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# OCHS Percussion Handbook



**Note: this handbook is meant as a supplement to the Oregon City Band Program Handbook. Please read it first.**

## **About us**

OCHS Percussion is, at its core, an educational institution with strong ties to the corps-style marching band tradition. The marching ensemble provides the rudimental backbone and movement fundamentals for each member to develop the other musically percussive skills and techniques found throughout the world. Examples of this include: parade marching, field show performances, winter percussion, and the list goes on and on...however, that is not all. The European concert percussion tradition is also represented with small ensemble pieces performed throughout the year. Examples include: orchestral percussion, "found percussion", taiko, Afro-Cuban and Brazilian ensembles, African djembe, and even Balkan and Middle Eastern percussion ensembles.

## **OCHS Percussion Mission Statement**

With an open heart, focused mind, and a positive attitude, we strive for excellence in all percussion activities individually through daily practice and in ensembles through weekly rehearsals.

## **Leadership**

Under band director Dana Henson's overall leadership, OCHS Percussion is taught by Charles Pike, a Portland-area instructor and performer since 2005. He holds a B.M. in Composition from the University of Montevallo and is soon to be attending Concordia University for a Master's Degree in Teaching.

Student leadership changes throughout the year depending on the needs of each ensemble. Please see the information listed under each ensemble below for more information.

## **Auditions**

Auditions for each ensemble are listed below under the Ensemble Section.

# Parade Corps



Parade Corps: 2016 Beach Retreat

- Read your Oregon City Band Program Handbook first...
- Parade Corps Mission Statement
  - “Striving for Excellence through Dedication.”
- Goals
  - Primary Goal
    - Learn and perform cadences and full band music at the highest possible level.
  - Secondary Goal
    - Support the movement of the marching band in parade formation.
- Auditions
  - Auditions may or may not be required for this ensemble during the Fall semester unless a challenge is requested within 2 weeks of the beginning of school and at the director’s discretion.
  - Typical auditions will be held at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semester determining placement of students within the sections of the ensemble.
- Performances
  - Homecoming Parade: October 7th, 2016
  - Waikiki Holiday Parade: November 23rd - 29th, 2016
  - etc...
- Leadership
  - Director: Dana Henson
  - Instructor: Charles Pike
  - Student Leadership:
    - Fall 2016 Drum Captain: Brendan Warford
- Individual Responsibilities
  - Captain’s Responsibilities
  - Marching Battery
  - Music
  - Maintenance

# FIELD SHOW CORPS



Drumline on the field: Homecoming 2016

- Read your Oregon City Band Program Handbook first...
- Field Corps Mission Statement
  - “Striving for Excellence through Dedication”
- Goals
  - Primary Goal
    - Learn and perform field show music at the highest possible level.
  - Secondary Goal
    - Become the best field show marchers in the ensemble.
- Auditions
  - Option 1:
    - Held at the end of Spring semester in preparation for drum camp in June
    - Audition materials will be provided 2 weeks in advance
  - Option 2:
    - Held on the first day of drum camp in August.
    - Audition materials will be provided 2 weeks in advance through the website or via mail by request.
- Performances
  - Linfield Exhibition: October 1st, 2016
  - Homecoming Halftime Show: October 7th, 2016
- Leadership
  - Director: Dana Henson
  - Instructor: Charles Pike
  - Student Leadership:
    - Battery Captain: Brendan Warford
    - Front Ensemble Captain: Eli Lary
- Individual Responsibilities
  - Captains’ Responsibilities
  - Music
  - Marching Battery
  - Front Ensemble
  - Maintenance

# Winter Ensemble



2015-2016 Winter Ensemble at Wizard World Comic Convention, Portland, OR

- Read your Oregon City Band Program Handbook first...
- Winter Ensemble Mission Statement
  - “Strive for Excellence through Dedication”
- Goals
  - Study and learn an indoor percussion show.
  - Discover new types of percussion instruments and new techniques for playing known instruments.
  - Continue to advance musically throughout the Winter and into Spring.
- Auditions
  - Option 1
    - Auditions are held the first week of November
    - Materials will be sent out 2 weeks in advance
  - Option 2: used in the case of a non-corps style marching ensemble
    - Auditions are to be held after the first 2 weeks of ensemble rehearsals.
    - Attendance and skill are two very important aspects to Winter Ensemble placement as it does require extra-curricular time and dedication to participate.
- Performances
  - Basketball game performances in March
  - Unified Sports performances 2017-18
  - Off-campus Performances
    - Possible performances at venues to raise money. A restaurant, for example, could offer 20% of the evening’s sales going to band.
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- Leadership
  - Band Director: Dana Henson
  - Percussion Instructor: Charles Pike
  - Student Leaders:
    - Group 1
    - Group 2
    - Group 3
- Individual Responsibilities

- Fees. Winter Ensemble requires a separate fee from Marching Band and the Spring concert bands depending on the concept.
  - \$100 2016-2017
  - \$150 2017-2018
  - \$200 2018-2019
  - Just as in Marching Band or Spring Concert Band, students have the ability to do individual and group fundraisers to offset this cost. See the Band Handbook for more information.
- Responsibilities may shift but any may apply.

# Concert Ensemble(s)



Percussion Instruments awaiting their fate in concert.

