



Your Parents  
SURVIVAL GUIDE  
to the Villa Park High School  
Instrumental Music Program,  
2017-2018

[www.Villaparkim.com](http://www.Villaparkim.com)

**This Packet contains: Organization Info, Basic Weekly Schedule, Parade/Performance Calendar, "How can I help? Information, and an Order Form (due by Aug. 22, 2017)**

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## Welcome!

Hello Parents and Band and Color Guard Students!

This packet of information prepared by the March N Spartan Band boosters is designed to help you understand how the Instrumental Music Program at Villa Park High School works, what to expect, what are the responsibilities of the parents, and details about the 2017-2018 school schedule as it relates to band activities.

The Instrumental Music department is led by Music Director Charles Jay, a California credentialed teacher of Orange Unified School District and a United States Marine Corp Major. Students and parents respectfully call him "Major." The program includes many subgroups, some of which have additional instructors that come from either the state-funded ROP (regional occupational program) or the private sector:

Marching Band

Color Guard (it may have been called "tall flags" back in your day)

Multiple Jazz ensembles (Combo, Jazz 1, Jazz 2, Jazz 3 and combinations of these groups depending on the performance)

Orchestra (strings)

Symphonic Band

Drum & Bugle Corp

Riflemen (military-style US flag color guard)

Baton Twirlers

Winter Guard (additional, special wintertime competition for Color Guard)



**Home of the  
March N  
Spartans**

The Instrumental Music Department is part of the Academy of Performing Arts at Villa Park High School that also includes: Choir, Madrigals, Drama & Dance. The Instrumental Music department regularly provides live music accompaniment for events put on by these other group/departments.

With this many performing groups, you can imagine the performance schedule is QUITE FULL as you will see on the attached **CALENDAR**. Students may perform in any group with the Music Director's prior approval. Knowing what group(s) your student is in throughout the year will help A TON. Also, with this many performing groups and performances, it becomes easier to understand the ABSOLUTE NECESSITY of parent support – both financially and as helping hands throughout the year. **The district does not provide funds for buses, uniforms, shoes, and most equipment.** The boosters raise funds for them. Please refer to the page “**How can I help?**” in this packet for more details.

Most music students arrive at high school with at least some background or experience in music. Classroom and afterschool rehearsal time is spent preparing for performances so basic instruction in how to play an instrument is very limited. If your student needs additional basic instruction in how to play an instrument, please consider private lessons that are available through many sources in our community. The number one reason students quit the band is frustration over not being able to play their instrument confidently. Private lessons can help with this.

As a public high school, instruments are provided to the students. Due to limited funds, there is no guarantee as to what instrument your child will receive, although every effort is made to honor his/her preferences. The Music Director reserves the right to have students share instruments due to limited inventory. Renting instruments from a local music store and/or purchasing your own are options that are open to you. Please consult with the Music Director for additional information/suggestions.

The marching band is organized through a leadership structure starting with the Director of Music and any additional staff, followed by a student Drum Major and two student Lieutenant Drum Majors. Each section then has a designated student leader(s). Color guard has two Co-Captains and two Co-Lieutenants this year. Your student will get to know his/her section leader and come to rely on him/her for schedule information, problem solving and peer-assisted instruction. If possible, it is extremely helpful that your student have access to modern electronic communications – text messaging, Facebook, e-mail, etc. – to keep up to date with the fast-paced and ever-changing program schedule.

Band members and their parents can also ask to be added to:

1. Weekly email updates regarding the program by sending an email to **[vpmsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:vpmsmusic@gmail.com)**
2. Ask to be added to the private-group Facebook page “**Villa Park Instrumental Music Unofficial Page**” as a way of staying in touch.

### **Performances are KEY to the program**

In the classroom, it is easy to understand that there is a test on Friday and taking the test is an integral part of the learning experience and evaluation of what has been learned. On a sports team, it's easy to understand that all players are needed on the field during a game. In performing arts, showing up and participating in the performances is the equivalent of a test and the game. All performances are mandatory unless prior

arrangements have been made with the Music Director. Mark the dates on the calendar and **DON'T MISS**. Please refer to the attached **CALENDAR** for the known performance dates.

