Welcome to the PRIDE! 6/29/17

You are now a part of one of the largest and most visible organizations on our campus. Steeped in tradition with over 250 members and growing each year, the “Pride of Acadiana” is the musical heart and soul of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, representing the highest quality of marching and musicianship found at the collegiate level. We’re true “Ragin’ Cajuns” here, and we’re so glad you’re a part of our family!

Hopefully you are having a relaxing summer, but in the UL Band Office we’re hard at work preparing for the coming season. This year promises to be one of the best here at UL: we have a new assistant band director/percussion instructor, 5 home games in “The Swamp,” and two large pep band trips: one in September to Kyle Field to watch our Cajuns take on the Aggies of Texas A&M, and a 2nd trip in October to AK St. On top of that, very soon we’ll be able to announce our new Marching Band Director. Exciting, indeed! Keep watching for more details when we send out Part II of the summer letter.

But since we’re a little over a month from band camp and the arrival of another school year, this letter is a great opportunity to much of what you can expect this fall. First, please take the important step of **registering for band camp** by clicking on the link below and filling out our brief registration form. This information will allow us to keep you up to date on everything related to the PRIDE as we get closer to the start of camp. It will also allow us to prepare for your dorm check in, order correct sizes for apparel, and last but not least - confirm that you will be marching!

**[2017-18 Pride of Acadiana Registration](http://music.louisiana.edu/ul-lafayette-bands/marching-band/pride-acadiana-registration-2017)**

Speaking of registration, please be sure to register for marching band when you come to orientation! First and second year members schedule AMUS 152. You can also go ahead and register now for other ensembles (Wind Ens., Jazz Ens., etc.). It’s usually easier to drop or adjust later on, if necessary.

Second, please take a moment to review the following information concerning **UNIV 100.** As you may already know, there is a required event called Cajun Connection which occurs during our band camp (Aug. 17 for this year). As you will be involved in marching band on that day, **all incoming freshman members of the PRIDE are exempt from Cajun Connection**. You will receive more information regarding Cajun Connection at your first UNIV 100 class of the semester, and will be able to make up work on line.

Lastly, here is the tentative schedule of events for the PRIDE for this coming season. IMPORTANT: this schedule is subject to change, though certain aspects (such as home games) are generally set in stone. More specific game times as well as dates and times for pep rallies and other spirit events will be given to you as soon as those dates/times can be made available. Dates for Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble concerts will also be announced, along with more audition info, in Part II of the summer letter.

**Fall 2017 Calendar of Events**

**August**

Sat 12-Sun 20 Preseason Camp and Ensemble Auditions.

 \*\*\*Daily camp schedule & other details to come in Part II\*\*\*

Mon 21 First Day of Classes

 12:15 PM First Marching Band Class

 7:00 PM First Brass/Percussion Sectional

Tues 22 First Guard Sectional (6pm)

Mon 28 First WW Sectional (7pm)

**September**

Sat 2 Home Game #1, Southeastern Louisiana

Sat 16 Large Pep Band to Texas A&M (no halftime show)

Sat 23 Home Game #2, University of Louisiana-Monroe

**October**

Thurs 12 Home Game #3, Texas State

Thurs 19 Large Pep Band to Ark. St.

Tues 24 District Marching Band (Cajun Field) Exhibition

**November**

Sat 4 Louisiana Showcase of Marching Bands (Cajun Field)

Sat 18 Home Game # 4, New Mexico St., UL Homecoming Parade in the a.m.

Sat 25 Home Game #5, Georgia Southern (& Alumni Band)

Remember: Part II of our summer newsletter will soon be on its way to you with more information about band camp, concert dates, housing, and the announcement of our new Marching Band Director! By clicking the link above and **REGISTERING** for the PRIDE for the coming season you are guaranteed not to miss out on this most crucial of summer documents! Also keep watch on the ULBands.com page for audition information and other details.

And, as always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact Dr. Hochkeppel (hochkeppel@louisiana.edu), Dr. Landry (brett.landry@louisiana.edu), Mr. Troy Breaux (tjb6611@louisiana.edu), or Ashley Bastida (bastida@louisiana.edu).

We’ll see all of you very soon. For now, best wishes from the UL Band Office and congrats again on becoming a member of the UL family.

 GEAUX CAJUNS!  *-- WJH -- BBL*