
Wind Symphony

Mastery Band



2017 - 2018 School Year
3rd Block:

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Program Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Hillgrove High School Band Program to create functionally literate, independent musicians, who continually exhibit the highest level of character as school citizens.

Student Mission Statement

We, the proud family of the Hillgrove High School Bands, commit to maintaining the highest standards of respect, discipline and integrity. To achieve this, we will make all decisions considering the well being of the individual and the program. We will hold ourselves to the highest expectation of excellence to improve both the program and the community.

Goals

The Wind Symphony is the flagship ensemble of Hillgrove High School. Students in this ensemble display the highest level of musicianship, capable of performing Grade 6 and Masterwork literature. This ensemble is intended for upperclassmen, most specifically Junior and Senior members.

Requirements

1. Students in the Wind Symphony will prepare and present multiple concerts per year, as notated in the Hillgrove Bands' Calendar
2. Students in the Wind Symphony will participate in before/after school sectionals, as determined by the Directors
3. Students in the Wind Symphony will prepare the GMEA District and All State Materials
4. Students in the Wind Symphony will participate in the annual Concert Band Camp in February, and at Large Group Performance Evaluation in March
5. Students in the Wind Symphony will prepare a solo or small ensemble for presentation at the GMEA Solo And Ensemble Event.

Evaluation

Everyday is an audition – students will be evaluated daily on their individual musical skills and personal contributions to the ensemble. Formal playing assessments will be held periodically via Smart Music and live playing, and Placement Auditions will be held toward the end of each semester.

Materials

All Students **MUST** bring the following to all rehearsals:

- Instrument
- Necessary Instrument Accessories
- Complete Band Binder
- Pencil

Grading Standards

Skills and Techniques/Performance – 45%

MHSMB.1
MHSMB.2
MHSMB.3

Rehearsal Preparation – 45%

Understanding the “what and how” of participating in a musical ensemble, acting as a professional musician, and approaching the instrument in an acceptable manner.

Student Growth Measure – 10%

Each student will participate in our annual student growth measure. This is a pre-test/post-test format to measure the growth of our students in the area of sight-reading.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 5th – Winter Concert @ Hillgrove High School

-Required for all band students

December 9th – All State First Round/District Honor Band Auditions @ Marietta High School

-Required for Sym 1 and Wind Symphony

January 6th – Final All State Auditions @ Houston County High School

-Required only if you pass round 1

February 2-3rd – Concert Band Camp @ Hillgrove High School

-Required for all band students

February 9-11th – District Honor Band @ Hillgrove High School

-Required if you earn a spot in the bands

March 1-3rd – All State Band @ Athens Classic Center

-Required only if you earn a spot in the bands/orchestras

March 15-17th – Large Group Performance Evaluation @ Lassiter High School

-Required for all band students

April 28th – Taste of West Cobb @ Hillgrove High School

-Required for all band students (especially marching band performance time)

May 8th – Spring Concert @ Mable House Amphitheater

-Required for all band students

June 1-2nd – Marching Band Spring Camp

CHARMS ACCESS

At the beginning of each year, all students should log in to their Charms account and check their contact information to verify accuracy. We do the majority of our communications via email, so having correct information is essential. Even if you're a SENIOR – please go ahead and check your charms account personal information.

To do this:

1. Go to www.hillgroveband.com
2. At the top of the page click CHARMS
3. Your Student Area Password will be your Student ID #

Once logged in, please verify and update all information. If you cannot log in, please contact us at hillgroveband@gmail.com as soon as possible.

REHEARSAL PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Wind Symphony: 2017-2018 School year

In an effort to create a more positive learning environment and make rehearsals more efficient, the following policies will go be in effect:

11:45am* - Students should enter the room, immediately get their instrument, and find their seat.

The locker room is too small to be a hang out spot. This is a fire hazard.

11:50am - Students must be seated, warming up individually

Percussionists must be setting up for the day's agenda, or warming up, at this time.

11:55pm - Group Warm-up will begin

Students must have warmed up for at least 6-7 minutes by this time.

Percussion equipment must be set up and ready to go for the day's agenda by this time.

1:15pm - Pack-up/Dismissal

Students are to make no more sounds on their instruments after dismissal.

Percussionists should cover all instruments at this time, return all auxiliary instruments to their proper place, and not play.

*When on homeroom schedule, all times move 10 minutes later

- At no point should a student distract another student's ability to learn
- At no point should a student's shoulder or head be down or directed to the floor or another student
- The only sounds allowed during rehearsal are musical sounds from instruments, or the director giving feedback. Students are to speak when spoken to, or to raise their hands with pertinent questions.
- The time in between agenda items should be silent and should require minimal movement from the percussionists.
- Percussionists may sit during announcements. That is the only time.
- ALL Students must have their own music, instrument, and pencil each day.
- Students may not use the restroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class.

