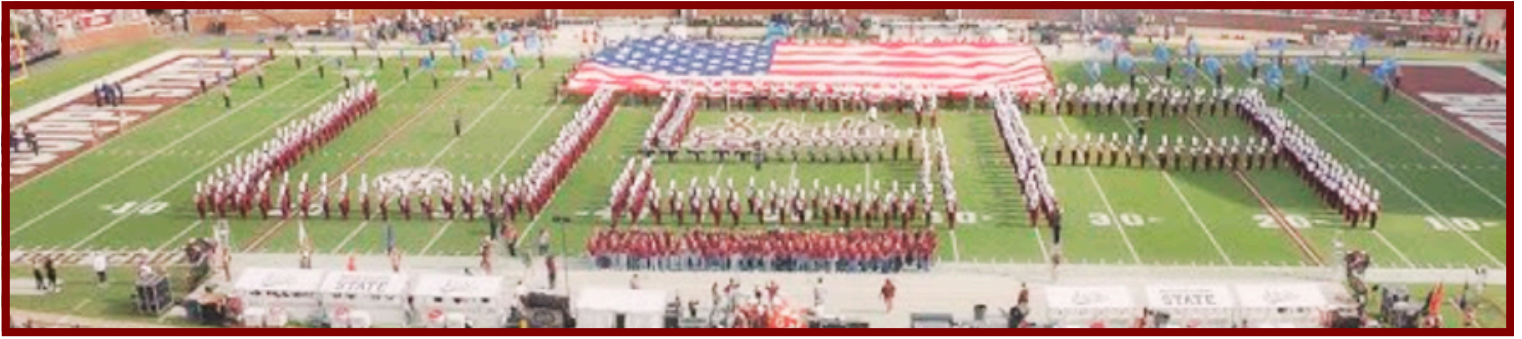


# FMB NEWS



## A Note from the Directors

### Welcome to the July edition of the Famous Maroon Band Newsletter!

This Fall will mark a historic milestone for our program as we celebrate the presentation of the Sudler Trophy in September. We are deeply honored to receive this prestigious recognition and look forward to sharing this special moment with our students, families, alumni, and supporters.

There is tremendous excitement surrounding the start of the 2026-2027 academic year, and this edition contains important information about our upcoming pre-school band camp and football season. We hope you are ready for the energy, enthusiasm, and tradition that have come to define the Famous Maroon Band experience.

The FMB is about much more than marching and performing. It is about building lifelong friendships, fostering a strong sense of community, and working together toward a common goal. Through our shared commitment to musical excellence and supporting the Bulldogs, we create experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

With an enrollment of 430 members, we are excited to begin another outstanding year of performances, traditions, and unforgettable experiences. The future is bright, and we cannot wait to see what the 2026 Famous Maroon Band will accomplish together.

### 2026 Halftime Shows

The recommendations of our music selection committee included lots of great ideas for exciting and fun music that will showcase our talented performers. Our early-season show will include songs from musical movies, including “La La Land,” “Wicked,” and “KPop Demon Hunters.” At our SEC opener on September 26, we’ll celebrate winning the 2026 Sudler Trophy with a trio of celebration-themed songs by Three Dog Night, Rare Earth, and Kool & the Gang. Our late-season show will feature the music of Bruno Mars. Of course, we will perform our annual patriotic and homecoming shows and be joined by 300 high school students for our annual high school marching honor band. Prepare for the excitement of music and drill that is fun and challenging to perform as we work to entertain the crowd and support the Bulldogs.

### Band Camp

Pre-school band camp is the most important week of our season. The work we accomplish during camp establishes the foundation for our success throughout the fall and sets the standard for the excellence we expect from ourselves and one another.

### In this Newsletter:

- A Note from the Directors
- Summer Orders, Check-in, Pre-Camp Surveys
- Band Camp Schedule & Special Events
- Important Marching Band Information
- Mr. Bully's FMB Workout
- Tell Us Your Story!
- Must-Have Item List, Audition Information



(continued on next page)

Band camp will be challenging, rewarding, and fun. To help prepare, we encourage everyone to spend some time outdoors in the days leading up to camp, stay hydrated, and carefully review the camp schedule and materials. Attendance at all camp activities is essential as we begin learning music, drill, traditions, and procedures.

We are especially excited for the friendships, memories, and unforgettable moments that make band camp such a special part of the Famous Maroon Band experience. It is during this week that individual students become a team, and a team becomes a family. We look forward to welcoming everyone and beginning another incredible season together.

