DEAR PRIDE,

We hope you’ve been enjoying your summer! We can’t wait to begin another fantastic year with you, the Pride of Acadiana! From the outset, you need to know that this will be a year unlike any in the history of the Pride of Acadiana (or for any college band in the country for that matter), but it will be one that gives us some unexpected opportunities. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the Sun Belt Conference has restricted bands from marching on the field for pregame or halftime. While this means that we will not be marching on our field this season, we will still perform our pregame and halftime music; it will just take place in the stands. In addition to our in-stands performances, we are looking to feature a video component to our shows. This will potentially include colorguard routines, as well as unique introductions to our halftime show music provided by members of the PoA and special guests. In addition to these changes, we will also not be wearing our regular uniforms this year, a change that will be much more comfortable for everyone in the heat and which will allow everyone to keep everything clean and sanitized much more easily. In talking to directors across the country and in our very own conference over the course of the summer, this is the direction that nearly every program is taking to provide students with an experience that is safe, musically enriching, and enjoyable. Though this news may seem disappointing in some ways, optimistically, we will be able to focus on high-quality music-making, doing some outdoor recording, and we will enjoy fewer demands on our time than in a typical season.

Please read this newsletter thoroughly, taking careful note of move-in and band camp times and schedules. Note that band camp will be shortened for everyone this year, but you still get to move in early—be sure to show up when you are assigned. We expect everyone in the group to be aware of our calendar, so make note now of the dates on the season schedule and add them to your plans. Lastly, if you have not yet registered for band camp please do this today! Your scholarship can only be credited to your university account once that is done, and early receipt of your information will likely avoid any delays and difficulties in receiving your award.

If you know someone who may still be interested in joining or returning to the Pride, have them contact us ASAP—we’d love to have them in our group! The sooner they audition, the better, because in a few weeks we will begin posting our music and part assignments to a shared Google Drive account. You will receive a link to this account in an email, sent to the address you gave us when you registered for camp. Please begin practicing this music and committing it to memory. Our first round of music pass-offs will happen before the first football game, and our band depends on individual preparation.

For our new members: college marching band will be different in many ways than your high school marching band experience. There are no competitions, we perform 5-6 shows a season as opposed to one, and typically our drill (in a “normal” season) would be slightly simpler and certainly more brief. Our members have a very wide variety of majors, and we are the biggest student organization on campus by far. We also get to explore and perform all kinds of music. And while we will not be marching this season, we will likely be playing more in the stands that what you may have done in your high school band.

For returning and new members: while our gameday experience will be different than you remember, much of our weekly schedule will remain the same. Our class meets for rehearsal each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:15-2:15pm. Beginning with our 2nd Monday rehearsal on August 24, we will use our Monday class time as sectional time, eliminating our rotating evening sectionals. ALL rehearsals will be outside only. The focus will always be on keeping everyone safe. We will still have very high standards of musical performance, but our mission is primarily to be a source of spirit for our athletic teams and to entertain our fans and students. While it will still take quality preparation, good communication, and a strong group work ethic to succeed, our experience is designed to be a place where you can leave the stresses of your other classes behind and enjoy making music with your friends. Like anything else meaningful, you will get out of this experience what you put into it, and we expect all of our members to contribute. Hopefully you’ll discover music you might never have if not for being in the PoA! This band is a family, and you are all important to us.

Our motto for this year will be “show up and do the work in front of you.” We can only take things one day at a time, and each item in front of us deserves our maximum effort and attention. Helping to establish and maintain this motto as well as the continued evolution of our shared band culture, our student leadership team will be terrific this year! You will be hearing from your section leader(s) soon, if you have not already. If you have questions, you may contact your section leader via email. We will also be setting up a space on our website soon to keep you updated on any changes that may happen between now and camp. Please like our Facebook page as well, as updates will also be posted there.

We expect a special year! Be proactive. Know your stuff. Consider and help others. NEVER make excuses. We’re so glad you’ll be part of the Pride of Acadiana, and we can’t wait to see you! - Dr. Missal and Dr. Landry
DORM CHECK-IN and PRESEASON (BAND) CAMP

The schedule for dorm move-in will be specific to each student and must be followed to the letter. Brass and Percussion students with dorm assignments will move in on Monday, August 10th, and Woodwinds and Colorguard will move in on Tuesday, August 11th. Guidelines for move-in from university housing are as follows:

1. Every resident will receive an email from housing with a specific time to check in to your dorm.
2. Each resident will be allowed one non-resident to help move their belongings into the building.
3. The resident and the helper will be screened by Health Services. If the resident or the helper does not pass the screening the resident will not be allowed to move in.
4. Housing will provide large bins/dollies to aid in move-in, however no volunteers will be present to assist. Students may bring their own moving equipment if they wish.

