

FMA Newsletter

Notes from the President

Hello Everyone!

Wow!! Its hard to believe we are already half-way through the school year. I hope by now, you have all settled into the regular school routine.

A lot has been going on here on our side at Fremd Music Association (FMA). We started out this school year with a flurry of important activities like boys' tuxedo fittings and girls' uniform orders. Then we had our first of two-large student fundraisers – Cookie Dough Sale. Thanks to Scott Swenson's leadership, we sold over 1700 boxes of cookies!!

November has always been the month of Floral Design Showcase our largest general fundraiser for FMA. This year, it was held on Nov 1st in the Kolze Auditorium. This is our 39th year hosting this event. All the hard work put in by Susan De Witt and her team led to one of our most successful Floral Design events to date.

We are also almost done with our second student fundraiser Poinsettia Sale, headed by Paul Dean. Once again, we will have beautiful Poinsettias decorating the auditorium during our winter concerts. Hope you all had the opportunity to add to your student accounts.

December, though a short school month is filled with beautiful winter concerts. Please try to make time to attend these wonderful events that showcase our music students' talent and growth.

Our next big event is Trivia Night to be held on March 16th 2018. Michelle Gonzales, our Trivia Night chair is putting together a team to handle this event. If you are interested in helping out please contact her at FMATriviaNight@gmail.com .

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart"

Each of these events, be it fundraisers, uniform fittings, receptions are handled by our many board and committee members and multitude of parent volunteers who take time off from their busy work and family schedules and commit their time and creativity to make these events so successful. Without their generous help and support, we would be hard pressed to achieve all our fundraising goals.

"No one can do everything.....but everyone can do something"

This holiday season, on behalf of Fremd Music Association, I would like to give my warm thanks and gratitude to all of you who so selflessly give your time to our organization. Fremd Music Association would also like to give a special thanks to many parents who have generously donated to FMA through their company's matching gift programs.

I also want to extend my warm regards and gratitude to our Music Directors – Mr. Matt Moore, Mrs. Marla Caballero and Mrs. Christina Collins for their support of FMA. Be it sending out reminders and volunteer requests on behalf of FMA or ensuring fundraising information is passed onto students, they are always there to support FMA in every way possible.

In other news, we have started looking for next year's board and committee members. As you might already be aware, FMA board is elected each year during our general meeting in May. Each elected board member can serve at most two consecutive years. Co-Officers are allowed though not required.

We are always looking for new members to join us. Many board and committee positions are opening up next year. This is a chance for you to make a difference and showcase your strengths. More information is available under "Board and Committee Positions 2018-2019" section of this newsletter.

If you are interested in a board position or would just like to know more, please join us for our next board meeting on Wednesday January 17th 2018 in the Faculty Cafeteria.

On behalf of Fremd Music Association, wishing you and your family Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!!

Hema Kaiwar

FremdMusicPresident@gmail.com



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December

QUICK LINKS

Band

Choir

Orchestra

FMA business

Scrip/Manna

Membership Form

2017-18 FMA Board

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Band Notes

Dear Fremd Band families,

Greetings once again from the FHS Bands! The school year is rolling by quickly and it's hard to believe that almost half of the school year is already gone. Please see below for many announcements pertaining to the Fremd Band program:

Viking Marching Band season recap – The VMB finished a great “Haunted Manor” season performing very well at five home football games and four competitions. Highlights from the season included earning 1st, 2nd (two), and 3rd place finishes at the competitions, as well as a very memorable Senior Night performance. Thank you very much to the numerous Band parents that helped with uniforms, food, transportation, and other various tasks. Without your support we wouldn't have had such a memorable season. Thank you also to the students for their incredible effort, time, and talent throughout our season!

Winter Band Concert information - Please join us on Monday December 18th for our “Winter Band Concert” starting at 6:30 pm in the Kolze Auditorium. The concert will start with our Jazz Ensemble at 6:30 pm, followed by Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, and Wind Symphony. We are asking each family attending the concert to donate one or more non-perishable food items for the Palatine Township Food Pantry (dropped off in the auditorium lobby). We've done this the past three years and it has been very successful. Thank you for your generosity!