### **Information about Uniforms**

Uniforms are issued on a loan-only basis to students by the Band Director. Students are responsible for maintaining their uniforms and returning them clean and in good condition. Parents will be charged replacement costs for lost or damaged uniforms, including lost bow-ties, cummerbunds or citation cords. Here are some basic uniforms that cover most of the activities for the band (Color Guard uniforms and equipment are separate; information covered in a separate packet):

1. Marching Uniform (replacement cost \$650) : Shako with plume (hat & feather), Jacket with citation cords, Bibber pants with suspenders, special marching shoes known as Dinkles (each student must pay for their own Dinkle shoes – please refer to the last page of this packet).
2. Black tunic with blue sash, and black bibber pants with suspenders, black Dinkles. (Replacement Cost: \$150)
3. Tux and Gown (Replacement Cost \$85-\$250) – used for orchestra, symphonic band, super band and other performances - Boys wear school-issued tuxedos, girls wear school-issued black gowns – students are responsible for providing their own appropriate black dress shoes. No tennis shoes or sneakers will be allowed with formal wear.

This introductory Parent Survival Guide is hopefully a good source of information to get you acquainted with the Villa Park Instrumental Music Department. More information will be coming from the Music Director throughout the school year. You are also invited to attend the monthly band booster meeting where the Music Director and parents work together for the benefit of the students. Stay close and stay tuned! Please read on to learn more about the Weekly schedule, this school year's calendar (so far) and how you can help your student and the program be successful.

Sincerely,

Dave Floyd, VPHS March N Spartan 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Membership

Flongrace@dslextreme.com

# Basic Weekly Schedule

(may change depending on facility use, program needs, etc.)

## Monday

- Zero Marching Band and Color Guard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert Band
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fundamentals of Theory
- 5<sup>th</sup> Orchestra
- 6<sup>th</sup> Drama
- 7<sup>th</sup> Jazz 3 (Rehearsal Hall) Combo (802)

Afterschool: Sectionals as required and other performance driven rehearsals

## Tuesday

- Zero Jazz Program (Jazz 1 &2)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert Band
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fundamentals of Theory
- 5<sup>th</sup> Orchestra
- 6<sup>th</sup> Drama
- 7<sup>th</sup> Marching Band 3:30 – 5:00 (as of now we are NOT going to Cerro Villa as the schedule for demo of the portables has been pushed back)
- 8<sup>th</sup> AP Music Theory
- 9<sup>th</sup> Orange Community Band 7:00 – 10:00

## Wednesday

- Zero Marching Band and Color Guard
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert Band
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Fundamentals of Theory
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Orchestra
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Drama
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Jazz 3 (Rehearsal Hall) Combo (802)
- Sectionals as required and other performance driven rehearsals
- 8<sup>th</sup> AP Music Theory
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Villa park Community Band 7:00 – 9:00 (Rehearsal Hall)
- Sons of Thunder Community Band 7:00 – 9:30 (PAC)



## Thursday

- Zero Jazz Program (Jazz 1 &2)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert Band
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Fundamentals of Theory
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Orchestra
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Drama
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Marching Band 3:30 – 5:00 (may be reduced in duration if there is a football game that night)
- Sectionals as required and other performance driven rehearsals

## Friday

- ZERO marching Band and Color Guard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert band
- 4<sup>th</sup> Fundamentals of Theory
- 5<sup>th</sup> Orchestra
- 6<sup>th</sup> Drama
- 7<sup>th</sup> Performance (Home or Away Game or “undress” rehearsal for up-coming performances)

# 2017-2018 CALENDAR

ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE – WE TRY NOT TO BUT IT HAPPENS!

