



Bingham High School Department Of Instrumental Music

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Dear current & prospective Bingham Band Parents & Students:

This past Marching Band Season sporting the first Bingham Band to march over 100 in at least 18 years was a thrilling experience! Placing in the top three the entire season with such a young band as we had last year was a great accomplishment for the students and has expanded our perception of what is possible! It was truly an exciting tour season and one the students will hopefully remember throughout their lives. We must now look forward to, and plans are well underway for the **2010 Bingham High School Marching Band Field Show season!**

Once again this year the marching band will be taking June and July off so students can attend church and scout camps, family vacations, and work to raise funds for their upcoming school year. Like in years past, we have decided to give students (and directors) a well-deserved summer break. The Drum Line, Front Ensemble and Color Guard will have some extra rehearsals throughout the summer due to the large amount of information they must learn for the fall. However, the winds will have the summer off with the exception of some occasional sectionals to be determined by the section leaders until our camp starting on the 12th of August. **We are requiring ALL band students planning to compete with the marching band in the fall competition season to attend the full summer band camp from August 12 – 20.** Camp will meet at BHS from 8 am – 8 pm weekdays. Please plan your family events and work schedules accordingly so that all students can attend this mandatory camp.

If you are planning to compete with us in the fall, plan to attend the informational meeting on May 4th at 7 pm in the BHS auditorium. You will also need to fill out the *Marching Band Contract & Emergency Medical Form* all included in this letter, and return both with a non-refundable \$50 deposit by **May 28, 2010** to the BHS Main Office. On August 12th, we will collect our additional \$150 marching band fee to cover our local expenses such as transportation, entry fees, music and drill writing, staffing and the myriad of other expenses the band accumulates during the season. Other small associated fees will be collected after the first day of school. The drill will be written starting in late May and we need to have a firm count for our drill positions. Please include a copy of your receipt with your contracts. **The show music will be “Medusa” by Key Poulan.** Music can be heard and downloaded at www.keypoulan.com. It's going to be a great year!

We are excited to have your student become a part of this wonderful program and encourage you to strongly consider signing them up for the 2010 marching band season. It will take hard work and dedication but the end result in your student's life will be absolutely amazing. **Parents are continually telling us of the positive impact that marching band has had on their children.** The discipline and sense of pride that comes as a result of working together as a championship band brings great rewards and personal growth. Please read through the frequently asked questions.

Please read over the enclosed information, talk it over with your student and please feel free to contact us with any questions. If you decide to join us this year, please return the enclosed contracts with the \$50 deposit by May 28th, 2010 to the main office at BHS.

We are excited about next year and hope you decide to become part of it, and help expand this exciting tradition of excellence that we call the Bingham High School Band. It takes hard work and dedication but it is well worth the effort. Vince Lombardi said it well and our program confirms that, "**The Spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure. These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur. Choose excellence in everything you do, are, and intend to be.**"

Some Frequently Asked Questions:

... Can my 9th grade student be involved?

We invite and welcome all 9th grade students into Marching Band. This is a great opportunity for 9th graders to be introduced into the high school experience. Students will make and enjoy close friendships with other students who have the same interests. There are many activities scheduled to make them feel welcome.

... What transportation arrangements are available from Middle Schools?

9th graders are expected to organize car pools to get them to the high school by rehearsal time at 3:10 pm. South Jordan Middle is close enough to walk, but Elk Ridge will need help from parents. New "Band" parents can form rotating car pools to help organize this transportation.

... What is the time commitment?

A complete calendar is on the BHS Band web page at www.binghambands.org. Attendance at rehearsals is crucial to our success and any absence must have prior approval. This is a participation-based course. Time commitment is similar to involvement in any major sports team. Color Guard and Drumline / Front Ensemble will have additional practices throughout the summer and fall season even though the winds won't meet until the camp in August.

... What are the camps that are absolutely essential to attend?

To be competitive and prepared for the great bands we will compete against this fall, **Summer Band Camp August 12 - 20 is mandatory for all members marching in the fall season..** Members of the Drum Line, Front ensemble and Color Guard will have extra practices scheduled throughout the summer due to the volume of information for those groups and those will be announced at the start of the summer,

... When are payments due?

