

McFarland Music Boosters Notes

Winter 2020
Second Edition

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Greetings!

Welcome to the second edition of the McFarland Music Boosters newsletter. In this edition, we highlight some of the performances and music groups that you may have heard of, but have little to no idea what to expect. Inside, you will find out what String Fling and Band-O-Rama are, who Kittens Mittens, Blue Notes, and Pitch Please are, that the Pep Band

concert is open to any of the public who like their music fun and loud, and how you can get good food and great music at Cabaret Café and Blues in the Night. We are also excited to tell you about our big equipment donation to the new Performing Arts Center.

Sincerely,
McFarland Music Boosters

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Fun Facts!

Each year some McFarland music students qualify to compete in the state Solo & Ensemble Music Festival.

To qualify for state, students must earn a "starred first" rating in Class A (the most challenging music) in their local Solo & Ensemble event.

The state festival is held in the spring at more than 10 campus locations around Wisconsin. In 2019, seven McFarland students received Exemplary Performance Recognition (the highest honor) at the state festival. Way to go!

MHS Music Department Trips

Every 2 years McFarland High School music students have the opportunity to join their music directors on a music-centered trip during spring break. Travel is by bus. Parents can chaperone. The trip itinerary and arrangements have generally been handled by Bob Rogers Travel. Bob Rogers Travel specializes in creating music itineraries for kids that offer master classes, student performances, and great sight-seeing.

Two years ago, MHS students travelled to New York City and benefited from music clinics with professional musicians, performing at various New York City land-

marks, and sightseeing, which included a cruise around the Statue of Liberty and a visit to the September 11 Memorial. This year's trip in March is to Washington D.C. The trip destinations are generally announced more than year ahead of the travel dates. Payments are through Bob Rogers and are staggered throughout the year (you can use music student account money if your student has accumulated some). If you have a student travelling this year, be sure they pack entertainment for the bus and some comfortable shoes. The next trip will likely be in March 2022.



New York City 2018

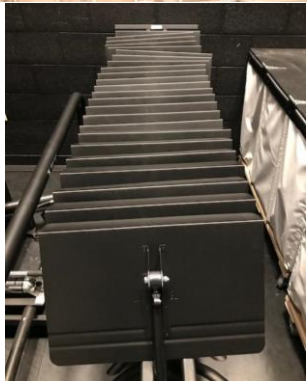
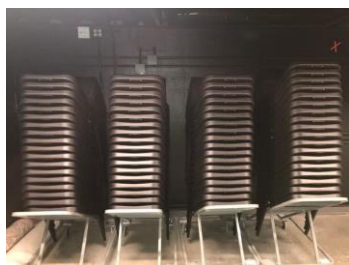
Bravo!

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Frozen Jr. on an outstanding show!



Great News!

Thanks to your support, Music Boosters was able to purchase 72 chairs and 50 music stands (and the carts to store them) for the PAC! Having a designated set of chairs and stands for the PAC will save the music teachers countless hours of having to haul them back and forth from classrooms to the stage.



Music Department Events

The music department hosts a variety of musical events beyond the grade-level concerts. These provide additional opportunities to see our talented music students and to support music in our schools. Here is a summary of each event:

Band-O-Rama

Band-O-Rama is an annual event typically held in February. It features all grade-level bands, 6th through 12th, performing together in one venue. Each grade-level band is featured separately, with the culminating event of all

bands performing together as one. This year's Band-O-Rama takes place on Saturday, February 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school A-Gym. Admission is free, but donations are always welcome!

String Fling

String Fling is an annual event held in late winter/early spring. It features all grade-level orchestras, 5th through 12th, performing together in one venue. Each grade-level orchestra is featured separately, with the culminating event of all orchestras performing together as one. Fun events for the orchestra students that day include attending clinics, rehearsing with

their grade level, having their pictures taken at a photo booth, and eating dinner together before the concert. This year's String Fling theme is Leaps and Rounds and takes place on Saturday, February 29, in the IMMS gym. The concert begins at 6:15 p.m., with students attending events earlier in the afternoon. Admission is free, but donations are always welcome!

Cabaret Café

Cabaret Café is an annual event held in the spring. It features high school singers and choirs performing a variety of acts all chosen, conceived, and prepared by students. The event is an "open concert format" (come and stay as

long as you like) held in the high school cafeteria with all-you-can-enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages. This year's Cabaret Café takes place on Sunday, March 8 from 1-4 p.m. with [tickets available online now](#).

