

FIRST COLONIAL BAND NOTES

MARCH 1ST, 2022

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings FC Band Family,

We are in the middle of our VBODA Concert Band Assessment season, with only 1.5 weeks left until our performance. Progress has been made on all of our pieces & the potential is there for this to be an outstanding performance for our students & program.

To make this happen & reach the potential of the group, I need help from every student, parent, & guardian. We have yet to have a full rehearsal, with our closest having 6 members absent & numerous others with members arriving late, leaving early, or some combination of both. We will not be successful at our assessment unless this is fixed. Students should be practicing their instrument at home regularly (recommended 5 nights per week), with every student having areas of their performance or selections in the music that need improvement.

Our ensemble progress has slowed due to the lack of full rehearsals & inconsistent practice habits. We have 2 combined rehearsals remaining, tonight (5-8pm) & next Tuesday (5-8pm). We need every assessment member present so we can work on the ensemble skills of balance, blend, intonation, & timing in order to progress to earn the Superior rating we are capable of.

Luke Walker
Director of Bands
Tri-M Music Honor Society Advisor
Performing Arts Department Chair
PBIS Team Leader
First Colonial High School
www.fcband.org



FCBB MARCH MEETING

WHEN

THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD, 6PM

WHERE

**1272 MILL DAM ROAD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

MORE INFORMATION

We will hold our monthly meeting on Thursday, March 3rd at 6pm in person in the band room (109) at FCHS. Important information regarding VBODA Concert Band Assessment, Patriot Percussion competitions & travel plans, & the spring musical will be discussed.

If you are a parent/grandparent/guardian/caregiver, **you are encouraged** to be a member of the First Colonial Band Boosters. Meetings are held monthly where we discuss program direction, fundraisers, student events, & much more. All are encouraged to participate & help make our program the best that it can be.

To join FCBB in BAND, click [here](#).

ALL-VIRGINIA BAND

We are very pleased to have had so many students earn eligibility to audition for the All-Virginia Honor Bands. To earn eligibility, students must earn high chair placement in the Senior Regional Orchestra or in the top District Band. This year, the following students earned the ability to audition for the All-Virginia Bands:

- Max B.
- Armin T.
- Nathan R.
- Ben M.
- Jack G.
- Michael V.

- Nash B.
- Foster D.

The students that accepted their auditions submitted virtual auditions on February 25-26. Results will be announced in early March.

PATRIOT PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

We are in the middle of the Patriot Percussion competitive season, earning 2nd place at our first competition at Jefferson Forest HS. We have multiple competitions in the next month leading up to WGI World Championships in April.

- WGI Richmond Regional, 3/5
- AIA Powhatan, 3/19
- AIA North Championships, 4/3
- WGI World Championships, 4/20-23

As we continue to progress & push our limits as performers, we need every member present to be successful. This season, we have only had 1 rehearsal with all members present. This must be fixed moving forward in order to put ourselves in a position to be competitive & successful at WGI World Championships.

SPRING MUSICAL

We will be having an information meeting for all students interested in participating in the 2022 Pit Orchestra for the FCHS production of "Guys and Dolls" on Monday, March 21st directly after school in the band room.

Please note—the music for "Guys and Dolls" is professional level difficulty (the same exact music performed on Broadway) & is harder than any show we have done at FC in the last 4 years. In order to be eligible, a student must commit to being present at every rehearsal & performance & practice outside of rehearsal time to be successful. Positions unable to be filled by FCHS students will be filled by alumni & local professionals. We are looking to fill the following positions for this year's show:

Violin 4
Cello 1
Bass 1
Trumpet 3
Horn 1
Trombone 1
Drumset 1
Timpani/Aux 1
Mallet/Aux 1
Piano 1
Flute/Pic 1

Bassoon 1
Clarinet 2
Bass Clarinet 1
Alto Sax 1
Tenor Sax 1
Bari Sax 1

A rehearsal schedule will be shared at the meeting.



VBODA ASSESSMENT - SYMPHONIC BAND

Most of our Symphonic Band members will be participating in the VBODA Concert Band Assessment in March.

The 3 selections we will be performing:

- El Relicario (Spanish march, Paso Doble) by Jose Padilla.
- Sanctuary by Frank Ticheli
- Gandalf (1st movement from "The Lord of the Rings Symphony") by Johan de Meij

All members will have regular playing assignments each week & should be practicing at home daily.

We have 2 remaining rehearsals for this event:

- Tuesday, March 1st from 5-8pm (Mr. Brewington, VBCPS Fine Arts Coordinator, will be working with us)
- Tuesday, March 8th from 5-8pm

We will perform our program for a rating on Friday, March 11th at Tallwood HS. Students should bring their concert tuxes & dresses to school on Friday, March 11th, as they will be required to stay after school for our warm-up & sight reading review session. Dinner will be provided, then students will change into concert apparel. Busses will transport the students from FCHS to THS for our performance at 7:40pm. Following the stage performance, the band

will sight-read for rating in the THS library. We will depart THS upon the completion of sight reading & should return to FCHS no later than 9:30pm.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN MUSIC EDUCATION

DAVENPORT & COMPANY

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ABOUT US

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