Recent Guest Conductors and Speakers - This past November the Fremd Bands had the opportunity to work with two different guest conductors. Guest conductor Ron Polancich worked with the Concert Band and Symphonic Winds students on October 28th. Mr. Polancich is retired Director of Bands from York High School and has been on the music education staff at numerous local colleges. All of the Band, Choir, and Orchestra had the pleasure of hearing presentations by Bobby Lambert, Director of Bands at Wando High School in South Carolina. His presentations were outstanding and very relevant to our current music students and their busy high school lives. Lastly, all four of our bands worked with guest conductor Brian Logan (Director of Bands - Vandercook School of Music, Chicago) on Tuesday December 5th. Mr. Logan was outstanding and the students greatly enjoyed working with him. Pictures from our recent guests can be found later in the newsletter.

Jazz Band season - The Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Band, and Jazz Combo have been rehearsing for the past few months and are beginning to really swing! All three ensembles will perform at the “Winter Jazz Concert” – January 18th (7:00 pm, FHS Cafeteria), “Northshore Jazz Festival” – January 20th (times TBA, Glenbrook South HS), “Jazz and Java” Concert on February 22nd (7:00 pm, FHS Cafeteria) and the Rolling Meadows HS “Jazz in the Meadows” Festival on February 24th. Performance times for the two festivals will be announced closer to the events. We hope to see you at our upcoming jazz concerts or festivals!

Fremd Band Benefit Dinner and Concert - The Fremd Music Association is pleased to announce our 15th Annual “Fremd Band Benefit” Concert, Dinner, and Raffle on March 20th. Please join us for this entertaining event of music



Band Notes

and great food! Last year's "Band Benefit" served about 400 dinners and raised approximately \$9,000 for the Fremd Band program! We are hoping to have similar success at this year's event. Additional info:

Our "Band Benefit" Dinner and Raffle is our only fundraiser of the school year that benefits the Viking Marching Band and general Band program. Please consider assisting our program so we can continue to provide numerous opportunities for our concert, marching, and jazz students.

Tickets for the event are \$20 - adult dinner, \$10 - child dinner, \$5 - concert only

The event also includes our 50/50 Raffle - \$20 each, or six raffle tickets for \$100

Additional information regarding the Band Benefit Dinner and Concerts will be e-mailed in late December.

Illinois State University Wind Symphony performance at FHS! We are very excited to be hosting the Illinois State University Wind Symphony performing in the Band Room on Monday February 5th. The ensemble will perform during periods 2 and 3 for Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony. This is the premiere band at ISU and under the direction of Dr. Anthony Marinello.

Percussion Studio Recital and Winter Drumline – Our percussion studio private lesson students will present a recital in the Band Room on December 11th at 7:00 pm. The event is led by percussion private lesson teacher Dr. Andrew Veit. Winter Drumline auditions are December 8th at 3:00 pm. The ensemble will rehearse throughout January and perform at the FHS Variety Show occurring February 1, 2, and 3 – 7:00 pm each night.

Fremd Bands – “Eighth Grader Student/Parent Night” – On December 11th at 6:00 pm (Lecture Hall Room 125) we will host this informational meeting for all eighth graders and parents that plan to enroll in the Fremd Band program next year. We will cover a wide variety of topics, with the meeting lasting approximately 50-60 minutes. Please pass on this information to any families that you might now having current eighth graders enrolled in Band – thank you!

