

THE LANCER BAND PROGRAM

GOALS

The Thousand Oaks High School Lancer Music Department is a collaboration of outstanding students, parents and instructors all striving to achieve program excellence. Lancer Band students join a team, focused on the thrill of performance, self-sacrifice for the good of the group and the fun and success that comes from planning and hard work. We work together in ensembles as we represent the image of our Department, the School and the Community.

STRUCTURE

Our comprehensive department offers:

3 Concert Bands (Full Year)

Wind Ensemble (H)

Wind Symphony

Symphonic Band

3 Jazz Bands

AM Jazz (Full Year)

PM Jazz 1 (2nd Semester)

PM Jazz 2 (2nd Semester)

3 Percussion Ensembles

Percussion Techniques Class (1st/2nd Semester)

Drum Line (2nd Semester – Optional)

Percussion Ensemble (2nd Semester – Optional)

2 Visual Ensembles

Color Guard (1st/2nd Semester)

Winter Guard (2nd Semester – Optional)

Marching Band P.E. Credit

Nationally Ranked Marching Band (1st Semester)

PERFORMANCE GROUPS

Marching Band – P.E. Credit

The Horns, Color Guard (flags, rifles and visual), Pit (stationary percussion) and Battery (marching percussion) work together to produce a dazzling fall field spectacular. Band members begin their preparations for fall at the two-day June Band camp. During the summer, Band students attend sectionals (mini rehearsals with others who play the same instrument) and practice their music. Weekly clinics may be scheduled and all "in town" members should attend. The Color Guard and Drum Line conduct rehearsal and training clinics at additional times throughout the summer. Dates will be posted on the band calendar (tohsband.org). All of the marching band students and staff come together at August Band Camp. The excitement and hard work of band camp culminates with our Annual Family Night where Boosters get their first chance to see the show that will soon become the stuff of memories. The show is rehearsed and perfected in weekday afternoon practices after school until the season ends in late November. Full participation at all rehearsals and at Friday and Saturday performances is required for the success of the program.

Each fall, the Lancer Marching Band membership performs their production at field show competitions at the local, state and national level. Field shows have evolved from the traditional football game halftime performance into a remarkable display of musicianship, marching and artistic movement. We perform our show for appreciative audiences at Friday night football games, and local and regional competitions on select Saturdays.

Wind Ensemble (H)

The Wind Ensemble is premier performance concert band at Thousand Oaks High School. Members of this exclusive group study and perform the most advanced literature available for band.

Designed for advanced students, band members must audition during late Spring and January (percussion) each year for acceptance into this select ensemble. Instrumentation in this ensemble is usually one per part and students are seated by performance ability. The top chair in each section is the principal player and earns the responsibility to organize the needs of their perspective section. The principle player also is the soloist for any given solo that is required for the ensemble as determined by the director.

Wind Ensemble section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process. During their spring season, the Wind Ensemble participates in the district band festival hosted by TOHS and any other festival scheduled by the director. This elite group has consistently earned "Superior" ratings at the festival.

Non Marching Band Members of this ensemble will participate in the stands at home football games.

Wind Symphony

The Wind Symphony is designated for experienced student musicians who wish to extend their training by studying and performing challenging musical repertoire. As their musical abilities mature through study and practice in the Wind Symphony, many of these student musicians will move on to become members of the Wind Ensemble.

Because of the high level of musical skill required, band members must audition during late spring and January (percussion) each year for acceptance into this select ensemble. Instrumentalists in the Wind Symphony are organized by section, with each group having a section leader called the principal player. Section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process.

During their spring season, the Wind Symphony participates in the district band festival hosted by TOHS and any other festival scheduled by the director. This ensemble has consistently earned "Superior" ratings at the festival.

Non Marching Band Members of this ensemble will participate in the stands at home football games.

Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band is designed for novice and intermediate student musicians who wish to extend their training by studying and performing an appropriately challenging musical repertoire. As their musical abilities mature through study and practice in the Symphonic Band, many of these student musicians will move on to become members of the Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble. Band members must audition during late spring and January (percussion) each year for acceptance into this select ensemble. Instrumentalist in the Symphonic Band are organized by section, with each group having a section leader called the principal player. Section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process.

During their spring season, the Symphonic Band participates in the district band festival hosted by TOHS and any other festival scheduled by the director.

Non Marching Band Members of this ensemble will participate in the stands at home football games.

TOHS Jazz

Jazz opens up an entirely new dimension for students in the Thousand Oaks Instrumental Music Department. It gives students an opportunity to experience and experiment with new styles of music. A broad range of jazz styles is explored including examples of: bebop, swing, latin, rock, etc... All members are encouraged to improvise.

Members of the Jazz Ensembles perform with the following instrumentation: Alto, Tenor and Bari Saxes, Trombones, Trumpets, Piano, Guitar, Bass, Trap Set (Drum Set) and Auxiliary Percussion. (Woodwind Doublings may be required).

Thousand Oaks High School currently has Three Jazz Ensembles and a Jazz Combo. Placement into these ensembles is determined by audition (Late Spring for AM Jazz).

The Jazz Ensembles perform for school activities, concerts and in various Jazz Festivals in the spring.

AM Jazz Band

The Am Jazz Ensemble is the top Jazz Band at Thousand Oaks High School. The members of this ensemble are selected through audition held in Late Spring. Most of AM Jazz ensemble members are in other instrumental concert ensemble classes with the exception of Guitar, Bass and Piano. This is yearlong class, which meets at 7:00 AM, Monday through Friday, hence the name AM Jazz.

PM Jazz Bands

The PM Jazz Ensemble is designed for Beginning and Intermediate Jazz Students. Both PM Jazz Ensembles meet during the second semester on Tuesday and Thursday from 3 – 5 PM.

Percussion Techniques (Fall/Spring)

All percussion students enroll in the percussion techniques class where they hone their skill on Mallets, Auxiliary Percussion and a wide variety of drums. In January, percussion addition for spots in one of the three concert bands. Percussion students selected into the concert bands are expected to stay current with percussion techniques needed for participation.

Drum Line & Concert Percussion - **Optional

After the conclusion of the Marching Band season, many percussion (and some non-percussion) members join the Drum Line and Percussion Ensemble. The Drum Line and Percussion Ensemble creates a show that is performed at local, regional in door competitions. Drum Line / Percussion Ensemble program information is provided to members in October. Additional expenses apply.

Color Guard

Students who love to visually perform in the art form of Dance, Flags, Rifles, Sabers and Props can join our Award Winning Color Guard. Both Girls and Boys are well, and no previous experience is needed. A Variety of Positions (novice, intermediate and advance) are available so that all students perform within a range of comfort for their abilities.

After the conclusion of the Marching Band season, Color Guard class continues to develop and refine their skills. Many Color Guard members can join our Optional Winter Guard unit.

Winter Guard - **Optional

After the conclusion of the Marching Band season, Color Guard class continues to develop and refine their skills. Many Color Guard members join our optional Winter Guard unit. The Winter Guard creates a show that is performed at local, regional and National indoor color guard competitions. Winter Guard Information is provided to members in October. Additional expenses apply.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

As you can see, we currently offer 18 semester course offerings. That is the equivalent to more than 2 full time certificated teachers. While state or district funding does not provide us with more than one teacher, we are extremely lucky to raise and collect funds to provide additional staff so that we may offer a full comprehensive band program.

Our extremely capable and gifted professional staff lead many distinctive sections and ensembles in our program. Their ability to teach our students new skills helps them grow musically, artistically, and emotionally. The success of our program is, in part, a result of our professional staff's efforts to bring out the very best in each student. They provide the instructional and coaching support necessary to run this very large organization throughout the entire school year. The TOHS Band Instructional Staff are employees of the CVUSD.