Pep Band Concert

The annual Pep Band concert takes place the Friday evening of Memorial Day weekend. It features our high school band students performing a variety of Pep Band songs. In addition, the Senior band members create a fun video for the concert as a last farewell and

hurrah from the Senior band members! This year's Pep Band concert takes place on Friday, May 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school B-Gym. There is a small admission fee that helps offset the cost of running this event.

Music Department Events (cont.)

Blues in the Night

Blues in the Night (BITN) is an annual event held near the end of the school year. It features our middle school and high school jazz bands, an orchestra ensemble, and some of our high school vocal groups. BITN is also a fundraiser for Music Boosters, featuring a catered

dinner, a silent auction, and a 50/50 raffle. This year's BITN takes place on Saturday, May 30 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the high school B-Gym. Tickets sell quickly, so look for an email later this spring for ticket purchasing information!

Vocal Groups at MHS

Who are Pitch Please, Kittens Mittens, and Blue Notes? Here's who they are and what they are all about.

Pitch Please is a student-run women's a cappella group (Laëtitia Hollard and Annika Hauser) with about 15 members. We rehearse from 3:25-4:30 every Tuesday and Thursday. During these rehearsals we prepare several pieces for events like Bowls for Hunger, the high school's Talent Show, and Solo & Ensemble. Last year we were nominated for a State Festival Exemplary Performance award, and are excited for events to come.



Pitch Please at Bowls for Hunger

Kittens Mittens is an all-male a cappella group (managed by Cooper, Will, and Gray) ranging from bases to tenors. We sing a variety of songs and perform at all kinds of events. We enjoy singing pop songs that our audience knows to make it more fun! Kittens Mittens rehearses Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, and includes 15-20 members each year.



Kittens Mittens at Bowls for Hunger

Blue Notes is an advanced musical ensemble that gives students enrolled in choir the opportunity to create music at the "next level." Additionally, the Blue Notes perform at all choir concerts, Blues in the Night, re:Voiced, the Snow Tour (December), Capitol Pageant, Solo & Ensemble, and more! Because the Blue Notes are such a versatile group of singers, they sing a huge variety of music throughout the year including contemporary pop a cappella, vocal jazz, madrigals, and chamber music. Students earn a 1/2 credit for their participation in this club.



Blue Notes at Christmas in the Village

New Music Class Approved!

On January 20th, the School Board approved the addition of the class 'Music Theory 2'. 'Music Theory 1' will be offered every fall and 'Music Theory 2' every other spring.



Help Needed & Save the Date

March 14th
Solo & Ensemble Festival 2020
 Hosted by McFarland High School

We need lots of volunteers to run this district event, so if you are interested, please email mcfarlandmusicboosters@gmail.com.

A Sign-up Genius will be forthcoming with the specifics about roles and times. Training provided!

Save the Dates!



String Fling

"Leaps and Rounds"
Sat., February 29
6:15 p.m. in the
IMMS Gym

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MCFARLAND CHOIRS



Cabaret Café

Sun., March 8
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
MHS Cafeteria

[Tickets available
online now!](#)



Upcoming Events

February

- 2/12 MHS Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. in the PAC
- 2/15 Band-O-Rama (grades 6-12), 7:30 p.m. in the MHS A-Gym
- 2/26 Jazz Ensembles Concert (grades 7-12), 7:30 p.m. in the PAC
- 2/29 String Fling (grades 5-12), Concert start at 6:15 p.m. in the IMMS Gym

March

- 3/4 Washington D.C. Trip Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the PAC
- 3/8 Cabaret Café, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the MHS cafeteria
- 3/10 IMMS Choirs Concert, 7 p.m. in the PAC
- 3/11 MHS Bands Collage Concert, 7:30 p.m. in the PAC
- 3/14 District Solo & Ensemble, hosted at McFarland High School
- 3/26-4/1 MHS Band/Choir/Orchestra trip to Washington D.C.

April

- 4/18 Mad City A Cappella Summit (Blue Notes, Kittens Mittens, Pitch Please), 7:30 p.m. at Oregon High School
- 4/25 State Solo & Ensemble, 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at UW-Whitewater



Contact Music Boosters

mcfarlandmusicboosters@gmail.com

<https://mcfarlandmusicboosters.weebly.com/>

www.facebook.com/McFarlandMusicBoosters/

2020 Music Booster Meetings

7:00 p.m. in MHS
Choir Room

February 3

March 2

April 6

May 4