Fremd Pep Bands – Our Green, Gold, and Viking Pep Bands perform at Friday/Saturday varsity boys and girls basketball games throughout December, January, and February. Please see the following links for band rosters and game performance assignments:

https://fremdbands.weebly.com/uploads/5/4/5/2/54522937/fremd_pep_band_rosters_2017-2018.pdf

https://fremdbands.weebly.com/uploads/5/4/5/2/54522937/fremd_bands_-pep_band_calendar_2017-2018.pdf

Wind Symphony December Tour – The Wind Symphony will travel on Friday December 8th (periods 2-6) to perform at Sundling and Plum Grove Junior Highs, as well as Brookdale Retirement Village (Hoffman Estates, Barrington Rd.) and Little City in Palatine. We are looking forward to performing for the junior high band students, as well the Brookdale and Little City residents.

Wind Symphony ILMEA selected students - Congratulations to our Wind Symphony students selected for ILMEA

Band Notes

District 7 Honors Band, Orchestra, or Jazz Bands. The students worked very hard for this very prestigious recognition and should be recognized for this high honor. Duncan Harro (Bassoon), Jacob Leczycki (euphonium), Hancine Mok (flute), Jonathan Pilafas (trumpet), Nick Szoblik (trumpet), Ryo Terada (clarinet), Flora Zheng (clarinet), Kevin Li (alto sax – jazz), Kevin Nakajima (trumpet – jazz), and Joey Ranieri (string bass – jazz).

Congratulations also to Ryo Terada (clarinet) who was selected to perform as featured soloist performing one movement from Mozart's Clarinet Concerto for the February 13th "Concerto/Aria Concert" (7:00 pm) with the Fremd Symphony Orchestra.

Wind Symphony students selected for D211 Honors Orchestra – Congratulations to our Wind Symphony students who were selected for the woodwind and brass sections of the District 211 Honors Orchestra! Alison Gauvreau (flute), Eileen Peng (flute), Cameron Harro (bassoon), Nicole Suarez (bassoon), Claire Umeki (horn), and Jonathan Pilafas (trumpet). The D211 Honors Orchestra concert will be on February 10th (7:00 pm) in the Conant High School Auditorium.

Thank you for your continued support of the FHS Bands. We wish your family the best during the holiday season and hope to see you at our "Winter Band Concert" on Monday December 18th!

Sincerely,

Mr. Moore, Mr. Teichert, and Ms. Hockensmith
Band Directors



Bobby Lambert presentation to all music students

Director of Bands at Wando High



Ron Polancich working with the Concert Band and Symphonic Winds students

Mr. Polancich is a retired Director of Bands from York High School



Brian Logan, retired Director of Bands from Wheeling HS, current Director of Bands at Vandercook School of Music in Chicago



Choir Notes

Hello Choir Families,

It has been a busy semester! We hope to see you at the Winter Choir Concert on Tuesday, December 12 in the Kolze Auditorium. Fremd choir alumni or any other singers are welcome to join us on the finale, "Hallelujah Chorus." Music and practice tracks are online so that you can practice on your own: <http://fremdchoirs.weebly.com/parent--student-info.html>

We recently hosted our Junior High Choir Exchange with Sundling. If you know a junior high student, even if they are not currently in choir, they can join Treble Choir (C135) or Men's Chorale (C136). We want the choir program to keep growing next year with students from Plum Grove, Sundling, Sandburg, and all private schools. Please help get the word out about Fremd Choir! Here is a fun, 2-minute commercial you can share with others, especially incoming freshmen students: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13nAzUD8aO0wgSxa8mypimcmsw13yuMyp/view>

This year, we are continuing with additional peer leaders in AWC and Chamber Singers as section leaders and spirit chairs along with the 3 interns in Treble Choir, Men's Chorale, and Viking Chorale. We have team-building Tuesdays on the non-late start Tuesdays and Theory Thursdays, which gives some variety to have more variety within the weekly schedule and build community in all of the choirs.

The following 19 students were selected by audition for the District VII Festival (northwest/northern suburbs). This is a Fremd Choir record for selected students that sang at the regional festival. They sang in a mass choir on Saturday, November 11 under the direction of Dr. Eric Johnson, choir director from Northern Illinois University.