Students are given 50 points per week (10 pts. per day) for rehearsal preparation. These 10 points per day shall be used to assess the above policies. Unless otherwise noted, the non-instructing Director for each/any violation of the above policies will deduct 1 point from the daily grade.

These policies are the same expectations of a professional musical ensemble. This should be viewed as an effort to educate our students on being professional in their approach to rehearsal, not as punishment.

STANDARDS: GRADE 9 - 12 MUSIC - MASTERY BAND

(The design constructs for the advanced curriculum may correlate with the musical concepts and demands found within grade 6 level literature.)

A. SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES/PERFORMANCE

MHSMB.1 - Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

- a. Sing to reinforce fundamentals of breathing, use of the air stream and quality of sound in tone production.*
- b. Sing to develop the ability to match intervallic and chordal tuning.*
- c. Sing to reinforce melodic shape and stylistic elements of a melodic line or accompaniment pattern.*

MHSMB.2 - Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

- a. Perform with a characteristic tone quality utilizing proper embouchure; playing position, posture, breathing techniques, enunciation, vibrato, and percussion implement stroke in the appropriate level music.*
- b. Demonstrate proper warm-up techniques through the use of long-tone, lip slurs, chorales, and technical exercises.*
- c. Demonstrate the following ensemble skills through performance of musical literature: rehearsal etiquette, dynamic expression, style, blend and balance, steady tempo, rhythmic accuracy, and intonation.*
- d. Demonstrate a clear understanding of the rhythms, meters, and ornamentation through the literature, which are stylistically representative of the period or genre of the music being studied.*
- e. Vocalize rhythms being performed including: diatonic melodies and all intervals within the span of an octave.*
- f. Demonstrate all performance skills through sight-reading of music in the full spectrum of the literature.*

MHSMB.3 Reading and notating music

- a. Demonstrate a clear understanding of counting systems, vocabulary, theory, and the conventions necessary to read and notate music at the mastery level.*
- b. Incorporate standard notations and non-traditional symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression through individual and ensemble performance.*
- c. Analyze musical terms, key signatures, and harmonic and tonal structures in the music being studied.*

B. CREATION

MHSMB.4 - Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments

- a. Improvise a melody to a specified eight to twelve measure harmonic progression utilizing various musical styles and techniques.*
- b. Improvise a variation of a specific melody within the original musical style in major and minor tonalities.*
- c. Improvise accompaniment patterns within a given specific harmonic progression.*

MHSMB.5 - Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

- a. Compose rhythmic exercises and short melodies using traditional notations, which incorporates use of dynamics and varied styles.*
- b. Modify/embellish/adapt melodies for a variety of instruments with appropriate transpositions.*
- c. Compose melodic themes using an ABA structure in compound and complex meters.*
- d. Demonstrate the ability to use music notation software to produce a correctly notated musical example of both an arrangement and original composition.*

C. CRITICAL ANALYSIS/INVESTIGATION

MHSMB.6 - Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

- a. Analyze rhythmic patterns in compound/complex meters demonstrating an advanced level of technical facility and precision commensurate of the highest level of music performance.
- b. Demonstrate, through performance, knowledge of the pitch tendencies of the individual instrument by making proper adjustments for correct intonation.
- c. By listening to rhythmic patterns, identify and write rhythmic notation for simple, compound, and complex patterns found in the highest level of performance literature.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to adjust the instrument to play in tune without assistance.

MHSMB.7 - Evaluating music and music performances

- a. Describe musical elements in instrumental music (recorded or live) using the terminology being studied.
- b. Analyze and discuss various instrumental music genres and styles through listening and/or performance activities.
- c. Analyze and describe specific musical works and styles using appropriate terminology
- d. Critique the integrity of a performance based on concert etiquette, the musical technique, and aesthetic value.

D. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

MHSMB.8 - Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts

- a. Compare the following terms used in music to like terms used in other subject areas by describing similarities and differences: color, movement, expression, style, symmetry, form, interpretation, texture, harmony, patterns and sequence, repetition, texts and lyrics, meter, wave and sound production, timbre, frequency of pitch, volume, acoustics, physiology and anatomy, technology, history, and culture, etc.
- b. Describe similarities and differences in the contextual meaning of common terms used in music, art, dance, and drama.
- c. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge through performance of repertoire representing diverse cultures, historical periods, and styles at the highest level of music performance.

MHSMB.9 - Understanding music in relation to history and culture

- a. Formulate an understanding of the historical and musical context of the performance literature.
- b. Reflect and discuss the context of the historical events as they relate to musical literature of the period.

Financial Contributions for the 2017-2018 Concert Bands

We do ask for minimal monetary contributions to the band program specifically for the concert band classes of \$200.00 per student. These contributions are split into two payments:

Payment 1 (Fall): \$100.00 - Due September 1st

Payment 2 (Spring): \$100.00 - Due February 1st

Concert Band Fees cover the following costs that HBBA incurs throughout the school year:

All State Band/District Band Auditions: Beginning this year, we are going to include the all-state band fee into the concert band fee assessment. Since this is a requirement, we are going to eliminate the extra payment.