### **Class Registration/Membership**

If you are to be included on our band roster this year, you must be registered for marching band (MU 2511 01) by July 1. To assist those who are playing in both the Wind Ensemble and the Marching Band – we have combined the course code so that you only need to schedule for one Fall band class - MU 2511 sec. 01. We were unable to combine the jazz band under this umbrella, so jazz band will still be a separate class. (MU 2911 01)

### **Reminder About Rehearsal Times:**

- The full marching band rehearses from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. The guard/twirlers rehearse at 4:00 each day. The drumline rehearses at 4:30 each day.
- SOME will be involved in the Wind Ensemble A or B at 3:30 on Tuesday/Thursday. If you have questions about whether your scholarship requires you to audition for Wind Ensemble, please check your band award offer letter or contact the band office. Video auditions for wind players should be submitted by 11:59 PM CT on Saturday, August 1. Percussion video auditions should be submitted by 11:59 PM CT on Saturday, August 8.
- Students not involved in the wind ensemble CAN take a class/lab that occurs during this T/Th 3:30 time. Contact Mr. Corhern about an override if needed.
- Please make every effort to avoid class conflicts. If a conflict arises, please contact the band office. In certain cases, we will also allow a class conflict with marching band that meets our criteria:
  - 1) Required for your major
  - 2) Only one section/time offered
  - 3) Does not exceed one hour of missed rehearsal each week.
- Jazz Ensemble (MU 2911) will continue to meet at its usual time (MW 1:00-1:50 pm) and at this time will continue to be a separate course.
- There is not a zero-credit option for ensembles currently.
- Please contact the band office if you have questions or scheduling concerns and we will make every attempt to assist you.

### **Information to Provide Before Reporting to Camp:**

- Please complete the Entrance Survey (<https://tinyurl.com/2026entrancesurvey>)
- Please complete the Medical Information Form (<https://tinyurl.com/2026medicalsurvey>).

There is a lot of important information in the newsletter – please read it carefully! Band camp check-in, dorm check-in, the summer uniform information, and the band camp schedule are a few of the important items that need your attention. Please complete the surveys listed above PRIOR to your arrival. We will begin to communicate with you through your msstate.edu email account, so please check that account frequently for additional information.

The Sudler Trophy recognition is a significant event in the history of the band and will provide us wonderful opportunities to celebrate both the past and the future of the Famous Maroon Band. We are excited about the opportunity to work you in the year ahead. Let the music begin! Hail State!

Elva Kaye Lance  
Director of Bands

Dr. Clifton Taylor  
Associate Director of Bands

Dr. Craig Aarhus  
Associate Director of Bands



## Summer Orders

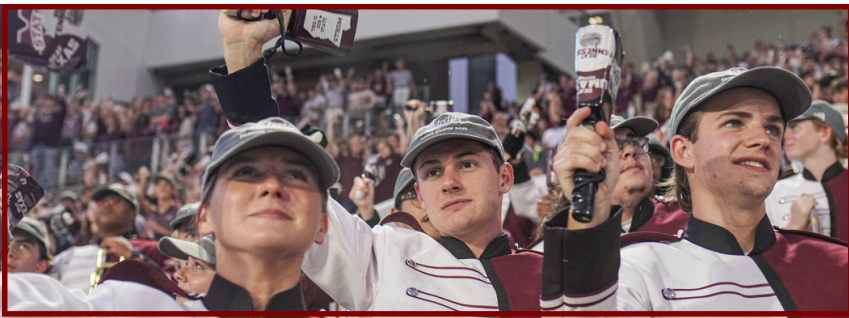
University Screenprint is taking orders for FMB apparel through July 27. Place your order at <https://tinyurl.com/2026fmbstore>.

This is an optional purchase.

Vibes Earplugs (as seen on the show *Shark Tank*) is offering special pricing for the FMB on high-fidelity earplugs. **The deadline to order is July 21.**

For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/msuvibesearplugoffer>.

This is an optional purchase.



## Student Meal Plans

Student meal plans will start on Wednesday, August 12. Please see the full camp schedule on page 5 to see which meals are provided by the band during band camp.

## PRE-CAMP SURVEYS

Please fill out the entrance survey and medical information form BEFORE reporting to camp. The links are below:

<https://tinyurl.com/2026entrancesurvey>

<https://tinyurl.com/2026medicalsurvey>

Information on health insurance can be found at: [health.msstate.edu](http://health.msstate.edu) >Student Health Center >Insurance



## DORM CHECK-IN

**The band will cover the cost of housing for dorm students during pre-school band activities.**

Tuesday, August 4 - Percussionists who are dorm students will check in between 2:00 and 4:30 pm at the MSU Housing Office in Dogwood Hall.

