





3737 Brock Road • Duluth, GA 30096

Dear Potential Partner in Music Education,

As the Director of the Duluth High School Bands, I humbly come to you asking for your help in supporting our community's premier high school band program.

The Duluth High School Band label encompasses many ensembles including the DHS Jazz Band, the Wildcat Marching Band, the DHS Basketball Pep Band, the DHS Winterguard, and our three in-class concert ensembles. Recently the band performed the National Anthem at a Gwinnett Braves game and represented Duluth High School at multiple local marching band competitions throughout the North Atlanta area. This past summer the DHS Jazz Band provided entertainment for the National Leadership Forum in Atlanta. Last year, the Wildcat Marching Band performed the National Anthem for the opening ceremony of Duluth's biggest event of the year, the Duluth Fall Festival. The band is also a regular participant in the annual Fall Festival Parade.

To put things in perspective, our public school funding covers just one concert's worth of music a year. Here at Duluth we have a minimum of three concerts a year. In addition to those three concerts, we also have the aforementioned jazz, marching, and basketball bands – all of which rely on alternative funding sources. These ensembles are absolutely critical in giving the students a well-rounded music education as well as a positive and supportive outlet for expression.

I too, was once a band student in the Gwinnett County Public School system and my experiences in band have changed my life such that I have dedicated my professional life to giving students the same opportunity I was able to have. I would like to be able to equip our music students with the tools needed to continue performing, but we cannot do it alone. Please consider becoming a much-needed sponsor of the Duluth High School Bands because we cannot do this without your help!

Musically yours,

Nathan Groves

Director of Bands Duluth High School

Met Oron

Katie Rogers

Assistant Director of Bands Duluth High School





Duluth High School Bands Staff

Nathan Groves, Director of Bands



Mr. Nate Groves joined the Duluth Band in the fall of 2011 as the Assistant Director of Bands and assumed the role of Director of Bands over the summer of 2012. He holds a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Georgia, where he studied horn with Dr. Jean Martin-Williams and Richard Deane. He served as principal horn in the University of Georgia Wind Symphony for two years, as well as serving in the Redcoat Band and the UGA Horn Choir.

Mr. Groves was a member of the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps (2007-2009), in which the hornline was awarded the Jim Ott trophy for brass performance in 2009. He has continued his work in the drum corps community through teaching on brass staff with the world championship drum corps The Phantom Regiment (Rockford, Ill.). Nate also currently serves as visual caption head for the North Georgia College and State University Golden Eagle Band. In addition to drum corps and college ensembles, he has worked with multiple marching bands in the Athens and Atlanta areas in both ensemble music and visual marching technique. He currently has a horn studio in the Johns Creek area where he teaches horn lessons to middle and high school students. His previous students have been members of the U.S. Army All American Marching Band, Georgia All-State Band, and multiple world class drum corps in the Southeast and Midwest. Professional affiliations include MENC (Music Educators National Conference), GMEA (Georgia Music Educators Association), and NBA (National Band Association).

When he's not teaching music in the classroom, on the field or privately, he can be found enjoying the outdoors through hiking, backpacking, and camping.

Katie Rogers, Assistant Director of Bands



Katie Rogers is the Assistant Band Director at Duluth High School. Prior to serving in this role, she taught music in elementary school for two years in Athens, GA. A graduate of the University of Georgia, she received her Bachelor of Music degree in music education and studied saxophone under Dr. Kenneth Fischer. During her tenure at the university she was a member of many ensembles, including the UGA Symphonic Band, Steel Drum Ensemble, and the Redcoat Marching Band where she served as Band Captain. Ms. Rogers' professional affiliations include Kappa Kappa Psi, national honorary band service

fraternity, NAfME (National Association for Music Education) and GMEA (Georgia Music Educator's Association).

Ms. Rogers maintains an active performing life with the Northwinds Symphonic Band, a community band out of Gainesville, GA. She was previously a member of the Classic City Band in Athens and Classic City Swing, a 40's style swing band.

Outside of the classroom, Ms. Rogers enjoys making music with friends (be it in a saxophone quartet or playing ukulele or guitar), drinking coffee, and baking.





The Program

In order to expand the opportunities for students to participate in the Duluth High School Bands and maximize the opportunities for these students to develop and display their musical talent, the band program encompasses multiple ensembles that provide incubators for their growth and development:

Basketball Pep Band

The Basketball Pep Band, founded in the 2011-2012 season, performs at DHS Varsity Basketball home games. It is made of members from all three concert bands

Concert Bands

Duluth High School has the following three concert bands:

Concert Band. The Concert Band is made up of beginning to intermediate level musicians. Students in the Concert Band work on the development of musical skills that prepare them for the Symphonic Band. This ensemble performs regularly throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Symphonic Band. The Symphonic Band is made up of intermediate to advanced level musicians. Students in the Symphonic Band work on the development of musical skills that prepare them for the Symphonic Winds ensemble. This ensemble performs regularly throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Symphonic Winds. The Symphonic Winds class consists of the top level musicians at Duluth High School. Entry is by audition only and all students are encouraged to take private lessons on their instrument outside of class. This ensemble performs regularly throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Jazz Band

The Jazz Band meets after school to rehearse both classic and modern jazz literature. Entry is by audition only.