Band camp itself will be ONE day: Friday, August 14th. A detailed schedule of the day can be found on pg. 4. All students are required to be present, as you will receive your PoA t-shirt, polo shirt (new members), and ball cap, as well as instrument and locker assignments (if necessary). Leadership team members will meet on Thursday, August 13th for one day of Leadership Camp. Your Preseason Camp Registration form responses help us prepare for your dorm check in, order correct sizes for apparel, and confirms that you will be marching. If you have any questions about your completed registration, please contact Mrs. Bastida at ashley.bastida@louisiana.edu.

***IMPORTANT***
Please be sure to read over the complete preseason camp schedule (pg. 4) and fall performance schedule (pg. 5).

Course Conflicts

Occasionally some students have a class conflict with a required class that meets at the same time as band. We may approve missing some band rehearsal (per week) if the class meets these requirements:

- Is required of your major
- The class is only offered in one section
- Progress toward your degree will be delayed unless resolved
- Not applicable to multiple section courses (English/Math)

If you are unsure whether your class qualifies, please contact us. We can help you arrange your schedule to accommodate all classes and even help you with closed sections. If you do have an approved conflict, register for the class that conflicts with band first. We will take care of enrolling you in the band at band camp.

Class Registration & Rehearsal Info

Marching Band
AMUS 152 OR 352*
MWF 12:15pm-2:15pm

*Which number is for me?
If this year is your first or second year marching, enroll in 152. Students who have been in band 2 years or more should enroll in 352.

***IMPORTANT***
Freshmen - Be sure to register for marching band (AMUS 152) during orientation.
Checklist for Uniforms

✓ You will be issued a PoA polo shirt, a member t-shirt, a PoA mask, and a PoA ball cap. **This will be our uniform for all performances this season.**

✓ All members (including colorguard) MUST have khaki shorts and blue jeans to wear with the PoA polo shirt, along with athletic shoes.

✓ Returning members should have their polo and ball cap from last year. A new polo and/or ball cap can be purchased at the start of the school year, if necessary.

Band Camp Checklist

✓ Your own refillable water jug – **this is a must, as no sharing will be allowed!**
✓ Sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat
✓ Footwear (sandals are ok)
✓ Flip Folder/Phone – all members MUST have their own access to music. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, no sharing will be allowed. Flip folders will be available for purchase ($5) at camp.
✓ Instrument and all necessary accessories.
  ***Important – if you are using your personal instrument, please make sure it is in working condition before camp. Students using a school-owned instrument can pick it up at camp; we provide the instrument, you provide your own mouthpiece and accessories.***
✓ Meals – this year, no meals will be provided for camp. You are responsible for your lunch and dinner for the day.
✓ Parking – all parking rules will be enforced weekdays from 7:00am – 4:00pm. On campus residents will be assigned parking for their dorm. Off campus students will be allowed to park at E.K. Long for the day of camp (Aug. 14th).

Important Links

✓ UL Lafayette COVID-19 Updates (louisiana.edu/covid19)
✓ Campus Dining (campusfoodservices.louisiana.edu) ***follow links at the top of the page for info on meal plans and cafeteria hours
✓ Parking Services (park.louisiana.edu) ***for permits, citations, and parking maps

...and don’t forget – stop by ulbands.com for updates and information regarding the PoA...
Preseason Camp Schedule 2020

***All times and locations are subject to change – visit ulbands.com for updates and information***

**Monday, August 10**  Brass/Percussion Dorm Move-In (times TBA via email)

**Tuesday, August 11**  WW/Colorguard Dorm Move-In (times TBA via email)

**Thursday, August 13**  Leadership Camp (times TBA via email)

**Friday, August 14**  Full Band Camp

- 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  Registration/Check-In (Band Room, Angelle Hall)
- 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM  Piccolos
- 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM  Clarinets
- 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  Saxophones
- 11:15 AM – 11:45 AM  Trumpets
- 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM  Drumline/Colorguard
- 1:15 PM – 1:45 PM  Tubas
- 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM  Mellophones
- 2:45 PM – 3:15 PM  Trombones
- 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM  Baritones