Thursday, August 6 - Student Leadership who are dorm students will check in between 2:00 and 4:30 pm at the MSU Housing Office in Dogwood Hall.

Sunday, August 9 - All new AND returning band members who are dorm students will check in. Around July 20, students will receive an email from MSU Housing about exact locations and scheduling. All dorm move-ins will occur in the morning. Band camp check-in will start in the afternoon.

**THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE CHECK-IN PROCEDURE.**

# 2026 BAND CAMP CHECK-IN

## DRUMLINE

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

2:00 - 4:30 pm

Drumline members who are dorm students will check in at the Housing Office in Dogwood Hall.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

8:30 - 9:00 am

Drumline will check in at the Band Hall.

First rehearsal will begin promptly at 9:00.



## BAND LEADERSHIP

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

2:00 - 4:30 pm

Squad Leaders/ Guard Captains who are dorm students will check in at the Housing Office in Dogwood Hall.

A more detailed schedule will be sent to leadership closer to camp.

## WIND PLAYERS/ AUXILIARIES

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

All band members who are dorm students will move into their dorms in the morning. MSU Housing will contact students around July 20 with specific locations for Resident North/South and to schedule their move-in time.

**Students must respond to their MSU email and schedule their move-in time with Housing.**

All band members (except auxiliary) will check in to band camp by section in the Large Hall (130) of the Kent Sills Band Hall between 12:30 - 5:30 pm.

- 12:30**      **Mellophones**
- 1:00**      **Tenor Saxophones and Baritones**
- 1:15**      **Bass Horns**
- 1:45**      **Piccolos**
- 2:00**      **Guard & Twirlers - Symphonic Hall (Room 110)**
- 2:30**      **Clarinets**
- 3:15**      **Alto Saxophones & Managers**
- 4:00**      **Trumpets**
- 5:00**      **Trombones**
- 5:30**      **Reset Large Hall for rehearsal**
- 6:30**      **Meeting/ Rehearsal for New Members, Leadership, ALL Guard**

See the full band camp schedule on page 5.



## **Save the Date!**

The **Marching Honor Band** will occur on September 5. Tell your high school friends they can register starting July 1 on the band website: [msuband.msstate.edu](https://msuband.msstate.edu).

The **Band Parent Day** will occur on September 26 at the Missouri game. Parents can register starting July 1 on the band website: [msuband.msstate.edu](https://msuband.msstate.edu).

The **FMB Alumni Band** will also perform September 26 at the Missouri game. More information will be available on the MSU Alumni page: [alumni.msstate.edu](https://alumni.msstate.edu)

The **Sudler Award Band Banquet** for current FMB members will be on Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 pm.

The **Egg Bowl** will be at 11:00 am on Friday, November 27, at Ole Miss. The FMB will rehearse prior to the game. This is a required performance for all band members.

## **2026 FMB Band Camp Schedule**

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 9**

12:30 – 5:30 pm	Check-in by section – see page 4 of newsletter for specific times
6:30 – 7:30	Meeting / rehearsal for all NEW members and ALL guard – Large Hall
7:30 – 9:00	Marching Fundamentals for NEW members and ALL guard – Practice Field

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 10**

7:30 am	New member breakfast under the trees (our treat!)
8:30 – 9:00	<b>FULL BAND Meeting</b> – Large Hall
9:00 – 11:00	Marching rehearsal ( <b>FULL BAND</b> ) – Band Practice Field
11:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 2:30	Section Rehearsals – Sites TBA
3:00	<b>Business Meeting (REQUIRED of all band members)</b>
4:00 – 5:00	Playing rehearsals – TBA
5:00	Dinner under the trees (our treat!)
6:30 – 9:00	Marching rehearsal – Practice Field

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 11**

7:30 am	New member breakfast under the trees (our treat!)
8:30 – 11:00	Marching rehearsal – Band Practice Field
11:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 2:30	Section Rehearsals – Sites TBA
3:00 – 5:00	Playing rehearsals – TBA
5:00	Dinner under the trees (our treat!)
6:30 – 9:00	Marching rehearsal – Practice Field

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12**

7:30 am	New member breakfast under the trees (our treat!)
8:30 – 11:00	Marching rehearsal – Band Practice Field
11:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 2:30	Section rehearsals - Sites TBA
3:00 – 5:00	Playing rehearsal – TBA
5:00	Dinner under the trees (our treat!) - Group dinner by Academic Major – meet other members in the band in your major
6:30 – 9:00	Marching rehearsal – Practice Field