Wildcat Marching Band

The Duluth Wildcat Marching Band performs at all Duluth Wildcat football games, various parades, and at local competitions throughout the fall.

Winter Guard

The Duluth High School Winter Guard is open to all girls that wish to be a part of a competitive colorguard in the winter months. Entry is open to students from grades 8 to 12 through audition only.





Why Support DHS Bands – The Impact!

Your support means a lot to us and your gift will go a long way to helping us sustain and grow our band programs. The Duluth High School Bands program costs significantly more to operate than the resources that are provided by Gwinnett County Public Schools.

The Impact on Overall Student Success

Extracurricular activities in high schools offer opportunities for students to learn the values of teamwork, individual and group responsibility, competition, diversity, and a sense of culture and community. These activities provide a channel for reinforcing the lessons learned in the classroom by providing students the opportunity to apply academic skills in a real-world context, and are thus considered to be part of a well-rounded education.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, research suggests that student participation in extracurricular activities may increase student's sense of engagement or attachment to their school, and thereby decrease the likelihood of school failure and dropping out. There also indications that student participation seems to promote consistent attendance, academic achievement, and aspirations for continuing education beyond high school.

The Achievements

Full Band Accomplishments

- Marching Band Competitions Best in Class Percussion; Best in Class Band; Superior ratings
- Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE) for Concert Band Superior ratings

Individual Student Accomplishments

- Performing at Georgia State University's Band Day
- Being accepted to attend JanFest (University of Georgia January High School Band Festival)
- Attending District Band
- Attending All-State Band
- John Phillip Sousa Award goes to the most outstanding band member/musician
- Louis Armstrong Award goes to the most outstanding jazz band member
- Georgia State University Student Leadership Institute

They're College Bound!

- Many students have received scholarships from colleges and universities to pursue a degree in music
- Because of greater engagement due to band participation, several of our students receive non-band academic scholarships to pursue their dreams in the field of their choice





Why Support DHS Bands – What Students and Parents Say

I have been in band since the 6th grade and have gained so much from the program. When I first joined the high school marching band in 8th grade, I didn't know what it would be like; all I knew was that I loved to play music and I could play more by being in marching band. When I joined I was put in the pit with a lot of high scholars who were all older and more experienced than I was. Even though I was less skilled than they, I still made friends with the people in my section, all of whom shared a love for music like I do. So when I finally got to high school I already had friends and knew my way around the school pretty well. Then I was put into concert band and got a whole class to develop my skills. Even though I had already learned so much, the program was still teaching me in high school and making me set goals for myself to reach and achieve. I have had to manage my time and make sacrifices in my social life, but I wouldn't change anything. Without the band I wouldn't be the same person that I am today. —Steve S., Band Student

I am a senior in the Duluth High School Band Program, and this program is one that has truly inspired me to excel in everything that I involve myself in. Thanks to this program, I have found a true passion for music that's inspired me to audition for other ensembles around the state, such as The Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps, as well as inspire me to look beyond high school into a college education, so that one day, I may be able to give kids the gift I have been given these past four years. The band has done so much for me, and made me into the great person I am today, and this has been with the very limited funding that it has received in these past four years. I can only imagine what it will be able to do for kids in the future years after I have graduated. This band does so much for the kids. But imagine, how much more could it do for them if it received additional funding? The possibilities are limitless! —Kenneth, Band Student

"Band has had a huge impact on our son. His piano instructor said that he was a gifted player, but he never really showed a love for it. When he was younger, he was really active in various programs, love making speeches and was pretty excited about performing. Somewhere along the way he seemed to lose his enthusiasm for it. But when he joined the Wildcat Marching Band, the sparkles began to fly again. He never wants to miss an activity or event and really hates to be late for anything. He also seems to have found his tribe. He has made a new set of friends and he loves hanging out with them. The band has been a blessing for us!"—Tommy C., Parent

Music is one of the greatest gifts in life that I can share with my children. Having a love for and appreciation of music is a lifelong passion of mine, and I hope for my children to have the same. I believe that the opportunities that the Duluth High School Band program can offer my children are of great value towards keeping them engaged and active with their music education. Unfortunately, the public school system does not place the same value on music education as I do, resulting in an underfunded program. Because of this, I remain committed to helping the Duluth High School band programs succeed in any way that I can. —Annette B., Parent





Why Support DHS Bands – The Expenses

Assistant Band Director

The Assistant Band Director is a key role in the development and maintenance of a quality band program at Duluth High School. Through this added, full-time position, students receive much more individualized instruction on their instrument, which allows for a significantly increased quality of education. However, DHSBBA is the sole source of funds for this position, not the school system. As such, this is our largest expense and the number one use of the contributions we receive to provide our children the best possible music education. It would be impossible to provide this much-needed and necessary assistance to the band without the support of the friends and caretakers of the Duluth community.

