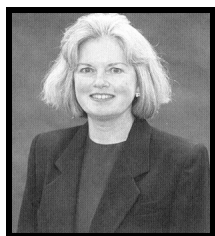
**Kathy Toy-Nao,
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**Next submission due date:
week of December 13th**



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 2nd 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.

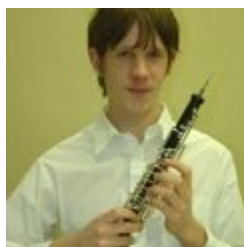
Auditions for Concert and Symphony Bands are the first week of March. The music has been available since August. It is not something that we rehearse during class so students need to be working on that on their own during their nightly half hour of practice.

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 (warin@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



James White

Dear Pioneer Band Families... *A Message from the White Family*

Thank you so much for all your kindnesses over the past year. We have enjoyed all the meals, flowers, house-organizing, weeding, visits, errand-running and repairs that you have provided.

You have supported us through some really rough times, and we are truly grateful.

With love,
The White Family

PTO THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Volunteering at the thrift shop is an easy way to fulfill your annual band fundraising requirement. Earn \$8 credit per hour, it adds up fast! If you haven't volunteered before, you will have to attend an orientation session(yes, you will get credit for attending the session!). Students also need a work permit. Permits are available at the shop or at the school office. Volunteers are few and far between right now, so stop in and sign up!

The thrift shop has started a new program called "Show Your Support". For a 2 week period, 3 groups are chosen by lottery and then are featured at the shop. When customers spend \$5 or more, they are given a token. They place the token in the container for the group they want to vote for. At the end of the two week period, the group with the most tokens receives \$500, 2nd place receives \$350, and 3rd place receives \$250. The band has signed up to be included. Look for an announcement on the band website if we are chosen to participate. Then stop in, shop and vote!

Music and Munchie Days are still being held at the shop. The band will try to secure an upcoming date. We will need musicians for 1 hour time slots, as well as students to provide goodies. Watch the website, email, or for announcements in the band room for our date.

Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop
2280 S. Industrial
M-F 9-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 11-5
A2ptothriftshop.org/734-996-9155



Questions? Email Mary Topham at 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 newslettler on our website www.aapioneerbands.org.

IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR MAIL SUBSCRIPTION please contact:

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

or Kathy Toy-Nao, PBA Editor: 734-904-7225 or newsletter@aapionerbands.org





Psssst... all you guys and dolls...spread the word!

Polish your spats and find your flapper beads! You are cordially invited to the Bump Note Speakeasy, the 6th Annual Pioneer Band Gala & Auction and one of our largest fundraisers of the year.

The Cavern Club, at 210 S. First Street in Downtown Ann Arbor, began its life as a brewery in the 19th century. And the story is that it operated as a "speakeasy" during Prohibition, serving private label "hooch" to mavens of the Jazz Age! With its brick barrel-vaulted ceilings, flickering candlelight, and Gershwin tunes playing in the background, it's easy to imagine Ann Arbor's own versions of Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald offering up the secret password at this unique venue.

We won't be breaking any laws, but our modern-day speakeasy will be so much fun it ought to be illegal! The evening will feature a buffet of hors d'oeuvres and decadent desserts, cash bar, raffle, live and silent auctions, and of course the jazz beat of our own Pioneer Band members.

INTRODUCING 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 is enthusiastic and many guests go home with some great deals. New this year, all the items of the Silent Auction will be available for early ONLINE bidding a week before the event. Just like eBay, 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 Speakeasy can bid, too! For details as they develop, watch the Online Auction webpage at <http://aapioneerbands.org/?p=551>.

"INSTANT WINE CELLAR" BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! One of the biggest successes at the last Gala was the new, improved Raffle, which alone raised over \$3,500! With the grand prize of an "Instant Wine Cellar" comprised of over 70 bottles of white and red wine donated by our PBA families, Raffle tickets will once again be available prior to the event and sell for \$5/ticket or five for \$20.

LOWER COST! In a challenging economy we know family budgets are under pressure, so we've lowered the price this year to \$25 per person. Reservations must be purchased in advance by February 2, via easy credit card order at the webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?page_id=540.

