



# Band Notes

## Marching Band 2023: The Light Within

Once again we had a fantastic marching band season as we told the story of how each of us has a light within ourselves, but it's when we come together that we create something totally different and more wonderful. This is such a beautiful life lesson and also a metaphor for marching band. Throughout the season we saw students grow together and become something better. We watched them make new friends, develop their talents, and stretch themselves beyond what they thought was possible. As they worked together they became something majestic. It wasn't possible to watch our field show this year without feeling a surge of emotion as the colors came together and created a white light of beauty and grace. The judges seemed to think we did a fantastic job as well as we placed 3rd in the 6A Open division at the Red Rocks State Marching Band Championships. During that competition, we were competing against many bands that had 50, 75, or even over 100 more students, and yet we didn't just hold our own, we were truly competing with them. We also placed 4th out of 32 bands at the St. George Bands of America Regional Championship. This was quite an accomplishment as well. Overall, it was a fantastic season and an exciting way to start a new school year!

## Shout out to our props committee!

Our props were extremely challenging this year, but added an extra splash of light and color to our show. We owe our props committee chairs (Adam Bosen and Adam Hess) and their helpers endless thanks for the many hours that they donated in order to design, build, and maintain the props. You guys are the best!



## Farmington High School Band Program

### Director of Bands

Brek Mangelson

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### Assistant Director

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### Director of Percussion

Ashton Allen

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### Director of Color Guard

Karene Warby

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## A Warm Welcome

### **Victoria Harker, Assistant Director of Bands**

Originally from Rockwall, Texas, Victoria got her start as a member of the Rockwall High School Orange Wave Band before moving to Utah to attend college. Victoria began her instructional career in 2018 she moved to Farmington High School in Farmington, Utah where she served as a member of the brass and visual staff for the marching band for three seasons and led the visual program for the indoor drumline for two seasons. After completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Utah (Go Utes!), Victoria returned to Farmington High School as the Assistant Band Director where she directs the concert band, runs the visual program for the marching band, and assists in teaching the wind ensemble and percussion ensemble.

### **Ashton Allen, Director of Percussion**

Ashton Allen is a skilled percussionist and composer, holding a bachelor's degree in Percussion Performance from the University of Utah under the tutelage of Dr. Sammons. He performed on the university's drumline for five years and was able to join them at multiple Rose Bowls and other high profile events. As a composer, Ashton has written and arranged percussion pieces for concert, ensemble, and solo performance. Additionally, he self-produced an instrumental album as well as produced for many school and personal projects, showcasing versatility in both live performance and studio work. He currently serves as the Percussion Director at Farmington High School where he strives to teach the joy of accomplishment through the study of music.

## We'd also like to welcome...

**Amanda Landen:** Director of Bands at Centennial Junior High School & Staff member for FHS Marching Band (woodwinds).

**Al Williams:** Al had been with us since the school opened and was able to return to us during this past season. We're excited to have him back!

## Farmington High School Marching Band

### Utah State School Board Meeting Performance

On January 5th, our marching band was given the opportunity to play for the Utah School Boards Association Conference in downtown Salt Lake City.

This allowed our students to don their marching band uniforms for one last performance of the season as they played for school board members from all over the state. Afterwards, the feedback they received was extremely positive. Multiple people took the time to reach out to thank our band for their beautiful and joyful performance. It was an honor for our band to be able to use music to enrich the lives of those who were present for that event.

## Thank You Parent Volunteers!

The marching band could never function without the help of our parents! We have volunteers who serve on structured committees, others who sign up to help as needed, and many who have helped by donating supplies and food for the band. We appreciate every parent and every way in which they support the marching band. These are the best parents around!

## Special Thanks to Our Committee Chairs!

**Band Camp Food:** Jana VanHorn & Samantha Larsen

**Competition Food:** Jana VanHorn & Rose Mitchell

**Special Events:** Natalie Hewitt & Brindi Horsley

**Uniforms:** Crystal Fowler & Michelle Miles

**Band Dads (and Moms!)** Bryan Hayes & Zack Toomb

**Props:** Adam Bosen & Adam Hess

**Photography:** David Hale

(with additions from Yasmin Spicknall)

**Fundraising:** Mindianne Toomb & Natalie Hewitt

## Extra special thanks to Jana VanHorn

Jana's son Asher is a senior and both of them will be moving on from our program this year. Jana has been the chair of our food committee for the past few years and we've been so lucky to have her help! We're always sad to see these parents leave when they've had such a strong impact on our program. We'll miss Jana and wish her the very best as she graduates from being a FHS band mom!

## All State Band & Orchestra

**Congratulations to  
all of our students  
who made it into the  
All-State bands and  
orchestras !**

Samuel Aston

Tyler Christensen

Fischer Hewitt

Ayla Kazmar

Zoe Kenner

Sam Silva

Kay VanDrimmelen

**All-State Band  
Performance**

Jan. 19, 2024

**All-State Orchestra  
Performance**

Jan. 20, 2024

## Fundraising

We can't thank our students and parents enough for all their hard work with fundraising efforts. Our annual online fundraiser was very successful and we also had many students who were able to find sponsors who are now helping support our program. Many thanks!

## Sponsors

Many thanks to all of our sponsors. We would highly encourage all band families to consider giving our sponsors their business and letting your friends and neighbors know that these businesses support our band program at Farmington High School.

