

# **M**ountlake **T**errace **B**ands

Jazz Ensembles

Concert Bands

Pep Band

Percussion Ensemble

## **NEWSLETTER**

**Week of November 11th**

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### **It's Part of the Gig...**

So far this year we have had 18 gigs. Not every student has been involved in every one of them, but I have. These include Pep Band performances (games, meetings, assemblies, etc), Concerts (Veterans Day Concert, Assembly, Jazz Night, Summer Workshops, Curriculum Night), and run out gigs (Battle of Drumlines, private parties). This is a remarkable number of performance opportunities that your students have had and it doesn't even include recording sessions, special rehearsals/clinics, or small group performances.

Believe me, I wish we had roadies who would set-up and tear-down for every gig/event, but alas, we do not. This means that setting up and tearing down is part of the gig...every performance, for every person. When your student does not help it means the work falls on the shoulders of other people. What I have observed throughout the first quarter of school is that it is the same 10 or so parents and students doing the work for these performances while the other 90% of the students just show up for the performance. I've also seen some good intentions from other folks who help for a little while but quit before the job is done. Do you ever wonder how it gets completed if you didn't help? Well, when everyone doesn't help, a few people have to stay much longer and work much harder to make it happen. This is concerning because it leads to burn out and is just unfair. And it starts to create resentment. No one likes these parts of the gig but it has to be done. Every time.

I believe people don't mean to be selfish by not helping. I think it is something that families just have not talked about or thought about yet. Sometimes kids would, in fact stay, but parents make them leave. Sometimes kids leave because they have other things to do. Well, we ALL have other things to do. And we could all get to them if we all help with set-up and tear-down from now on. Many hands make light work. So please make a commitment to help with these things from here on out.

I have very much appreciated every effort people have made to support the program. Please don't misunderstand my comments. What I'm talking about here is specifically setting up and tearing down the stage and related items, doing the work that needs to be done, and staying until the job is complete. That is the only way we can do the gig. Thank you in advance.

## Upcoming Events

- Special day-time performance for all band students this Wednesday during PASS and 3rd. Cuong Vu Trio. All students must report to the band room at the beginning of PASS.
- Music Booster board meeting on Thursday night.

## Announcements

- Poinsettia Sale still going - people are dying to buy them so let them know we are selling!
- We have been officially accepted to be on the KPLU School of Jazz CD again this year. This is the 10th year of the CD project that pairs HS jazz bands with professional mentors to go into the recording studio. As it has become more well-known and popular more schools have expressed interest and so they have now started asking for applications. We submitted a recording and we were accepted. We will record in March.
- Disneyland payment for November is DUE on the 22nd. \$150, check made payable to ESD #15.
- Jazz at Lincoln Center is the organization out of NY through which Essentially Ellington is run. They are involved in some very innovative projects especially surrounding supporting education and creating a wider audience for Jazz. One of these projects involves a company called "Tutti." This is a REALLY cool practice/study/listening tool. All band students are welcome to check it out. Here are the instructions:
  - 1.) Visit: [www.tuttiplayer.com](http://www.tuttiplayer.com)
  - 2.) Create an account using this code: 480343
  - 3.) Download the Player onto your iPad/iPhone (EE content by the end of the month) Mac or PC
    - for Mac/PC: install Flash and AIR (links are provided)
  - 4.) Sign into the app

## Special Opportunities

- The 37th Annual DownBeat Student Music Awards are open and ready for your entries. Please go to [www.downbeat.com/sma](http://www.downbeat.com/sma) for the application and rules.
- "I am contacting you in regards to color guard recruitment for the Seattle Cascades Drum Corps 2014 season. We are excited to be kicking off our season in a week with our Open House camp November 16th and 17th. There are a few old faces, a few new as well, and a continuing passion to bring students a high level of education within this activity. If you could help spread the word to your students about our opportunities available I would be immensely grateful. Any students with questions and/or interested in joining our award-winning organization can contact me directly, [Nicole.mh.phillips@gmail.com](mailto:Nicole.mh.phillips@gmail.com), or they can visit our website at [www.cascadesdrumcorps.org](http://www.cascadesdrumcorps.org)."

## MTHS MUSIC BOOSTER NEWS

BAND \* CHOIR \* ORCHESTRA

Thank you to all who helped in any way with the Veterans Swing Dance last Saturday night. It was a big success and everyone who went has nothing but positive things to say about their experience!

We are still in need of volunteers for the Breakfast with Santa and Nutcracker concert. Please contact Sherrill Leppich.