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 13**

8:30 – 11:00 am	Marching rehearsal – Band Practice Field
11:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 2:45	Playing rehearsal – TBA
3:00 – 4:45	Marching rehearsal – Band Practice Field
5:00	Dinner at the Scoreboard Club (our treat!)
6:30 – 8:00	Playing rehearsal – Davis Wade Stadium

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 14**

8:30 – 11:00 am	Marching rehearsal – Band Practice Field
11:00	End of camp Barbecue under the trees (our treat!)

# Important Marching Band Information

## Fees

The band fee is \$95. This amount will be assessed to your student account during camp week. Students using school-owned instruments will be charged \$15 for maintenance. Lockers for personal instruments are available for rental for \$10.

## Marching Shoes

The FMB uses black, matte finish marching band shoes. No shiny finish or athletic shoes are allowed. If you already have the correct type, you do not have to order new ones. If you need new shoes, orders can be placed online with Southern Performances. All orders placed this way will be delivered to the band hall, which means you won't have to pay shipping. We strongly recommend that you order your shoes prior to band camp.

**Orders must be placed before Friday, September 4.**

<https://www.southernperformances.com/collections/mississippi-state>

## Additional Uniform Information

**ALL MEMBERS (New and Returning)** will be issued a new summer uniform during band camp. All students must provide their own white (or mostly white) athletic shoes and ankle (short) white socks to wear with our summer performance uniform. ALL students must provide white athletic shoes and white ankle (short) socks to wear with the summer uniform. Students should also have **KHAKI SHORTS** to wear to certain performances/ events. **The shorts should be "Dockers style" (No cargo shorts or "short" shorts) and not olive or sand colored.** Please have these items secured by the beginning of band camp.

## Lyres/ Flip Folders

The FMB is in the digital age with music distribution--no bulky paper flip folders. Instead, you will use your smart phone along with the FlipFolder app to access music digitally, and your phone will be attached to a special clamp provided by the band that will hold your phone securely. If your personally-owned instrument normally uses a lyre, you'll still need one for the season (except piccolos and trombones). Please purchase your lyre prior to reporting to camp. We also recommend purchasing a portable battery charger for your device (typically less than \$20) so that you'll have enough battery life for late afternoon rehearsals and gamedays.

## Parking

Because of Housing move-in during band camp, students should enter campus from Wingo Way and park in the D3 lot behind the Music Building or the Longest Student Health Center. **You MUST have an MSU parking permit and be parked correctly in a spot.** Resident permits are available starting July 22, and commuter permits are available starting July 29. You should not park in staff, ADA, service, or restricted zones. **Parking in the circle driveway or beside/ behind the ball hall is strictly prohibited!**

## Student Responsibility

Students are responsible for checking their personal instruments for any major issues and getting them serviced or corrected before reporting for band camp. While the band staff can perform some emergency repairs as needed, they will not provide major service. Stuck slides/valves, repadding, etc. should be taken care of prior to reporting for camp.

MSU equipment and uniforms not returned (or returned damaged) will be charged to your student account and a hold will be placed on your records until the equipment is returned or payment is received.

## Recommended Equipment

- Good quality clarinet reeds - Mitchell Lurie, Vandoren, etc.
- Good quality saxophone reeds - Vandoren, La Voz, etc.

## Mouthpiece Recommendations

- Clarinet - B45 or equivalent
- Alto Saxophone - C\*
- Tenor Saxophone - Yamaha 5C
- Trumpet - Bach 3C or equivalent
- Horn - Medium cup, MDC
- Trombone/ Baritone - 6.5 AL or equivalent
- Sousaphone - Bach 18 or Conn Helleberg

**ALL STUDENTS WHO USE A SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENT (INCLUDING TENOR SAX, HORN/ MELLOPHONE, BARITONE, AND TUBA) MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN MOUTHPIECE.**

## Percussion

Percussionists should reserve 4:30-6:00 pm each day for band. Section rehearsals will be on Wednesday immediately after band for one hour. Dr. Baker, the percussion instructor, may be contacted at [jbaker@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:jbaker@colled.msstate.edu) with any questions that you may have.