## **SUMMER MUSIC RETREAT – A.K.A. “BAND CAMP”**

7/31 – 8/22 –8 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays at the Band Room for all musicians and color guard, all grades. Students will meet their section leaders and get to know other members of the band. We will be doing physical conditioning in addition to learning music/marching and field show routines for the fall calendar. Wear light weight exercise clothes with school-appropriate coverage, including sturdy athletic shoes made for walking/jogging. Arrive each morning at 7:45 a.m. well rested, fed and bring your own water (at least ½ gallon per student, per day is recommended). Also, bring your own snacks and/or mid-day meal. Small ice-chests OK. - WE DO NOT PROVIDE MEALS -

## **PARADES**

8/5 La Habra (more details to come from Music Director)

10/14 Korean Parade

10/28 Anaheim Halloween Parade

12/02 Palos Verdes Xmas

2/19 Indio Date Festival

Note: Does not include local VP parade (Boat Parade)

## **FOOTBALL**

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	NOTE(S)
09/01/2017	REDONDO UNION	REDONDO	2 BUS AWAY GAME
09/15/2017	SERVITE	CERRITOS COLLEGE	2 BUS AWAY GAME
09/22/2017	EL MODENA	FRED KELLY	“HOME AWAY” NO BUS
09/30/2017	EL DORADO	HOME	TAIL GATE – NO BUS
10/06/2017	ESPERANZA	YORBA LINDA	2 BUS AWAY GAME
10/13/2017	BREA-OLINDA	HOME	5 BUS HOME GAME
10/19/2017	FOOTHILL	TUSTIN H.S.	2 BUS AWAY GAME
10/28/2017*	CANYON	HOME	TAIL GATE – NO BUS
11/03/2017	YORBA LINDA	HOME	5 BUS HOM GAME
11/10/2017	XXXXXXXXXX	TBA	FIRST ROUND PLAYOFF
11/17/2017	XXXXXXXXXX	TBA	¼ FINAL PLAYOFF
11/24/2017	XXXXXXXXXX	TBA	SEMI-FINAL PLAYOFF
12/1 or 12/2	XXXXXXXXXX	TBA	CIF FINALS

\*THIS GAME MAY BE CHANGED TO FRIDAY, 10/27/2017 AND MOVED TO ANAHEIM STADIUM. IF CHANGED, IT WILL BE A 5 BUS HOME GAME.

## **CONCERTS**

(these dates do NOT include afterschool dress/tech rehearsal dates which always proceed a performance)

8/22 Parent Performance – all Parents come to school for 7 p.m. performance, plus meet & greet

9/10 Tunnel to Towers 5k

9/11 Nixon Library Commerative Cermeony

9/21 Singin’ Concert – “A Tribute to...” (Karen Carpenter & Bobby Darin)

10/4 Back-To-School

10/11 OUSD Retiree Lunch

# 2017-2018 CALENDAR

## **CONCERTS - con't**

10/18 Villa Cafe  
10/28 Anaheim Halloween Parade  
10/29 Halloween Showcase  
10/30 Halloween Fest  
11/6-11/11 Nightmare Before Christmas Dress –Tech and Performance Week  
12/4 – 12/9 Grinch Production Dress-Tech and Performance Week  
12/7 Vocal Holiday Concert Dress Rehearsal  
12/8 Vocal Holiday Concert  
12/11 -12/12 Holiday Showcase  
12/13 – 12/14 Instrumental Holiday Concerts  
12/15 Faculty Breakfast Performance  
2/3 Pancake Breakfast  
2/22 Jazz Concert  
3/5 Cerro Villa Parent Night Performance  
3/19/3/20 Vocal Concert  
3/26-3/31 DRAMA Musical Production Dress-Tech and Performance Week  
4/18 Open House Performance  
4/19 Spring Concert – “The Music of Dance”  
5/23-5/24 Senior Concert  
6/4 – 6/5 Vocal Pops Concert Performances  
6/6 Medallion Awards Performance

**Details for all performances and call times are provided to the students when they attend class and also via weekly email updates (or more frequently as needed).**

**- Still have a question about performances/schedules? Have your student ask their section leader.**

**- If you still have questions/concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Music Director Chuck Jay via email at: [cjay@orangeusd.org](mailto:cjay@orangeusd.org).**

# “How can I help?”

The Instrumental Music Program needs every parent’s support in two very important ways:

1. **Financial**
2. **Helping Hands**

## FINANCIAL

The Instrumental Music program at Villa Park High School far exceeds your basic public high school band program. With more than 160 members, a dozen or so performing groups, and around 100 performances a year, it’s easy to understand that it costs a bit of money to keep it all going. The school district is generous, but there is still a financial gap to fill.

