

Mount Pleasant Public Schools
Instrumental Music Boosters
c/o Sallie Scheide
20 Cedar Dr.
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

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**A source of encouragement, enthusiasm, and support
for the instrumental music programs in Mt. Pleasant Public Schools**

October, 2005
The Newsletter
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Instrumental Music Boosters

Dear Families,

At this writing, our MPPS Marching Band has performed their show for two home football audiences and two competitions. If you haven't had a chance to see them in action yet, I encourage you to do so, whether at home or on the road. New roadies and groupies are always welcome. The show, based on the musical HAIR is toe-tapping, sway-with-the-music, sing-along GREAT!

While many students and parents are currently focused on the Marching Band season, many other instrumental music students are focused on developing their talents in other areas. Please see other parts of this newsletter for details regarding concerts and other musical events planned for later this fall. We are very fortunate to have a beautiful performance auditorium for our children's performances at the high school. I encourage your attendance at these events to see and hear our 'artists in residence' perform.

As you read through the rest of this newsletter, please make note of fund-raising activities that are currently planned for the rest of this year. These not only provide funding for items to support our instrumental music programs, but also provide opportunities for our students themselves to work together to make a difference in their instrumental musical programs.

If you haven't checked out our website yet at <http://www.mountpleasantmusic.org/> please take an opportunity to do so. We are attempting to be frugal with printing copies that might not get read or used. Copies of all handout materials/announcements will be posted here for your convenience. If you do not have internet access from your home, your student is able to print these materials in the school computer lab.

Finally, as I will repeat throughout the school year, either in writing, or in person, THANK YOU for your ongoing support. As I wrote to Aimee Wilson's parents recently, "Parents helping when they can, where they can, and how they can is what keeps the program viable." I continue to be very touched by the support we receive from our students' families. Your support is very much appreciated. YOU help make the difference between a good instrumental music program and a GREAT one!

Sincerely,
Jan Ball, IMB President

Peace, Love & Hippie Beads: Marching Band



The Mt. Pleasant High School Marching band is off and running with their 2005 Competitive show, "HAIR - the Tribal Love-Rock Musical". They have already competed at Novi Fanfare and South Lyon Blue and Gold Review band competitions. The band is competing in Flight III this year and has placed third overall at both competitions with scores of 53.70 and 51.0.

This year's crowd pleasing, competitive show features the band members in their hippie "uniforms" playing selections from Hair including Aquarius, Hair, Easy to Be Hard and Let the Sunshine In. It is a true sign of team work as the marching band, pit percussion, drum line, color guard, and yes, a rock band, work together for this performance.

The band has recently learned the conclusion of their show and is now in the process of cleaning and adding effects to the rest of the production. The 2005 Marching Oilers are directed by Mr. Matthew Taton and are led on the field by senior Drum Major Heather DeWitt and junior Drum Major Monisha Nadarajah.

The Mount Pleasant High School Marching Band is a member of the Michigan Competing Bands Association (MCBA). You can catch their next home performance on October 7 at Mount Pleasant's homecoming game.

Concert Bands

The MPHS Symphonic Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble will be presenting their Fall Concert on October 27 at 7:30pm. The bands will be joined on stage by the MPPS Orchestra and MPPS Choirs.

Repertoire for the Symphonic Band will include, "Selections from 'Jekyll and Hyde'", "The Light Eternal" by James Swearingen, and "Brandenburg Jubilee" by James Curnow. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble program will include W. Francis McBeth's "Masque", "Satiric Dances" by Norman Dello Joio, and "Pas Redouble" by Camille Saint-Saens.

Fund Raiser News

A big thank you to Mr. Eric Goecker at Sherwin Williams for his donation of space and water source for our first Marching Band car wash. Marching band students and a few parents worked hard last spring and earned over \$700 in one day.

The Marching Band students are in the midst of competitive pop can drives. September was a sectional battle with 5 groups attempting to bring in the largest number of cans and bottles. Each member on the winning team will earn a gift certificate to Celebration Cinema. This endeavor has raised more than \$1400. October will bring the "Battle of the Sexes" as the girls attempt to uphold their first place status. The winners will be served ice cream by the second place team.

GOT CANS?

Contact any marching band student or board member. They will happily come to your home and recycle them for you!!

IMB Annual Poinsettia, Wreath and Garland Sale

Orders will begin in mid-November with delivery close to December 1. These plants and greens are of excellent quality. Your friends and families will be very happy with their purchases. **This fundraiser is for ALL students enrolled in instrumental music classes.**

The money raised by your child will go towards their program. (West Strings, West Bands, MPHS Orchestra, MPHS Bands). Stay tuned for more details.

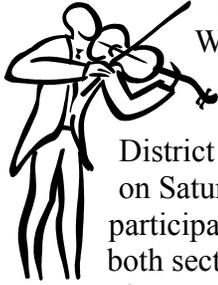
Do You Shop at Meijers, Gordon Food Service or Target?

Looking for another way to help support our instrumental music programs? If you shop at Meijers, Gordon Food Service or Target, each store will donate a percentage of the dollars you spend to our programs. All you need to do is sign up! Watch for more information on how to sign up coming home with your student.

Be Our Guest at Homecoming, Friday October 7

Downtown Parade followed by hot dogs and chili outside the band room. Marching Band competitive show, HAIR, will be performed after the football game.

Strings: Autumn Activities at West



Several important string events helped to launch West's fall strings season as well as first-time playing experiences for our new fifth and sixth grade students. For West Strings, the year begins with District Honors Orchestra at Lansing Waverly High School on Saturday, October 15. Twenty-one of our students will be participating in three different orchestras. Students rehearse in both sectional and orchestral settings in the morning and early afternoon before presenting a public concert. Each ability-grouped orchestra will play three pieces that we are now busily preparing.