## Guard

All guard members should reserve 4:00-6:00 pm Monday through Friday for band rehearsal. There is no course code for Color Guard, but you are required to be at this rehearsal. All color guard members must register for Marching Band (MU 2511 01). Our captains this year are Emma Hatch, Zayla Matthews, Maddie Medus, Tristan Navarro, Emma Osborne, and Caitlyn Thacker. For questions, please contact Auxiliary Advisor Samantha Gregore by email: ([samantha.m.gregore@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.m.gregore@gmail.com)).

## **SPECIAL DIETARY CONSIDERATIONS**

The band will provide some meals throughout the week of camp and throughout the year. If you have a special dietary situation (i.e. vegetarian, vegan, peanut allergy, lactose intolerance, etc.), contact Mr. Corhern by phone (662-325-2713) or email ([wc74@msstate.edu](mailto:wc74@msstate.edu)) **BEFORE AUGUST 1** so that we can attempt to accommodate your needs!

# MR. BULLY'S FMB WORKOUT

*With band camp only a few weeks away, our friends in the Kinesiology department developed an exercise regimen to help students prepare for the physical expectations and demands of marching band. While this workout is completely optional, we strongly recommend and encourage all students to spend time moving every day and preparing for the heat.*

*The exercises below are a starting point for everyone. As you improve your fitness, you can increase the number of reps you are doing for each exercise or add an additional set.*

## **Monday**

Perform as a circuit by performing one set of each exercise, then the second set of each exercise, and then the third.

Pushups (put hands on an elevated surface if needed): 3 sets of 10 reps

Squats: 3 sets of 8 reps

Shrugs: 3 sets of 20 reps

Calf Raises: 3 sets of 20 reps

Front Plank Hold: 3 sets of 20 seconds

Walk 1 mile at a brisk pace



## **Tuesday**

Jog for 2 minutes, walk for 2 minutes, repeat 5 times

## **Wednesday**

Perform as a circuit by performing one set of each exercise, then the second set, then the third.

Chair Dips: 3 sets of 15 reps

Walking Lunges: 3 sets of 8 reps each leg

Bent Over Reverse Flys: 3 sets of 20 reps

Glute Bridges: 3 sets of 15 reps

Bicycle Crunches: 3 sets of 8 reps each side

Walk 1.5 miles at a brisk pace



## **Thursday**

Jog for 3 minutes, walk for 1.5 minutes, repeat 4 times

## **Friday**

Perform as a circuit by performing one set of each exercise, then the second set, then the third.

Pike Pushups (put hands on an elevated surface if needed): 3 sets of 10 reps

Split Squats: 3 sets of 8 reps each leg

Supermans: 3 sets of 10 reps

Single-Leg Glute Bridges: 3 sets of 8 reps each leg

Side Plank Hold: 3 sets of 15 seconds each side

Jog for 1 mile at a steady pace



# Tell Us Your Story!



*Being a member of the FMB has quickly become one of my favorite things about MSU, and I can't believe I'm already halfway through! From the first day of drumline camp, I knew this would quickly become one of my biggest families on campus, and it turns out I was right. One of the best things about being in the FMB is that there are so many different people and personalities coming together for one common goal. Everyone is there because they want to be there, and that's special to me! To new members, the best advice I can give you is to enjoy every single moment. From the scorching summer rehearsals to the chilly winter ones under the lights, every single moment is worth it. Also don't be afraid to meet new people outside your section, I promise we are ALL family! As always, Hail State!*

Kyle Austin, Cymbals  
Junior, Psychology  
Madison, Mississippi



*Joining the FMB has been one of the most unforgettable and rewarding parts of my college experience. Through this organization, I have met some of my absolute best friends, grown so much as a person and performer, and made countless memories that I will continue to cherish forever. From rehearsals to game days and all the little moments in between, this experience has given me friendships and memories that I wouldn't trade for anything. To incoming students: don't be afraid to put yourself out there! Get involved, take the chance, and fully embrace every moment!*

Emma Hatch, Color Guard  
Senior, Marketing  
Arlington, Tennessee

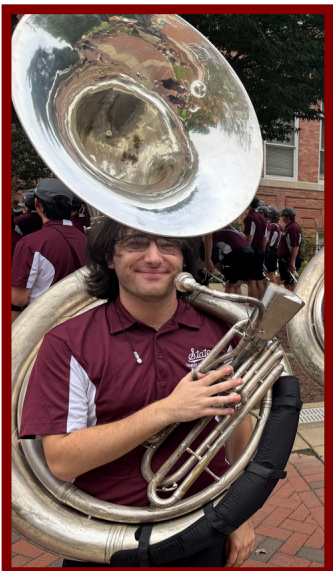


*The FMB has always felt like my home away from home. Since day one, I have had a family that I could always go to whenever school would get tough. Always remember that the staff and your fellow members are always here to help you in any way we can!*