- Concert Ensemble Mission Statement
  - “Strive for Excellence through Dedication” to the Art and Discipline of Percussion Performance.
- Classes
  - “Junior Varsity” Percussion Ensemble
    - Consisting of members of the Symphonic and Concert Bands
    - Pieces are typically light and fun in nature.
  - “Varsity” Percussion Ensemble
    - Consisting of only members of the Wind Ensemble
    - Pieces are more classical in nature allowing each student to experience the height of European Classical Percussion music.
- Performances
  - November Band Concert
  - Others?
    - In the Commons for lunch?
    - Basketball/Volleyball games?
    - Other schools
      - Gardiner
      - Ogden
      - primary schools
      - Other school districts?

## Responsibilities

- Captain
- Music
- Marching Battery
- Front Ensemble
- Band Room
- Maintenance

# Responsibilities

## Captains' Responsibilities

### Battery Captain

1. The Battery Captain is the Ranking Student in the battery ensemble.
2. Leads rehearsals in the absence of Instructor.
3. Listen to and respond to problems that arise within the ensemble and bring this information to the attention of the Instructor or the Director if needed.
4. Check equipment after rehearsals/performances:
  - a. Wipe down all wet equipment
  - b. Check for maintenance issues.
5. "First in. Last out."
  - a. Your primary responsibility is the ability of the ensemble to thrive.
  - b. Be the first "buy in" to what the ensemble is being asked to do. Others will follow your example.
  - c. Stop aberrant behavior immediately
    - i. Especially during the first 15 minutes of the very first rehearsal
    - ii. No talking
    - iii. No gum
    - iv. No Phones
  - d. Prevent damage to equipment
    - i. No horseplay.
    - ii. Keep Percussion Section walkway clear of any debris.
    - iii. Keep up on maintaining stands and carriers.
    - iv. Use of the appropriate sticks only on each instrument.
  - e. Ensure each person in the ensemble is fulfilling their responsibilities.
    - i. Music
    - ii. Instrument Care
    - iii. Maintenance
  - f. Each member will be responsible for checking out after performances and rehearsals.

### Front Ensemble Captain

1. The Front Ensemble Captain is The Ranking Student in the front ensemble.
2. Leads rehearsals in the absence of Instructor
3. Listen to and respond to problems that arise within the ensemble and bring this information to the attention of the Instructor or the Director if needed.
4. Check equipment after rehearsals/performances:
  - a. Wipe down all wet equipment
  - b. Check for maintenance issues.
5. "First in. Last out."
  - a. Your primary responsibility is the ability of the ensemble to thrive.
  - b. Be the first "buy in" to what the ensemble is being asked to do. Others will follow your example.

- c. Put a stop to aberrant behavior immediately, especially during the first 15 minutes of the very first rehearsal.
  - i. No talking
  - ii. No gum
  - iii. No Phones
- d. Prevent damage to equipment with a vigilant eye.
  - i. No horseplay.
  - ii. Keep Percussion Section walkway clear of any debris.
  - iii. Keep up on maintaining stands and carriers.
  - iv. Use of the appropriate sticks only on each instrument.
- e. Ensure each person in the ensemble is fulfilling their responsibilities.
  - i. Music
  - ii. Instrument Care
  - iii. Maintenance
- f. Each member will be responsible for checking out after performances and rehearsals.

### **Music**

1. All music (i.e., exercises, show music, stand music, winter ensemble music, drill, etc...) is to be kept in a 3-ring binder inside sheet protectors.
2. A pencil is to be on hand at every rehearsal.
3. Final copies of music and drill will be handed to each student one.
4. For every instance music is copied, a \$.50 donation will be made to the OC Band Boosters.
  - a. Example: 30 pages = \$15.00
  - b. Let it be known: this is meant as a lesson in discipline and a deterrent not a fundraiser.

### **Marching Battery**

1. All battery members will be assigned an instrument, a carrier, and a locker with their placement within the corps.
  - a. Instrument, carrier, and locker are under the student's personal care.
  - b. Each locker will have a working combination lock with the combination on file with the Band Director.
  - c. Instruments will be signed out to personnel for the duration of their use.
  - d. Each member will personally load their assigned instrument and carrier for transport when necessary.
    - i. Drums in cases and on the truck.
    - ii. Carriers and sticks on your person.
  - e. Instruments will be signed in to the school after a complete inspection at the end of the season.
  - f. Any changes in condition will be noted and logged for maintenance.
2. During rehearsals at OCHS all battery personnel will assist the Front Ensemble in moving out to the field.
  - a. Take your equipment out first.
  - b. Return to the band room to assist the front ensemble.



## **Front Ensemble**

1. All front ensemble members will be assigned an instrument, a carrier, and a locker with their placement within the corps.
  - a. Instrument, carrier, and locker are under the student's personal care.
  - b. Each locker will have a working combination lock with the combination on file with the Band Director.
  - c. Instruments will be signed out to personnel for the duration of their use.
  - d. Each member will personally load their assigned instrument and carrier for transport when necessary.
    - i. Drums in cases and on the truck.
    - ii. Carriers and sticks on your person.
  - e. Instruments will be signed in to the school after a complete inspection at the end of the season.
  - f. Any changes in condition will be noted and logged for maintenance.
2. During rehearsals at OCHS all battery personnel will assist the Front Ensemble in moving out to the field.
  - a. Take your equipment out first.
  - b. Return to the band room to assist the front ensemble.

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## **Band Room**

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## **Maintenance**

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