The initial payment of \$50 is due May 28th, 2010. The remaining balance of \$150 is due August 12th at the Summer Camp. There will be a few other associated costs for marching shoes, meals, and other related items, but those won't be due until after the first day of class.

... What do we do about family summer vacations and camps?

We encourage students to try to schedule activities around the summer band camp in August but we realize conflicts will sometimes occur. The best times for family vacations are June and July. Members of the Drum Line, Front Ensemble and Color Guard will have some summer rehearsals scheduled, but those schedules can be flexible and announced in advance to the members of those units. **Again, the only summer activities that are absolutely mandatory for the entire band is the band camp August 12th through the 20th.** We want kids to have a great experience and are willing to work with your schedule.

... What is the total cost for marching band?

The basic marching band cost is \$150, the cheapest in the valley among the other competing high schools, and is due August 12th. The summer camp is \$50 and that deposit is due on May 28th to hold your position. We will be using Drill Master shoes again this year costing approximately \$25 for new members. Students using school instruments will need to pay a \$60 district rental fee unless playing an instrument we request them to play, then it is waived. This fee helps to repair and maintain our instrument inventory and buy new instruments for BHS. All students also pay a Jordan District fee of \$35 that goes towards all in-state transportation costs. Meals provided at all competitions will run \$35 for the season. If students want the official band polo, those cost \$17 and are good for pep band gigs / travel, etc. and will be used for other band activities at Bingham throughout the year, not just marching band, however it is not required Those are optional All these fees are due after the first day of class.

... What type of course credit can my student receive?

Members of the BHS marching band can receive a full semester credit of fine arts for the 12 weeks of participation in marching band. Arrangements can be made to waive the Jr. year PE elective for marching band participation.

... Can I take fall marching band without participating in the summer?

Because all of the work that is done during the summer camp is directly related to the fall field show, it is critical for students to be at all mandatory summer camp rehearsals in August. Drum Line, Front Ensemble & Color Guard members will have extra rehearsals in the summer that the winds do not. The marching band is one of the most visible groups at Bingham! We know there will be a few conflicts, but in order to be prepared for the competition season and the bands from all across the Western US, all the summer rehearsals are very important. We have tried very hard to leave June & July in the summer for vacations, work, and just time off from school.

... What is the payment structure?

In order to determine the exact numbers for the show design, we must require students and parents to sign the contracts that are included along with a receipt of non-refundable deposit of \$50 by May 28th. This is designed to give us an approximate number for the drill writer to start drill prior to summer band camp in August. Other payments are in the fall on August 12th or after the first day of class to give students time to earn funds towards fees. If students/parents have financial issues please talk to Mr. Graber as we want the finances to work out for every student.

Again, please feel free to contact us if you have further questions. Next year will be another amazing experience and we hope you and your student will be with us.

Darin Graber, Director of Bands - BHS
Aric Farnsworth, Battery Percussion - BYU
Danny Soulier, Pit Percussion – U of U
Travis Lucero, Color Guard Instructor - BHS



Marching Band Contract - Due May 28, 2010

Name _____ Instrument _____
Address _____ City, Zip _____
Email _____ Home Phone _____
Cell Phone _____ Grade Next Year _____

As a member of the 2008-2009 Bingham High School Marching Band, I agree to abide by the following policies and procedures. I further understand that for the betterment of the band, a violation of anyone of these policies could result in my being assigned as an alternate or removal from the Bingham High School Marching Band program.

Attendance policy:

1. All BHS school rules and rules in the BHS handbook are in effect at all times.
2. Rehearsal: Members will be allowed a maximum of 0 unexcused absences, 3 excused absences (prior approval required), & 3 tardies. Tardies will be made up after each rehearsal with the section leader. No absence at rehearsal just prior to competition will be excused.
3. All music must be memorized by designated deadlines. Music must be passed off to section leaders, designated staff and/or Mr. Graber. Section leaders are there to help you, so please use their help with the music.
4. Members may be asked to perform their drill segments and marching technique for their section leaders, staff, and/or Mr. Graber. Drill segments will include proper field position, horn position, body motion, music performance, etc.
5. Attendance at rehearsals is required. Any absence must have prior approval of the section leader.
6. Students will maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average to be eligible for competitions.
7. All fees are non-refundable and must be paid in a timely manner in compliance with the payment schedule.
8. To assure uniformity of the band extremes in appearance such as hair color, facial jewelry, hair over the collar, beards, mustaches, etc. are not permissible.
9. All performances are mandatory (including tour performances). I understand there is one to a part, and I will schedule accordingly.