Mary Kate Baughman- Alto II

Denise Carlson- Soprano II

Pranit Cheikycharla- Bass I

Paige Dirkes-Jacks- Soprano II

Jason Freer- Bass I

Gina Gonzalez- Alto I

Leah Hillesheim- Soprano I

Natalia Lastowiecka- Soprano I

Brian Lech- Bass II

Noah Mayo- Bass II

Allison Nakazawa- Alto II

Arinze Okammor- Tenor II

Donald Osborn- Bass I

Ria Ravi- Alto I

Lincoln Skoien- Tenor I

Mayuri Srikanth- Alto II

Vaishnavi Vembar- Soprano I

Annie Yamamoto- Soprano II

Jerry Zheng- Tenor I

Congratulations to the cast and crew of "Sister Act" on a great run of shows in October!

We have started rehearsals for the competitive showchoir, Soundscape. Soundscape will perform at the Variety Show in



Choir Notes *continued*

February as well as 4 competitions throughout Illinois. Save the dates for our competitions, they are a blast!

Saturday, February 3 at Danville High School

Saturday, February 10 at Manteno High School

Saturday, February 17 at El Paso-Gridley High School

Saturday, March 3 at John Hersey High School

The a cappella groups performed for solo and ensemble along with a full night of individual vocalists. Save the date for the Fremd Variety Show on February 1-3 featuring Men's A Cappella, Audial Sunshine, Perfect Harmony, and Soundscape Showchoir.

Natalia Lastowiecka was selected by audition as a vocal soloist to perform with the Symphony Orchestra at the Concerto Aria Concert on Tuesday, February 13. Congratulations!

The Nashville trip is on for spring break! Many thanks to Judy Klingner who will be taking my place so that the trip can carry on before my maternity leave in April and May. There is just one more payment due in January and students are learning new music for this trip in all classes. The itinerary is available online: <http://fremdchoirs.weebly.com/choir-trips.html>

Thank you for your continued support of Fremd Choirs! Have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Christina Collins
Choir Director
ccollins@d211.org



ILMEA District VII Festival



Orchestra News

We've had some really amazing opportunities since the last newsletter - ILMEA auditions and festival, D15/D211 Orchestra Festival, Veteran's Day assembly performance by Symphony Orchestra, Honors Orchestra auditions, Concerto Aria Auditions, an inspiring presentation by Mr. Bobby Lambert for all music students and faculty, 2 trips to see the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.. All of these things have been happening while we've been preparing for our December Concert.

Weekly Orchestra announcements are posted for students and parents but you can always access them here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1W2XbvDvmXzFevxgQ6ECJbZMiFwvWbUcr7C5tZ6_Hq/edit?usp=sharing

The orchestras are currently working on our music for the **upcoming dress rehearsal and Winter Concert on December 14/15**. Students have a daily rehearsal schedule and the playing test plan so they know what passages they are responsible to know. I'm finding that they are not all coming to rehearsal prepared on these passages (many are but there are too many who aren't). We've been talking a lot about practice vs. rehearsal. Rehearsal is what we do together in class and if they don't practice on their own, outside of class, they are holding themselves and the class back from being able to do what we need to do as an orchestra. **How much should they be practicing?** I always hate to answer this question because it's such an individualized answer. They need to know their music so they need to practice as long as it takes for that to happen. Last year, I asked students what it meant to "know their music" and these are a few of their responses:

- From a freshman: *To know a passage means that you are able to play it the day that it is rehearsed and not just sight reading it the day of. And not just being able to play the notes, but also being able to play at tempo or at the right dynamic. It doesn't mean it has to be perfect though. I think that there are definitely people practicing but there are also people not. But a group is as strong as its weakest link so everyone should practice. Some things that you can do to improve include listening to the piece, marking parts that you are unsure about for later, or practicing efficiently.*
- From a sophomore: *To me, knowing a passage in my music means that I am ready to play as accurately as possible on the day of rehearsal instead of sightreading it during class. Although it is hard to fully understand the music without rehearsing with the whole group, the majority of the music such as notes, dynamics, fingering, etc should all be learned outside of rehearsal in order to have an efficient rehearsal time during class. I think that many of the members of our orchestra are preparing their parts to the level of understanding the music. However, many of the members are busy students outside of school so I do not think practicing is thought to be their number one concern although they should still be setting out time to practice and creating a schedule that does not interfere with their studies. In order to improve our preparation outside of rehearsal, we should listen to recordings to get an idea of the articulations and the style of the music. Also, listening to recordings can help with fingerings and bowings which would help make rehearsals more efficient.*
- From a junior: *Knowing a passage in the music means to me that you feel like you can play the passage confidently and without major mistakes. You may not be able to play it perfectly, but you can play the passage accurately in terms of rhythm, articulation, and intonation. This means that rehearsal time can be spent making the piece musical instead of spending time on rhythms and other basics. While members of the orchestra are definitely practicing and working hard, I feel like we could be preparing more outside of class to ensure we have efficient rehearsals during class. As individuals, I think we could be practicing more efficiently, not necessarily just for more time. This means repeating small phrases instead of just playing the entire piece over and over. Listening to the music for style and articulation would also allow us to play more musically.*
- From a senior: *At a very basic level, to me, knowing the music is first being able to understand what is going on in my part, as well as what's going on with the rest of the orchestra. Then comes in other basics, intonation (the right fingers) and bowings (the right articulation). From there, emotional connection and tone hit my priority list, and its goes on. Knowing a passage for a*



Orchestra News con't...

rehearsal means been adept at it enough (about >80% on the way to where we want to be) so that we can spend rehearsal time perfecting the passage and gain the remaining 20% in our expertise in that passage. Given, these are very involved tasks to accomplish in short periods of time - and of course, people have different priorities and work ethics at different times of the year. But it's come to a point where others who aren't as busy are only meeting the bare minimum of practice to "blend in" with others, while the more busy people are strained enough to practice. Both sides can do better, but I believe that people shouldn't be satisfied with only doing the bare minimum if they have the capability to do more and bring the group up. Other than practicing, we simply need to schedule our time better and attentively listen to the pieces and personal practice sessions. We lack the eagerness to change things as they are now.

As parents, how can you support your son or daughter? You should be hearing them practice at least 4 times a week for 30 minutes or more. You should also be hearing them actually stop, fix and repeat passages...this is the not-so-fun part of practicing but it will lead to great music making in the end! This is their homework assignment - to learn their music so they are able to participate in the rehearsal process. I appreciate any encouragement you can give them at home!

- **Dress rehearsal** Schedule for Wednesday, December 14th – this will take place in the auditorium (everyone must bring their own instrument for this rehearsal - you may need to bring your instrument in the morning that day if you're not going home before your rehearsal)
 - 6:30 - 6:55 Russian Sailor's Dance (FPO/FCS)
 - 7 - 7:20 pm Solitary Wish (ALL ORCHESTRAS)
 - 7:25 - 7:45 Stille Nacht (ALL ORCHESTRAS)
 - 7:50– 8:20 Fantasia on We Three Kings (FSO)
 - 8:15 - 9:00 Hebrides Overture (FSO)

Our **Winter Concert** is Friday, December 15th. Specific call times: **5:45 p.m. call time-yearbook pics for FCO/FPO/FCS; 6:15 call for FSO (strings); 7:30 for FSO Woodwinds, Brass and Percussion.** The **concert** starts at 7 pm - please invite family and friends and celebrate the gift of music!

- **Girls Uniforms** - have been distributed. The cellists pants are on backorder and we will get them out to you as soon as we receive them. Skirts and pants will need to be hemmed. Special thanks to Mrs. Dumbre for her work with the girls uniforms and to Mr. and Mrs. Singh for their work with the tuxes!
- Specific uniform guidelines for our concert:
- **Concert Dress for ALL Orchestra members—**

Boys: **You purchase**—black slacks (no black jeans or cords.), black socks, black dress shoes, white tuxedo shirt (with wing collar) and black bow tie. You can purchase the tuxedo shirts at Hobby Lobby, Michael's crafts or any tuxedo store.