Each member of the Instrumental Music program is asked to participate in the “My Fair Share” program, which is a **\$350 donation** to help cover costs. This tax-deductible donation can be paid all at once during Band Camp or installment payments throughout the year via check or credit card online. Please refer to the **ORDER FORM** on the last page of this packet.

The money collected helps covers the costs of: Transportation, instrument acquisition and repair, sheet music, uniforms, props, food costs for long performance days, website upkeep, enhancements to the Performing Arts Center and rehearsal rooms and much, much more.

## Helping Hands

The March N Spartans is the all-volunteer parent booster club for the band and color guard that contributes to the program in two main ways:

1. **Hands-on**: Helping to organize/move equipment, provide chaperones at events, advertising and marketing of the performances, maintenance and upkeep on the website, taking video of parades/performances, taking photos, bookkeeping, communications, administer water along the hot parade routes, put plumes in the shakos, provide hospitality at concerts, decorate tables for the banquet, set-up outdoor patio lighting for the Senior Concert, drive the Thunder Wagon or tow the Spartan Alliance trailer – the list goes on and on and lots of people with a variety of skills are needed to keep things moving.
2. **Fundraising**: Active planning and execution of fundraising activities throughout the year that include:
  - The Firework Booth
  - The Annual Car and Bike Show
  - Dinner Out Fundraisers

**March N Spartans Booster Meetings are generally held the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in the band room. Everyone with a student in the program is welcome and encouraged to attend.**

**Next meetings (tentative)**

**Aug. 7 & Sept 18**

**Sign-up for weekly email for updates.**

**[vphsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:vphsmusic@gmail.com)**

Your support is critical in the continued success of the program. Just think of all the parents that came before you whose hard work and dedication helped build this amazing program your son or daughter will now benefit from. Even though it’s a public school program, we ask respectfully that you please do your part to contribute and pay it forward.

# 2017-18 March 'N Spartan Order Form

Please complete & return payment no later than the end of band camp to the Music Director's office

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PROGRAM SHIRT**

Each student will receive 1 (one) black program t-shirt at NO COST.

Please circle the student's size t-shirt : Adults sizes ONLY S M L XL XXL

Additional program t-shirts may be purchased for the student, parents, siblings, etc for \$15 ea

Please mark the quantity next to the size

\_\_\_\_ S      \_\_\_\_ M      \_\_\_\_ L      \_\_\_\_ XL      \_\_\_\_ XXL      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **MY FAIR SHARE**

(Requested donation for each student) \$350 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Helps cover the cost of instruments, uniforms, transportation and other program expenses in order to provide a stimulating and comprehensive music program for your student.

Scholarship My Fair share and/or additional Program donation \$350 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If scholarship, name of student to receive scholarship:

\_\_\_\_\_

## **REQUIRED SHOES**

### **Marching Band**

“Dinkles” Marching Shoes Size \_\_\_\_ Men's \_\_\_\_ Women's \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- All members must purchase their own marching/performance shoes -

### **Color Guard Members**

Performance shoes Size \_\_\_\_ Men's \_\_\_\_ Women's \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- All members must purchase their own marching/performance shoes -

## **OPTIONAL CLOTHING** (preview available on 8/22 at Parent Performance)

Hoodie style with logos Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Zip up Hoodie with logos Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sport-Tek Jacket zip up Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Fee for name embroidered on Sport-tek jackets \$6 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it should appear on Jacket – print neatly!

\_\_\_\_ Check attached; payable to VILLA PARK HIGH SCHOOL MARCH N SPARTANS

\_\_\_\_ Credit card payments made online at [villaparkim.com](http://villaparkim.com) click “DONATE” button – be sure to include students name!