Curriculum Enrichment: Specialists on each specific instrument will instruct all of our students during the year, in class. Instruction should occur during class and ideally will occur on a bi-weekly basis. This instruction will be invaluable to our students in honing their individual skills. This fee is also used to supplement our music literature budget for the school year. Also, since we do not charge a fee for school owned instrument use, this fee supplements our repair budget from CCSD.

Concert Band Camp: The concert band camp (winter band clinic) is an annual event begun when Hillgrove opened to model the finest programs in the country. Each section will receive individual instruction and each ensemble will have a guest conductor. The event will also feature a staff recital for the students to witness true professionalism on their instrument. The fee above includes all meals for the students, as well as the fees included to bring in the best possible teachers for the students.

To make a payment:

1. Bring a check or cash and place it in the drop box in the band hall. The black box is located in the lockers on the left of the room under the large trophies. Do not hand your funds to the directors, they will not handle them. Your cashed check will serve as your receipt. In the case you choose to pay in cash, please contact a treasurer for your receipt.
 - a. **All checks should be made out to HBBA**
 - b. **Please make sure student name is indicated on the check!**
2. Pay via credit card on PayPal in Charms or on www.hillgroveband.com
 - a. *All pay pal payments are subject to a 3% convenience charge*
3. Mail a check to the HBBA PO Box:
3600 Dallas Hwy
Ste. 230 Box 155
Marietta, GA, 30064

CONCERT UNIFORM INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Beginning Fall Semester 2017, Hillgrove Concert Band members will be required to own their own formal-wear for use in all concerts during the school year. Formal wear is defined as a Full Tuxedo for gentlemen, with Bowtie and Cummerbund. For ladies, a black full-length concert dress. Ladies coming from a middle school where black dresses were worn in concert may continue to wear the dress so long as it fits properly.

HBBA does own a large supply of Dresses and Tuxedos that we will be looking to sell. Your family may also choose to purchase a new uniform. We are offering the following information regarding your family's options:

Young Ladies:

The formal dress worn by our young ladies retails for approximately \$60 new.

- Dresses in "Good" condition may be purchased for \$35 at Hillgrove.
 - Returning students may purchase the dress they wore last year
 - New students may select from our existing inventory
- Dresses in "Acceptable" condition are available for \$20.
- New dresses may be purchased at one of the links below (your choice):
 - <http://www.swbandproducts.com/store/angelina-concert-dress.html>
 - <http://www.swbandproducts.com/store/angelina-concert-dress-youth.html>

Young Gentlemen:

The formal wear package (tux jacket, tux pants, shirt, bow tie and cummerbund for young gentlemen retails for approximately \$100 new.

- Young gentlemen's formal wear packages in "Good" condition may be purchased for \$75 at Hillgrove.
 - Returning students may purchase their tux from last year
 - New students may choose from existing inventory
- Similarly, packages in "Acceptable" condition are available for \$50.
- New Tuxedo Packages may be purchased at the following link:
 - <http://www.swbandproducts.com/store/mens-concert-tuxedo-stefan-package.html>
 - <http://www.swbandproducts.com/store/youth-concert-tuxedo-package.html>
 - Please order a WINGTIP SHIRT
- Individual pieces of the formal wear package are available at the following rates:
 - Tux jackets \$30
 - Tux pants \$15
 - Shirts \$10
 - Cummerbund and tie sets \$5.

To purchase pre-owned formal wear, The Hillgrove Formal Wear "Store" will be open at select dates throughout August and September. Emails will be sent out regarding dates/times soon.

In cases of significant financial hardship, families should reach out directly to Mr Erwin at hillgroveband@gmail.com for assistance.

*****If you are purchasing new, PLEASE use the links provided.**

Uniforms that are not to specifications will not be worn on stage at concerts.****

Cell Phone Policy

Hillgrove has adopted a cell phone policy allowing teachers to decide how much use will be allowed in their classrooms. Our Cell Phone Policy is as follows:

1. Students may not have cell phones out when entering or exiting the room
2. Cell Phones may be kept on the music stand during rehearsal under the following condition:
 - a. The phone has a tuner app installed and is being actively used to tune
 - i. Suggested apps – Tonal Energy and iStrobosoft
 - b. The phone has a metronome app installed and is being actively used to practice
 - i. Suggested apps – Yamaha Metronome, Tempo Advanced
 - c. No other uses are permitted.
3. Violation of this use policy may result an administrative referral.

STUDENT/PARENT SYLLABUS VERIFICATION

We have read and understand all policies set forth in this band class syllabus. The student will be present at all rehearsals and concerts, with any exceptions being reported well in advance on www.hillgroveband.com via the absence request form. We also understand the financial commitment needed to maintain the highest quality of music education at Hillgrove and will do our best to pay in full on due dates and/or fundraise to support the program and it's parts.

Student Name: (print) _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____