Jaydyn Lightfoot, Baritone  
Junior, Music Education  
Willis, Texas

*Being in the band the last four years has been so rewarding. I've found my closest friends and a place I know that I'm always welcomed and appreciated. Getting to play music at a high level, going on trips with your favorite people, and having familiar faces all around campus are just some of the many great things I cherish about the FMB. Get involved as much as you can, meet new people, and just enjoy your time in the band because it goes by so quickly. Hail State!*

Andrea Mason, Mellophone  
Senior, Industrial & Systems Engineering  
Nesbit, Mississippi



*Being in the FMB has been one of the best parts of my college experience so far. I've met so many amazing people in my time here, some of which have become some of my closest friends. My only recommendation is to enjoy your time while it lasts, as it goes by faster than you'd think. I'm so thankful for the time I've spent with the FMB, and for all the "get-to" moments I've gotten to experience.*

Carson May, Bass Horn  
Senior, Chemistry  
Flowood, Mississippi

*The FMB is truly one of the best groups on campus that you could join. Everyone that I have met has been so welcoming and generous. I always look forward to the beginning of the football season because those games are some of the most fun I have ever experienced. The FMB makes you feel like a part of one big family. Make sure to make the most of your time because the friends and memories you make here will last a lifetime.*

Aidan Blum, Manager/ Bassoon  
Junior, Civil Engineering  
Montgomery, Alabama



# MUST-HAVE ITEM LIST

## ALL MEMBERS

- Large water jug (see picture to right for example - it does not have to be blue - put your name on it!) or camel-pack
- Khaki shorts for certain performances (Dockers-style, not olive or sand colored - no cargo shorts or "short" shorts!)
- White tennis shoes for summer uniform



## WIND PLAYERS

- Mouthpiece
- Portable battery charger/ phone cord
- Cowbell

## PREPARE FOR THE HEAT!

If you start spending more time outside NOW, it will help your body adjust to the heat.

During band camp, remember to:

- DRINK PLENTY OF WATER! Bring your own water bottle with you to camp.
- Apply (and re-apply) sunscreen.
- Wear a hat or visor and sunglasses.
- Don't "lock" your knees to ensure proper circulation.
- Wear light colored, loose fitting clothing (shirts are required for rehearsals).

## Campus Concert Dates

\*\*Subject to change\*\*

Thursday, September 24 - Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium, Lee Hall

Thursday, November 5 - Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Friday, November 20 - Jazz Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Music Lecture-Recital Hall

Thursday - Saturday, January 28 - 30 - MSU Honor Band Clinic

Friday, January 29 - Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Sunday, February 14 - Campus, Concert, Symphonic Bands Concert  
2:00 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Thursday, April 1 - Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Sunday, April 18 - Campus, Concert, Symphonic Bands Concert  
2:00 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Thursday, April 22 - Wind Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Bettersworth Auditorium

Friday, April 23 - Jazz Ensemble Concert  
7:30 pm, Music Lecture-Recital Hall

## WIND ENSEMBLE & JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS

The audition information Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble is now available through the "Members" section of the MSU Band website. Students must use their MSU net ID and password to login and access the information.

There will be no in-person auditions. All wind recordings must be submitted by 11:59 pm Friday, August 1. Percussion auditions are due by 11:59 pm Saturday, August 8.

See information in the Members section or contact the band office if you have questions.

## Famous Maroon Band Staff

**Elva Kaye Lance, Director of Bands**

[eklance@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:eklance@colled.msstate.edu)

**Dr. Clifton Taylor, Associate Director of Bands**

[clifontaylor@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:clifontaylor@colled.msstate.edu)

**Dr. Craig Aarhus, Associate Director of Bands**

[caarhus@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:caarhus@colled.msstate.edu)

**Mr. Hunter Corhern, Program Manager**

[hcorhern@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:hcorhern@colled.msstate.edu)

**Dr. Jason Baker, Percussion Instructor**

[jbaker@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:jbaker@colled.msstate.edu)

**Ms. Samantha Gregore, Auxiliary Advisor**

[samantha.m.gregore@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.m.gregore@gmail.com)

## Famous Maroon Band Office

Phone: 662-325-2713

[msuband.msstate.edu](http://msuband.msstate.edu)

Follow us on social media!



@maroonband



Famous Maroon Band



maroonband



Famous Maroon Band