



# Instrumental Music Newsletter



## OFF TO A GREAT START!

### Director's Report

As the weather cools and we get settled into our daily routines, I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and joy that the Acalanes student musicians bring to the classroom every day.

Above everything else - there is a true sense of **community** and **service** in this music program that has been on full display throughout the month of September. From the community music club's performance at Merrill Garden, to the jazz combo's contribution at the Fundraiser for Sustainable Lafayette, to the student initiatives at the Art and Wine Festival, to the true demonstration of spirit and pride that the band has shown in their preparation for the pep band - it is palpable, exciting and I am grateful.

We are excited for a month of concerts and performances and hope to see families there!

On the upbeat,  
Edwin Cordoba

## POPS CONCERT

Thursday, October 5th

5:15- Pizza in the Front Quad provided by APAB (IMB)

6:15- Report to the Theater with instruments/mutes/music for sound check (Jazz Band will report to the stage)

7:00- Downbeat

Join us for a reception at the conclusion of the concert in front of the PAC!

**What are you wearing?** Blue Instrumental Music Shirt, blue jeans, shoes of your choice.

## PEP BAND

Friday, October 6th

4:45- Downbeat/Rehearsal in the Theater

5:45- Dinner provided by APAB (IMB)

6:30- Walk to Stadium

6:45- National Anthem

7:00- Kick Off

3rd Quarter- Off!

4th Quarter- Report back to stands

**What are you wearing?** Any PINK-colored Shirt (Barbie night!) or your Blue Instrumental Music Shirt with blue jeans, shoes of your choice.

OCTOBER 2023

## Upcoming Dates

**October 5th**

Grammys, Oscars and Tonys  
Fall Pops Concert

**October 6th**

Football Game vs Northgate

**October 13th**

Homecoming Game

**October 19th-22nd**

SoCal Tour

**Early November**

All-State Auditions Due

**November 3rd**

Football Game vs Campolindo

**November 5th**

Fall Jazz Concert with California  
Jazz Alliance and Stanley  
Messengers

## At A Glance

Review [Handbook](#) and [Calendar](#)

[SoCal Itinerary](#)

[SoCal Permission Slip](#)

## Birthdays This Month

2nd Lauren Anderson

3rd Claire George

10th Jack Steven

12th Melina Galacatos

13th Harrison Mrachek

18th Max Szidon

22nd Ash Lee

30th Thomas Kurumai

## Thank you...



## SOCAL TOUR

Buses, tickets and hotels are secured; students have signed up for rooms and buses. We are ready to go! If your student has not completed their [PERMISSION SLIP](#), be sure to get that turned in as soon as possible!

## COMMUNITY MUSIC CLUB

On Sunday, October 1st, the Music Community Club Performed at Merrill Gardens! Students can join the communication streamline by following the instructions on [this link](#)



## JAZZ COMBO

Our Acalanes Jazz Combo performed at the Biannual Fundraiser for Sustainable Lafayette on Sunday, October 1st! Great job representing the program!



## PROGRAM FUNDING NEEDS

We are in need of donations to support students' out-of-the-classroom activities! Did you know ONE bus to a music festival costs \$1,700? Did you know festival fees total to almost \$2,000? All donations are tax deductible! Donate [HERE](#)

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BRAHM SASNER

Brahm Sasner (Class of '22; piano & percussion, AHS Jazz & Wind Ensembles) is a 2nd year jazz piano performance major at the Manhattan School of Music (MSM). While a student at Acalanes, Brahm was a finalist for the national YoungArts competition, was selected as one of two pianists for the esteemed Vail Summer Jazz Workshop, and was offered numerous merit scholarships from institutions including MSM, UCLA, Berklee School of Music, The New School, and Cal State Fullerton. Brahm has continued to thrive since moving to Manhattan, becoming one of three finalists in the jazz category of the Rubato International Piano Competition. At MSM, Brahm belongs to two jazz combos, who have performed in eight US cities, including the Tri-C Jazz Festival in Cleveland and the House of Blues in Dallas. Brahm has also performed his original compositions in two feature films.



## What do [LPIE](#) and [APAB](#) Fund?

LPIE: In the classroom!

- Music Class Sections
- Music Library
- Instruments

APAB: Out of the classroom!

- Festival Entry Fees
- Transportation
- Concert Support
- Scholarships

[Donate to LPIE](#)

[Donate to APAB](#)

Note "Instrumental Music"

## ALL STATE

Being selected for the All-State Ensembles is the highest honor any high school musician in California can receive. Regardless of the results, the “process” of preparing for the All-State band and orchestra auditions will make our students better musicians and performers.

Once students turn in the “Student Information Form” to me, they will get an email with instructions on how to upload recordings and pay the fee.

### All-State Orchestra Audition Link

Student Information Form DUE as soon as possible-  
(\$55 can be paid directly through student account)

**Orchestra Recordings due 48 hours before the November 8th, 2023 hard deadline**

### All-State Band Instructions

### All-State Band Scales

### All-State Band Excerpts

### All-State Jazz Band Etudes

Student Information Form DUE as soon as possible.

(\$55 can be paid directly through student account)

Band Recordings are due November 1st, 2023

**Band Recordings due 48 hours before the November 1st, 2023 hard deadline**

## LAFAYETTE ART AND WINE FESTIVAL

Sophomore Miela Hsu organized an instrument petting zoo at the Art and Wine Festival on Sunday, September 27th. Lauren Anderson, Mimi Tantameng and Maor Ziskind joined in showing young kids how to make sounds with various string instruments.

Our Acalanes Jazz Combo also performed at the festival!



## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HONOR BANDS

The Contra Costa County Honor Band process is separate from All-State in that it is limited to high school band musicians from Contra County. The audition requirements are more simple: The All-State Scales and one prepared etude or solo that best demonstrates the student’s ability.

### Contra Costa Honor Band Application

\$30 due Monday, October 23rd with a check made payable to Acalanes Performing Arts Boosters “for Contra Costa County Honor Band”

**Recording/Application due Tuesday, November 8th.**

## CODA DECEMBER HONOR ORCHESTRA (STRING AND BAND)

The CODA Honor Orchestra process is similar to All-State, but the audition excerpts and solos are a little easier - it is still very prestigious but not as difficult to get into the CODA Honor Orchestras. Wind players are also encouraged to apply as part of the SYMPHONY orchestra!

### Coda Honor String and Symphony Orchestra Audition Requirements

Student Information Form DUE ASAP (\$45 can be paid directly through student account).

**CODA Recordings are due October 9th**

## DRUMLINE

Our Acalanes Drumline has been meeting once a week on Thursday mornings with our Acalanes Math Teacher, Dr. Vicky Zalewski. Dr. Z brings years of pageantry experience from her undergraduate years!