A "bump note" is the strong, emphatic note sometimes played at the end of a musical piece. We hope you'll join us for fun and fundraising at the Bump Note Speakeasy as we lend our emphatic support to the best high school band program in the country!

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

Or contact the Bump Note Bouncers (also known as the Gala and Auction Co-Chairs):

Janene Centurione danjan22@hotmail.com

Ann Curtis accurtis1@gmail.com

The Pioneer Band Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and your auction purchases and donations may offer you tax advantages.

Donating items for the Pioneer Band Gala and Silent Auction is optional. However, we encourage all families to get involved since it's a great way to work together, be creative, and help us raise funds for the Pioneer Bands!

Donating Is As Easy as 1-2-3!

The raffle, with its "Instant Wine Cellar" grand prize, was a big success last year. And it's so easy! We simply ask every Pioneer Band family to **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. Go with a little Roaring Twenties flair or 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. Theatre/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.



The hard work and talent of our students have brought them many honors and opportunities, but the success of our band program is not possible without family support. 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.
- Or you can bring your wine bottles, gift cards, and baskets to the January 9th Band bowling party at Colonial Lanes.



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: \$ _____

All donations must be delivered by **January 17, 2010**. If you have any questions or problems, please contact Gala Co-Chairs Janene Centurione (danjan22@hotmail.com) or Ann Curtis (accurtis1@gmail.com).

2009-2010 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

NOVEMBER 2009

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
1 Sun	ALL DAY	MSBOA All State B/O Auditions	At several state sites TBA	All Participants
3 Tue	ALL DAY	No school for students		
10 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
23 Mon	7:00-9:30 pm	Michigan Youth Ensembles	HILL	All MYE Participants
25-27 W/T/F		THANKSGIVING BREAK		
30 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
30 Mon	All Day	MSBOA All State B/O Acceptance & Fees Paid		

DECEMBER 2009

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
1 Tue	2-4 pm	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	SB, PBA Uniform Team
2 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB
8 Tue	6th Hour	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	CB, PBA Uniform Team
8 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	ALL Band Parents
9 Wed		Early Release for Secondary Schools		
14 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
16-18		Midwest Music Conference		Mr. Leach, Ms. Waring
18 Fri	End of day	Winter Vacation Begins at end of school day		

JANUARY 2010

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
3 Mon		SCHOOL RESUMES		
4 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
9 Sat	1-3 pm	BOWLING PARTY Colonial Lanes		ALL BANDS
12 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
12 Tue	1st / 3rd hours	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	VB, PBA Uniform Team
12 Tue	4-5:30 pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal	B-126	JB
13 Wed	7:30 pm	JAZZ BAND CONCERT	Little Theatre	JB
15 Fri	2nd Hour	MLK Assembly	SCHREIBER	JB
16 SAT	ALL DAY	DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL	LIVONIA FRANKLIN HS	ALL BANDS
18 Mon		NO SCHOOL – MLK Day		
18 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
19 Tue	ALL DAY	State Solo & Ensemble Festival	B-126	ALL PARTICIPANTS
		Forms and Fees due	21 Thu –	
23 Sat		Michigan Music Conference	Grand Rapids	All-State Band & Orchestra participants
26 Tue	7:30 pm	Mandatory TOUR Meeting	B-126	All Participants & Parents
27 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB

FEBRUARY 2010

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
1 Mon	ALL DAY	No school for secondary students		
1 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
2 Tue	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	CB
3 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB
4 THU	7 PM	WINTER BAND CONCERT	SCHREIBER	SB, CB, JB, VB
		ALL BANDS		RECITALISTS
7 Sun	5 – 8:30 pm	PIONEER BAND GALA & AUCTION	TBA	JB, PBA GALA TEAM ALL BAND FAMILIES

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

We're On The Web!
www.aapioneerbands.org

Come and Get Involved!

Pioneer Band Association is looking for an *Editor* to produce the 'Pioneer Band Association Notes' newsletter in 2010/2011.

If interested, please contact:

Kathy Toy-Nao, Editor 2009/2010
734-904-7225

"Cool Jazz" Ice Sculpture (Banff & Lake Louise Ice Magic)

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