School provides—tux jacket and cummerbund (You are responsible for dry cleaning throughout the year and before you turn it in at the end of the year.)

Girls: two-piece black concert dress purchased through the school (follow hemming instructions found with uniform), black nylons, black, closed-toe dress shoes

Please join us in the cafeteria for a **reception** immediately following the concert to celebrate and meet new people - thank you to Mrs. Linda Regan, hospitality chairperson, and all of the parent volunteers for your efforts with our post-concert reception!



Orchestra News con't...

Concert Critiques - due December 16th - NOW is the time to be looking for concerts! There will be a lot of concerts happening over the next few weeks. Remember, critiques are due within one week of the concert you attend. Do you know of a good concert? Are you performing in a concert? Email Mrs. Caballero with the information: Who, where, what, when - include a website if there is one! We'll share that information with the other orchestra members!

Because of the financial support of the Fremd Boosters, we were able to bring in a very special guest speaker, Mr. Bobby Lambert. Mr. Lambert covered a multitude of topics including leadership here at Fremd and beyond, challenging students to think about how they contribute to the communities (family, friends, music, etc) that they are a part of.

CELEBRATIONS!

- Congratulations to our **ILMEA District 7 Musicians**: Aiko Amano, viola; Gage Bachmann, bass; Grace Chae, violin; Steffi Chen, viola; Cameron Chiu, cello; Samuel Du, cello; Andrea Jing, violin; Gina Kang, violin; Yena Kim, violin; Jenny Kim, violin; Hannah Lin, violin; Joey Ranieri, bass (jazz) and Paige Dirkes-Jacks (bassist) who was selected for Choir as a soprano.
- Congratulations to our 2018 Concerto/Aria Competition winners: Cameron Chiu, cello; Tom Filipiuk, piano; Natalia Łastowiecka, soprano; Ryo Terada, clarinet. These students will be performing with Symphony Orchestra on the Concerto/Aria Concert on Tuesday, February 13th.

The **District 211 Honors Orchestra** auditions took place in November. Congratulations to all of our band and orchestra students who were selected for the 2018 District 211 Honors Orchestra.

Violin I (seating order)

Cody Mui, HEHS
Maika Edwards, SHS
Kenneth Tochihara, SHS
Grace Chae, FHS
Makiba Kurita, CHS
Erin Johnson, HEHS
Matt Nowlan, SHS
Kyle Morimoto, CHS
Ami Akeda, SHS

Violin II (seating order)

Christian Kim, CHS
Yena Kim, FHS
Charles Lin, CHS
Jenny Kim, FHS
Sophie Kim, CHS
Pranav Ramachandra, FHS
Rebecca Rosmanitz, FHS
Margie Volkammer, SHS
Andrea Jing, FHS
Lucy Jiang, FHS

Viola (seating order)

James Preucil, CHS
Tom Filipiuk, FHS
Steffi Chen, FHS
Sam Gomberg, SHS
Aiko Amano, FHS
Amanda Perez, FHS
Matthew Connolly, CHS
Emely Navarro, HEHS

Cello (seating order)

Jiyoon Hwang, FHS
Abigail Zuercher, PHS
Samuel Du, FHS
Katie Monroy, SHS
Emily Kaspari, SHS
Eleanor Park, CHS
Sophia Kics, PHS
Lydia Hahm, FHS
Lina Jang, CHS

Bass (seating order)

Carson Jess, CHS
Miles Bates, CHS
Jeffrey Zheng, FHS

Piccolo

Laura Vesco, CHS



Orchestra News con't...