I understand these policies and realize the success of the BHS Marching Band is dependent on my dedication and commitment to individual excellence. My attitude and ability will combine with other members to create the spirit and precision of the Bingham High School Marching Band. I agree to be removed from the show if these expectations are not fulfilled.

Band Member's Signature _____ Date _____

Parents Signature _____ Date _____

To ensure drill position for the fall, please sign and return with receipt of deposit for \$50 (non-refundable). Deposit can be made at the BHS Main Office.



**BINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND
2010 EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORM**

NAME OF STUDENT _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

PERSON TO CONTACT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____

FAMILY PHYSICIAN _____

INSURANCE CO. & POLICY HOLDER _____

POLICY NUMBER _____

IF STUDENT IS ON MEDICATION, PLEASE LIST _____

MAJOR SURGERIES IN LAST YEAR

ACUTE OR CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS _____

I GIVE MY CONSENT FOR THE ABOVE NAMED STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL BAND
ACTIVITIES OF THE BINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM FOR THE COMING SEASON
DATES:

August 12 - November 5, 2010

I GIVE PERMISSION FOR ANY MEDICAL TREATMENT NECESSARY FOR THE HEALTH AND
WELL BEING OF MY CHILD WHILE AT SCHOOL, AT PERFORMANCES, OR ON TOUR.

Parent of Guardian _____ Date _____

Bingham High School instrumental Ensembles

The Bingham High School Bands have, over the last 100 years, established a reputation in the Salt Lake Valley for musical excellence. Many musical groups make up the band program and each one is highly motivated and musically active. The Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble and Marching Band are at the core of the program. In order for a student to be part of any other peripheral performance group, they must be first enrolled in one of those four ensembles. Other BHS performance groups include Jazz Ensemble I and II, English Handbell Choir, Winter Drumline and Winter Color Guard. We also enjoy an Electronic Music / MIDI class, Guitar, and three orchestral string groups as well as an AP Music Theory class that are directed by Mr. James Thompson.

SYMPHONIC BAND (Advanced)

Known as the Bingham Wind Symphony, this is an advanced performance oriented band. Membership is by audition according to ability and instrumentation. It consists of mainly Seniors and Juniors, although some Sophomores are admitted if their audition warrants it. The Wind Symphony participates in a Fall Concert, Winter Concert (Candlelight), Spring Concerts, and various other school functions such as graduation every other year. The band also represents the school at all Region and state festivals. This band will be involved with a tour every year. The band is reserved for those individuals who exhibit a strong dedication to their instrument and the group, and demonstrate this dedication by their advanced musical abilities and rehearsal preparation. Private study is highly recommended. Full year enrollment required. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$50 for those students using a school instrument, \$35 district participation fee, course and uniform fees. *Weekly after-school sectionals and participation in Solo / Small Ensemble Festival is required.*

CONCERT BAND (Intermediate)

Known as the BHS Symphonic Band, this band is the intermediate level performance group. The class is open to all Sophomore, Junior, or Senior students with aspiring musical abilities who do not wish to go through an audition process. The Symphonic band will perform in a Fall Concert, Winter Concert (Candlelight), Spring Concert and various other school functions as well as Region festivals. Private study is highly recommended. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$50 for those students using a school instrument \$35 district participation fee and small uniform fee.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE I (Advanced)

This is the advanced Jazz Band and is open to all Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors by audition / interview. The band performs music of a more contemporary nature focusing on Swing rhythms, Funk, dance standards, Latin, and many other jazz forms. The Band performs at the Evening of Jazz & Percussion, State and Regional festivals, Spring Jazz Dinner Dance, and at various other school functions. The band plans one over night trip to an out of state jazz festival alternating every other year with an in-state festival with Jazz II and the Jazz Choir. ***Prerequisite is enrollment in a core instrumental concert group listed above.*** Private study is highly recommended. Full year enrollment required. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$0 for those students using a school instrument, a \$35 district participation fee, and course fee. *Weekly after-school rehearsals are required.*

