



The Bands Of
ALPHARETTA

2024-2025

Welcome Class of 2028!

CONCERT BAND · SYMPHONIC BAND · WIND ENSEMBLE
MARCHING BAND · COLOR GUARD · SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ·
WINTER GUARD · INDOOR PERCUSSION

Visit <https://www.alpharettaband.org/> for additional details.

ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL BAND FAQ

Welcome to the Alpharetta High School Band program! As you prepare for the transition from middle school to high school, we would like to take this opportunity to pass along some information regarding our band program that may be helpful during the upcoming registration process. As always, if you have any questions regarding your child's future in the Raider Band, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

WHAT CLASSES ARE OFFERED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?

- Symphonic Band II
- Symphonic Band I
- Wind Ensemble
- Advanced Percussion
- Intermediate Percussion
- Music Theory (11th and 12th graders)

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BAND CLASSES?

Brass and Woodwind students who join the Alpharetta High School (AHS) Band program will be placed into one of three concert band classes that meet daily as part of the eight-period academic schedule. ***Unlike middle school band, each of the three band classes is skill-based, and therefore, has a mix of 9th-12th grade students.***

All rising 9th grade percussion students will be placed in the intermediate percussion class.

It is important that we place the students in a band that best suits their current musical skill level. This will ensure that we help them progress appropriately as they continue through high school band.



Above: The AHS Wind Ensemble performs at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

ABOUT THE BANDS OF ALPHARETTA

The Bands of Alpharetta is the most comprehensive organization on campus, offering award-winning concert bands, and a nationally competitive marching band, winter guard, and indoor drumline. It is our goal to teach life through music, and thus create musicians for life. Today, AHS Band continues to foster the pursuit of excellence by providing students with the highest quality experiences that prepare them for life beyond Alpharetta.

The Bands of Alpharetta graduates have attended:

- *Georgia Tech University*
- *University of Chicago*
- *University of Tennessee*
- *Harvard University*
- *University of Florida*
- *Savannah College of Art & Design*
- *University of Alabama*
- *University of Miami*
- *University of Georgia*
- *New York University*
- *Michigan Institute of Technology*
- *Georgia State University*
- *Kennesaw State University*
- *Auburn University*
- *University of South Carolina*
- *Among many other prestigious post-secondary institutions!*
- *Florida State University*

Our ensembles are consistently rated superior at festivals and are highly competitive on a national level.

Program Achievements at a glance			
Concert Bands	Marching Band	Winter Guard	Indoor Percussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006 National Concert Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in New York City • 2008 Heritage Band Festival in San Francisco, CA. • 2010 National Concert Band Festival at Carnegie Hall in NYC. • December 2012 66th annual Midwest Clinic in Chicago. • February 2015 Southeast Regional Concert Band Festival • January 2018 University of Georgia January Band Festival (JanFest) • March 2022 Southeast Regional Concert Band Festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2013 Magnificent Mile Festival of Lights Parade in downtown Chicago. • October 2021 Bands of America Orlando, Florida Regional CLASS CHAMPIONS & Finalist • October 2022 Bands of America Johnson, Tennessee Regional Finalist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2018 WGI World Championships Semi-Finalist • 2019 SAPA Class Champions • 2019 WGI Knoxville Regional Champions • 2019 WGI World Championships Finalist • 2020 WGI Knoxville Regional Champions • 2022 WGI Nashville Regional Finalist • 2022 WGI Atlanta Regional Finalist • 2022 WGI World Championships Semi-Finalist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 WGI Atlanta Regional Class A Champion • 2022 Class A GIPA State Champion

DURING REGISTRATION, WHAT CLASS SHOULD MY CHILD SELECT?

During course registration and course selection for next year, you must choose a band class or percussion class as one of your electives if you would like to continue with band in high school. If your child plays a brass or woodwind instrument, you should select a band class.

If your child plays percussion, then please select the intermediate percussion class.

EVERYONE has the ability to stay in band class in high school. We believe strongly that students have spent three years honing their craft on their instrument and should continue band into high school to reap the fruits of their hard work. Because of the fantastic instruction they have received at WBMS or HMS, the AHS Band program gets to work on high level literature, bring in amazing guest artists, and provide fun and immersive experiences (including travel opportunities!). High School band gives students a foothold into the massive life transition we call freshman year of high school.

After many years of working with parents and students to find ways to keep band on students' schedules, we have a WEALTH of knowledge at your disposal to help your student stay in band while also being competitive academically and getting into the many other wonderful programs at AHS. Many times, these are scenarios the band directors have worked on before, but which might not be on the radar of our amazing AHS counseling department.

IF THERE IS A SCHEDULING CONFLICT, PLEASE CONTACT MR. MANSON OR MR. KAUFMAN TO SEE IF A RESOLUTION EXISTS! We have many tools and options at our disposal to help you make it all work.

WE HAVE PUT TOGETHER "4-YEAR TRACKS" OF MANY OF OUR MOST INVOLVED AND MOST ACADEMICALLY COMPETITIVE FORMER STUDENTS. THESE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF HOW THEY MADE BAND WORK IN THEIR SCHEDULE!