Flute

Alison Gauvreau, FHS
Eileen Peng, FHS

Oboe

Vincent Chang, SHS
Jane Smith, PHS

Clarinet

Brian Sonderegger, PHS
Daniel Burke, SHS

Bassoon

Duncan Harro, FHS
Nicole Suarez, FHS

French Horn

Nate Massa, CHS
Phoebe Domanus, PHS
Claire Umeki, FHS
Josh Manalansan, SHS

Trumpet

Abigail Fledderman, SHS
Jonathan Pilafas, FHS

Trombone

Brandon Jaimes, SHS
Austin Morales-Sanchez, SHS
Joaquin Lainson, SHS

Tuba

Kenehi Godana, SHS

Percussion

Katie Schroeder, CHS
Kyler Perez, SHS
John Emiliano, HEHS
Jason Wickland, SHS

Do you have good news to share? Please email Mrs. Caballero - we want to celebrate with you!

Helpful hints - click on the articles below to help you as you care for your instrument/investment:

[Caring for your instrument during the Winter months](#)

[General care and maintenance of your stringed instrument](#)

Looking for gift ideas for your orchestral musician? Check our local string stores (The String Project) or online string stores (Shar Music Products)

- Invest in Private lessons (contact Mrs. Caballero for a list of recommended private teachers)
- Good quality new strings (<https://www.sharmusic.com/Strings/>)
- Shoulder rest (for violinists/violists) - Take your instrument into The String Project and try out their shoulder rests to see which one fits best for you.
- A nice stool for home practice (bassists)
- A new instrument, bow or case - purchasing a quality instrument is a process and an investment - please ask Mrs. Caballero if you have any questions!



Some music families attended the Chicago Symphony on Dec. 2





TRIVIA NIGHT

Our next big fundraiser is Trivia Night to be held on Mar 16th 2018 @7pm in Fremd Student Cafeteria.

We are looking for volunteers to help us with this important event. Volunteering would include tasks like handle ticket sales, food setup and distribution as well as handle raffle ticket sales during the event. Most of these tasks are not time consuming and you would spend at most 1 hour per week closer to Feb/Mar timeframe. Most of the time, you would be involved in management type activities like ordering food/setting up volunteer lists/ordering raffle tickets all of which can be done at your own pace.

Last year, we had approx. 31 teams and more than 250 parents, students and faculty took part in this very fun-filled event.

We are also looking for a new MC for the 2018-2019 school year since Chris Smith will no longer be part of Trivia Night due to other commitments. Now would be a good time to volunteer for this position since Chris Smith is available and willing to teach you all that goes into preparing the questions for this event. You are welcome to grab a friend and do this together if you wish.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact either myself or Michelle Gonzales - gonzalesm24@gmail.com.

Our first Trivia Night meeting will be held on **Monday Dec 11th 2017**



FMA

The Fremd Music Association (FMA) is the only music booster organization in D211. We are a non-profit organization through which parents and friends support the Fremd Music Department. FMA coordinates volunteer work, organizes fundraisers, and acts as an advocate for the arts. Your donations and volunteer support are vital for the continued tradition of musical excellence at Fremd High School.

For the 2017-2018 school year, budget from FMA membership dues is \$13,000. The generous contribution from 67 Band families, 35 Choir families and 25 Orchestra families has resulted in membership dues of \$11,537.89 and within \$1,500 of the budget amount. Please consider joining the FMA and enable us accomplishing the objectives. Membership forms are included in this newsletter as well as on-line at wp.freemdmusic.org

In 2016 and 2017, FMA raised and provided direct financial support to the Fremd music department to meet the following needs and requests:

- Musical instructors, clinicians guest conductors -- \$26,276
- New Instruments -- \$17,500
- Hospitality -- \$10,516
- Scholarships -- \$2,859
- Sheet music & recording fees -- \$5,385
- Festival / Competition Registration fees -- \$4,550
- Other equipment -- \$6,500

FMA volunteers have also donated literally thousands of hours to the music program - chaperoning trips, providing concert hospitality, fitting tuxedos and uniforms, painting props.

*Please consider joining this outstanding parent booster organization and becoming active with FMA!

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/FremdMusicAssociation



We Need You...