JAZZ ENSEMBLE II (Intermediate)

This is the entry-level jazz band and is open to any student who wants to perform in the jazz styles of swing, funk, and Latin. A simple audition / interview is required, but no musicians are turned away from this feeder ensemble. The band performs at the Evening of Jazz & Percussion, State and Regional festivals, Spring Jazz Dinner Dance, and at various other school functions. The band plans one over night trip to an out of state jazz festival every other year alternating with an in-state festival with Jazz I and the Jazz Choir. ***Prerequisite is enrollment in a core instrumental concert group listed above.*** Private study is highly recommended. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$50 for those students using a school instrument,

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

All percussionists will be enrolled in this class and not in a band class. Emphasis will be on performing advanced percussion solos and ensemble literature and players in this group also make up the percussion sections in the other performing ensembles in the department. The class is by interview / audition only. Percussionists wanting to participate in Marching Band or Winter Drum line should also plan to be enrolled in this class. The class will include work on snare, timpani, drum set, mallet, and auxiliary instruments. Purchase of a minimum stick and mallet inventory is required, listed in the band handbook distributed at the beginning of the year or on the band web site at www.binghambands.org. Private study is highly recommended. There is a Jordan District instrumental

rental fee of \$50 for all percussionists the district participation fee, plus other course and uniform fees to be determined.

ENGLISH HANDBELL CHOIR

The BHS Handbell Choir is open to all students grades 10 -12 and provides a non-audition performance opportunity and technical development in the art of English Handbell ringing. You do not need to be enrolled in a core class to take this course. This group performs on the Winter Concert (Candlelight), the Utah Spring Ring, a Spring Concert, and other various school and community functions, especially around the Holidays. There will be a small uniform fee and \$35 district participation fee required.

MARCHING BAND

Marching Band is perhaps the most visual element of the band program. The band begins early in August to prepare for local parades and competes until early November. A calendar is on the web site at www.binghambands.org with all rehearsal and performance dates. During school marching band is held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00-6:00 PM. A few Friday and Saturday morning rehearsals can also be expected before competitions. The Marching Band will play at all home region football games and will do a pre-game and halftime show, as well as an after-game concert in the stands. The band will compete in the Weber Review, the Rocky Mountain Competition at BYU, The Nebo Tournament of Bands, the Davis Cup, the Mount Timpanogos Competition, and the Bridgerland Band Invitational, Red Rocks Invitational as well as our own Region Festival. Marching Band will participate in a tour every other year alternating with the Jazz program. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$50 for those students using a school instrument plus other fees described earlier in this letter.

WINTER DRUMLINE

This extra-curricular ensemble is open to all percussionists, grades 9-12 by audition only. Emphasis will be placed on advanced drum line music skills and preference will be given to students enrolled in BHS Percussion Ensemble. Rehearsals run from December to early April from 3:00-6:00 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays. Performances include Utah Winter Drum line Percussion Association festivals, and various school functions and assemblies. Students may be selected to perform in the battery or front ensemble. *Prerequisite is enrollment in an instrumental concert group.* Private study is highly recommended. There is a Jordan District instrumental rental fee of \$50 for all percussionists as well as other associated fees for seasonal equipment and staff costs as per activity.

WINTER COLORGUARD

This extra-curricular ensemble is open to all students grades 9-12 by audition only. Emphasis will be placed on advancing Guard equipment skills (flag, sabre, rifle,, etc.). Rehearsals run from December to early April from 3:00-6:00 pm Mondays and Wednesdays. Performances include Utah Winter Guard Association festivals, and various school functions. Private study is highly recommended. There will be associated fees for seasonal staff and equipment costs as per activity.

OTHER BHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

AP Music Theory

Electronic Music / MIDI Sequencing

Guitar

3 String Orchestras – See Mr.Thompson for more information

6 Choral Performance groups – See the Choral Department for more information