Other examples of where your money can go:

- Supplement the cost of purchasing music for band concerts, including the annual holiday music performance
- Provide food and refreshments for band members during performance events
- Supplement band uniform maintenance costs, including resizing, repairs and cleaning
- Supplement the cost of equipment maintenance and repairs, especially music instruments
- Provide additional educational opportunities, including guest instructors and cultural tours
- Etc.

Band activities that your sponsorship dollars will help support:

- Gwinnett County Band Exhibition
- Required, offsite Large Group Performance Evaluations (LGPE)
- Multiple Marching Band Competitions during the Fall Semester
- Duluth Fall Festival Parade
- Halftime performances during multiple "Away" Duluth High School Football games





Why Support DHS Bands -- What's in it for you?

As parents, family members and supporters of DHS Bands, we know the importance of community partnerships. We understand how important it is to support the businesses and individuals who help to make band musical experiences possible for our children.

In addition to the pride we're sure you'll experience as guardians and community leaders who look out for our young people, your partnership with DHS Bands will provide meaningful benefit to you. In addition to the specific benefits related to the sponsorship level you select as outline on the following page, we will also ensure that you receive the following as needed or as appropriate:

Put the community on notice that you are a supporter of DHS Bands

Hand out coupons at the DHS Band Concession Stand during football games

Hand out coupons during other band events and activities

Drive traffic to your retail establishment (stores, restaurants, etc.)

Drive traffic to your website(s)

Encourage band members and their families, friends of the band, and others to generate "Likes" on your Facebook page and follow you on Twitter and other social media platforms where appropriate

Other specific/appropriate supports on a case-by-case basis



THE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



Every single dollar helps and it's all tax deductible! Whether you or your business are Ambassadors of the City of Duluth, general supporters of DHS, supporters of "all things Band" or individual students, or your love affair with music is focused on particular instruments, sections or ensembles, we will ensure that your contribution has the impact that you expect! Below is an itemization of several levels of support and the recognition you'll receive for your kindness and generosity. In addition to the items listed, a Wall Plaque is available for Maestro's Circle and above.

BECOME A DULUTH HIGH SCHOOL BAND SPONSOR TODAY!

RING OF AMBASSADORS \$1.500

Invitation to year end Band Concert and Awards Dinner
Magnetic Logo on back of Band Trailer (approx 24" x 24")

Name announced at all home Varsity Football Games
Logo and Link on the Band Web Site

Name on Sponsorship sign at Band Concession Stand and Band Room
Company Listing on all Band Emails (weekly to Parents and Students)

1/2 page Ad in Band Event Programs

PRINCIPAL'S CIRCLE \$1,000

Magnetic Logo on back of Band Trailer (approx 12" x 12")

Name announced at all home Varsity Football Games
Logo and Link on the Band Web Site
Name on Sponsorship Sign at Band Concession Stand and Band Room
Company Listing on all Band e-mails (weekly to Parents and Students)

1/2 page ad in Band Event Programs

MAESTRO'S CIRCLE \$500

Name announced at all home Varsity Football Games
Logo and Link on the Band Web Site
Name on Sponsorship sign at Band Concession Stand and Band Room
Company Listing on all Band Emails (weekly to Parents and Students)
1/4 page Ad in Band Event Programs

ENSEMBLE'S CIRCLE \$250

Logo and Link on the Band Web Site
Name on Sponsorship sign at Band Concession Stand and Band Room
Company Listing on all Band Emails (weekly to Parents and Students)
Business Card size Ad in Band Event Programs

SECTION LEADER'S CIRCLE \$100

Listing on the Band Web Site

Name on Sponsorship sign at Band Concession Stand and Band Room

Company Listing on all Band Emails (weekly to Parents and Students)

Listing in Band Event Programs

SOLOIST'S CIRCLE \$50

Listing in Band Event Programs

Duluth High School Band Boosters Association, Inc. – A 501-c-3 not-for-profit organization www.duluthhighschoolbands.org





Become a Sponsor Today!

Please join us in the celebration of music by making a Tax Deductible gift to the Duluth High School Wildcat Marching Band.

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PONSORSHIP LEVEL:	AMOUNT:	CHECK #		
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MA Please mail your completed form wi				

Please provide your Business Card or prepared advertisement (suitable for black & white reproduction, 5" x 7" page size) and an electronic version of your logo for inclusion in our Concert Programs and posting on our website to: sponsors@duluthhighschoolbands.org

Thanks for your support of the celebration of Music at Duluth High School !!

SPONSORSHIP REPRESENTATIVE:		
-		

Questions regarding sponsorship can be directed to the sponsorship committee at sponsors@duluthhighschoolbands.org.