- 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM  Music Rehearsal (Cajun Field)

**Monday, August 17**  CLASSES BEGIN!

- 12:15-2:15 PM  First Class Meeting (Full Band, Band Practice Field)

**Saturday, September 5**  FIRST HOME GAME

- McNeese St. vs Louisiana (Cajun Field – time TBA)
Fall Performance Schedule 2020 (subject to change)

***All events on this page are required of all members unless otherwise indicated***

August

Fri 14       Full Band Preseason Camp
Mon 17       First Day of Classes
             12:15 PM       First Marching Band Class
Mon 24       First Sectional Monday (12:15 PM, Brass/Perc/CG)

September

Sat 5        Home Game #1, UL vs. McNeese (time TBA)
Sat 12       Home Game #2, UL vs. Wyoming (time TBA)
Sat 26       Home Game #3, UL vs. Georgia Southern (time TBA)

October

Sat 17       Home Game #4, UL vs. Coastal Carolina (Homecoming, time TBA)

November

Thurs 5      Home Game #5, UL vs. Arkansas St. (time TBA)
Sat 14       Home Game #6, UL vs. South Alabama (time TBA)
Ensemble Auditions

Wind Ensemble & Jazz Ensemble are still planning to meet and hoping to perform in the fall. Like everything else, there are tons of unanswered questions and the best we can do is be flexible and plan for multiple options.

Wind Ensemble (AMUS 155/355, 1 credit) will be unique, but options include flexible instrumentation, instrument choirs, and chamber groups (anywhere up to 24 players). Rehearsals might be outside, divided into separate rooms, or even separated by section at different times. Jazz Ensemble (AMUS 170/370, 1 credit) may be able to rehearse as usual under current guidelines (as ANG 168 can accommodate up to 32 players, and ANG 158 at least 20). Ensemble size can also be adjusted, including “little big band” charts and section features. Everything is on the table, and much will evolve as we go. All musicians regardless of major are encouraged to audition, and specifics will follow as we receive further guidance.

Both ensembles will still meet at their usual times (W.E. – T TH 12:30-1:45pm and W 7-8:30pm, J.E. – T TH 3:30-5:00pm). Auditions for both groups will begin on August 12th (by appointment), and continue through the first three days of classes (August 17th-19th). Information for auditions can be found at ulbands.com. EVERYONE, regardless of major, is invited to audition, but all those earning awards equal to or above basic (basic = $600 or Housing, and does not include 2nd or 3rd year increases) are expected to audition so you can be placed into the proper band as awards specify. Music majors: please be aware that your fall band placement audition is REQUIRED. Also remember that ensemble participation is limited by GPA, progress toward degree, and credit hours. In certain cases, former members will have auditions waived to streamline the process. Details on auditions, as well as performance dates/opportunities, weekly sessions, and more will be made available as soon as possible.

The University Orchestra also holds auditions the first week of class. Mr. Blaney should be contacted for further information. All contact information is listed on the right side of this page. Music majors please be aware that the number of ensembles in which you can participate is limited by your GPA and hours enrolled.

Final Thoughts

UL Tuition Bills: You may already be able to see your fall tuition bill, found on ULink. The process for crediting your scholarship to your account will begin after you fill out the online registration. Remember, for housing or meal plan awards, you will need to “accept” your award through ULink before it will post to your account. Housing waivers usually are posted closer to the first day of class. When your scholarship is posted, your university bill will reflect more accurately what you owe or the refund you will receive. We wish to help you as much as possible – please do your part and register now.

What do I need to do now?? Register for camp NOW if you have not yet done so. Don’t forget to register for the marching band course as well — AMUS 152 or AMUS 352. Check the website (ulbands.com) and your email often. As music and exercises become available, they will be posted to the Drive. And lastly, don’t forget to practice and be ready for camp.

If you have any questions, please contact us – we’ll be happy to help!

ACCOUNT NOT CREDITED YET?

Have you done the following...

- Registered for Band Camp (ulbands.com)
- Registered for Marching Band (AMUS 152 or 352)
- Registered for AT LEAST 12 credit hours (the minimum for full time student status)

If you’ve answered YES to all three questions, you’re ok – your account will be credited soon!

Contact Information

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