This year's strings recruitment began with an open-house for first year students on September 28 in the large rehearsal room at West. This gave the new players the opportunity to obtain their instruments and become familiar with the space in which they will work. Beginning students from McGuire had their first class on Thursday, September 29 and those from Fancher began on Friday, September 30. These sessions meet at the regular class time of 7:30 AM to 8:20 AM. Second year students began their studies the week after Labor Day.

Student Teacher In Our Strings Classes

Mrs. Holly Archeval is a student teacher from Central Michigan University working towards her degree in music education. She is married with three children, two boys and a girl.

Mrs. Archeval has a strong musical background and has won numerous competitions for piano and violin. She attended U of M as a piano performance major for a couple of years and later decided to focus on the violin. She gave a debut performance of her composition back in 2000 and has written music for a children's musical that was performed at a Flint school. She has worked for many years as a church organist and has performed in several productions of the Midland Music Society.

Mrs. Archeval will be graduating in December 2005.

Jazz Band



The 2005 version of the MPHS Jazz Band got off to a great start by performing at the prestigious Detroit International Jazz Festival on Labor Day, Sept. 5th. The band was nominated to perform based on their straight 1st Division ratings at the MSBOA Jazz Regional in Muskegon last spring. The band played a wide variety of pieces before an enthusiastic crowd at Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit. Jazz Band members included: Heather DeWitt, Leah Grawburg, Sarah Alm, Josh Utterback, Kevin Hess, Stephanie Keske, Kristian Taylor, Clark Harless, Alex DeLong, Rebecca Bauer, Rebecca Neeland, Chris DeLong, Justin Gladish, Jared Sessink, James Scheide, Jason Nichol, Garrett Gillingham, Mitchell Holt, Michael Lee, and Monisha Nadarajah. The band is under the direction of Mr. Matthew Taton.

Private Lessons

We are encouraging students to start taking private lessons. Private lessons are for all music students in grades 7-12 who want to better themselves. Private lessons can be arranged by emailing Mr. Taton at mphsbanddirector@yahoo.com. Fees for lessons are arranged through the individual instructors (most from CMU) and are generally between \$8-\$15 per lesson depending on the experience of the teacher. Private lessons are not required to be in the bands at MPPS, but are recommended by all music staff.

Student Teacher In Our Band Classes

The MPPS Bands are happy to welcome student teacher Brian Jauw. Mr. Jauw is a CMU student and will be sharing duties with Mr. Paul Rose at Pullen Elementary and with Mr. Taton at West and MPHS. Mr. Jauw is originally from Bryon Center, MI and has been a member of the CMU Symphonic Wind Ensemble as a clarinetist and bass clarinetist. Mr. Jauw also plays saxophones and guitar.

Update on Former Student Teachers

David Hester, Fall 2004, is currently director of bands at the Canton Charter School in Canton, MI. He teaches middle school bands and general music.

Dan Gonko, Winter 2005, is currently working on his Master's Degree at Western Carolina University where he is pursuing film music and composition.



Dates of Note

(remember, sometimes plans change)



Marching Band

Oct. 1 at Madison Heights: Lamphere HS - 4:15 performance
 Oct. 7 Homecoming Football Parade and Game
 Oct. 14 Home Football Game and Parent's Night
 Oct. 15 at Pontiac Silverdome - Bands of America Regional –
 8:00am performance
 Oct. 22 at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park
 Oct. 29 at Lakeland HS - Huron Valley Invitational
 Nov. 5 at Pontiac Silverdome - MCBA State Finals

Continue to check the MPPS Instrumental Music website at mountpleasantmusic.org for schedules, itineraries, maps, photos, etc.

West Strings

Saturday October 15	MSBOA Honors Orchestra
Friday December 2	Dickens Christmas, downtown Times and places TBD
Saturday December 3	Solo and Ensemble Festival Perry, MI
Thursday December 8	Winter Strings Concert MPHS Auditorium, 7pm
Saturday April 8	Solo and Ensemble Festival Location TBD
Thursday April 20	Stringtacular Concert MPHS Auditorium, 7pm

West Bands

TBD	Concert at MPHS Auditorium
Saturday December 3	Solo and Ensemble Festival Perry, MI
Saturday April 8	Solo and Ensemble Festival Location TBD

MPHS Concert Bands and Orchestra

Thursday October 27 at 7:30pm, MPHS Auditorium

Performance will include:

- MPHS Symphonic Band
- MPHS Symphonic Wind Ensemble
- MPHS Orchestra
- MPHS Choirs

Friday December 2

Dickens Christmas, downtown
Times and places TBD

Watch for December date

Holiday Collage Concert, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday February 18

Solo and Ensemble

Watch for March date

Pre-Festival Concert, 7:00pm

March 17 or 18

District Band & Orchestra Festival

All concerts are at the MPHS Auditorium.

(Concert dress is tuxes for boys. Long, black outfits for girls.)

MPPS Instrumental Music Boosters

A source of encouragement, enthusiasm, and support for the instrumental music programs in Mt. Pleasant Public Schools

2nd Tuesday of each month

7pm in the MPHS band room or choir room

October 11, November 8, December 13

IMB meetings are open to any persons interested in the purpose of this organization. Parents and/or guardians of students enrolled in the MPPS instrumental music programs are considered as active members.

Staying in Touch

A number of parents have provided us with their email addresses. This has allowed us to distribute information, such as marching band performance itineraries, via email to help parents stay in touch with their students' activities and schedule. If you have not done so already, and would like to, please email Linda Lukens (l_lukens@hotmail.com) to be put on our distribution list. Please include your child's name and which ensemble they are a part of.