Instrument	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
French Horn	9th Honors Lit	Chemistry Honors	Anatomy and Physiology Honors	Advanced Composition Honors
Salutatorian for class of 2020	Symphonic Band 1	Symphonic Band 1	IB Music (Band)	AP Biology
	Latin 2 Honors	AP World History	AP Latin	AP Statistics
	AP Government	10th Honors Literature	BC Calculus AP	IB Music (Band)
	Biology Honors	Latin 3 Honors	AP Chemistry	AP Physics 1
	Accelerated Algebra II/Geometry B	Accelerated Precalculus Honors	AP Language/American Literature	AP Microeconomics/Macroeconomics
Instrument	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
Trombone (marching band)	Biology Honors	Spanish 3 Honors	AP Computer Science Principles	AP Biology
Valadictorian class of 2020	Accelerated Algebra II/Geometry B	Symphonic Band 1	AP Chemistry	Advanced Composition Honors
	Symphonic Band 2	AP World History	AP Language and Composition	AP Psychology
	AP Government	10th Honors Literature	IB Music SL (Band)	IB Music SL (Band)
	9th Honors Lit	Chemistry Honors	AP Calculus BC	AP Statistics
	Spanish 2 Honors	Precalculus Honors	AP Physics 1	AP Microeconomics/Macroeconomics
Instrument	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
Flute/Percussion	9th Literature	10th Literature Honors	AP Language	Adv. Comp. Honors
	Biology	Chemistry	Environmental Science	Physics
	Band	Band	Band	Band
	French 1	French 2	Intro to Culinary	Work Based Learning
	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre Calculus
	Health/Government	World History	U.S. History	AP Psychology
			FVS Economics (summer)	
Instrument	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
Trumpet	FVS Health (summer)	Chemistry Honors	Band	Band
	Spanish 2H	Band	Honors Pre Calculus	AP Comp. Sci. Principles
	Honors Biology	Spanish 3H	AP Language	AP Micro/Macro
	AP Government	10th Literature Honors	AP Biology	Adv. Comp. Honors
	Acc. Algebra I/Geom.	Acc. Algebra II/Geom.	AP Chemistry	AP Calculus BC
	9th Literature Honors	AP World History	AP U.S. History	AP Physics I
	Band			
Instrument	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
Trombone/	9th Literature/Honors	Chemistry	Honors Anatomy	College English 1101/Economics
Euphonium/	Biology	World History	Intro to Culinary	AP Physics I/Physics
Baritone	Band	Geometry	11th Literature	Beginning Music Tech
	Health/Government	Band	U.S. History	AP Psychology
	Algebra I	French 2	Algebra II	Band
	French 1	10th Literature	Band	Pre Calculus

THE ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Below: Members of the 2022 Marching Raiders celebrating their Grand Championship performance



MARCHING BAND INFORMATION

All band students must sign up for band class to be eligible to participate in the co-curricular Alpharetta High School Marching Band. Marching band begins in July with marching band camp. Once school begins, the marching band rehearses after school from August through the end of football season in early November. While all prospective members are required to attend two practice sessions in the spring, these are not formal “auditions”. The practice sessions are used to place each student on the appropriate instrument (percussion), give the students an opportunity to make music with their new bandmates, and fit students for their marching brass instruments (for mellophone, baritone, and sousaphone players).

For the color guard (dance/flag/rifle/saber), the spring training camps will be a time to get everyone familiar with the equipment used and movement vocabulary required. *No previous experience is necessary to try-out for color guard.* Additionally, if a student is in a music class (Chorus or Orchestra) and wants to participate, they can be a part of our front ensemble or color guard.

In addition to our marching band, we also offer competitive indoor percussion and a competitive indoor JV/Varsity Winterguards. Those additional marching arts indoor performance ensembles compete during the winter months.

Please see our Marching Band 101 document for more information about our marching band here at Alpharetta High School.

From the Director's Viewpoint

Why do I believe a student should participate in band all four years of high school?

Joining the Alpharetta band program is one of the most rewarding, educational, and fun things a new student at Alpharetta High School can choose to do. Besides the obvious reasons to join band, such as making new friends, learning new music, and having fun, there is a lot more students can gain from being in band at AHS.

As a teacher, I want my students to be well prepared for their futures as successful college students, employees, and community leaders with a passion for life; I want AHS band students to be individuals who will go out and make a positive difference in our world. And I have done my research! I know the skills needed for a student to be successful in a very competitive society. I know that nothing else in high school curricular setting develops multifaceted critical and spatial thinking better and more in-depth than four years of band. I know that band students with four years of music will score higher on the SAT/ACT test than students without. Colleges and businesses are looking for people who are educated and can be organized, manage time wisely, work well with other people, demonstrate discipline, think creatively, and have the know-how to perform under pressure. Do you see an academic class offering those critical life skills? No, but the band does all of those things.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding registration or our band program here at Alpharetta High School.

Todd Manson – Director of Bands

Jared Kaufman- Associate Director of Bands

www.alpharettaband.org