Board and Committee Positions 2018-2019

Each year, FMA goes through the process of selecting our next year's board and committee members. Elected board members can serve at most 2 consecutive years. Co-Officers are permitted. FMA accepts nominations through a special nomination committee convened for this purpose. The new slate is then posted around March of the school year on the FMA website and elections are held during our May general meeting. All FMA members are welcome to attend this meeting.

Our board consists of:

President*

VP Marching Band*

VP Orchestra*

VP Choir

Secretary*

VP Band

VP Show Choir – Tentative new position to be introduced from this year onwards to meet growing Show Choir needs.

Treasurer

*incumbent is eligible for another term

In addition to the Board of Directors, we will also be looking for Committee Chairs. Committees include membership, hospitality, uniforms, publicity, fundraising, student accounts, newsletters, technology and audio/video etc.

The following Committee Chair Positions are in urgent need of leaders for next year:

Technology (Website, Audio & Video)

Student Accounts

Floral Design Showcase

Trivia Night MC/Event Questionnaire Preparation

Band Male Uniforms

Orchestra Male Uniforms

Orchestra Female Uniforms

Descriptions of each position can be found in **FMA's bylaws**, which are in the "**Forms and Documents**" section of the website www.freemdmusic.org. If you are looking for additional information regarding these roles please join us for our board meeting held monthly. Our next meeting date is January Wednesday January 17th 2018.

Please feel free to contact Hema Kaiwar at FremdMusicPresident@gmail.com regarding any board or committee position.



We Need You... (continued)

Matching Contributions and Year End Charitable Contributions

A special message from FMA Fundraising Chair Ramnath Cidambi -

As the holidays are approaching and 2017 is coming to a close, FMA would like to remind you that FMA is a registered non-profit. All contributions to FMA are tax-deductible.

If you are planning any end of year donations to manage your taxes, please consider donating to FMA. Your contributions provide resources to students to enhance their music education.

If your employer provides matching contributions, please let us know so that we can maximize your donation to FMA.

Some employers (Example: Allstate, Schneider Electric) donate up to \$500 to a non-profit that you volunteer for. If your employer has a similar program, please contact Hema Kaiwar at fremdmusicpresident@gmail.com

How to contribute to FMA?

Credit/Debit Card - Please contact Ramnath Cidambi at fremdmusicfundraising@gmail.com

Check - Please make checks to "Fremd Music Association" and mail the check to Fremd Music Association, 1000 S. Quentin Road, Palatine, IL 60067

Happy Holidays!!

FMA Meeting Dates 2018

- *Wednesday January 17, 2018
- Tuesday February 20
- *Wednesday March 14
- Thursday April 19
- Tuesday May 15
- June (location TBD)

Meetings begin at 7PM and are held in the Band Room (Room 16). All FMA members are welcome to attend.

*Wednesday meetings held in faculty lounge

Scrip Fundraising Programs \$

Are you looking for a way to reduce your student's trip fees? Do you want a simple fundraising idea? Do you want something that doesn't involve hitting up your family, friends and neighbors selling popcorn, wrapping paper, candles, etc.? We are happy to offer the Scrip fundraising programs. We have three different companies and styles of fundraising. All options are explained below. You are able to participate in one, two, three or none if you prefer.

Option #1 Benefit Mobile App



Benefit Mobile is the *trifecta* of fundraising. It is convenient, it is easy and it is profitable. Benefit Mobile sells e-scrip gift certificates and gives you back a percentage of the gift card value. For example, let's say you are shopping for some Christmas gifts from Bed Bath and Beyond. You grab your choices and head to the counter. Upon scanning the purchases, giving them your coupons, you get your total. You open the Benefit Mobile app and enter your total purchase amount and click "buy" gift card. Recently, I purchased a card for \$96.73. I earned \$6.77 from that purchase for the organization I support. Different retailers have different profit percentages or rebates.

There are a few steps to get started.

Download the Benefit Mobile app to your phone (available for both iPhone and Android).

Create an account with Benefit Mobile. Select your beneficiary as Fremd Instrumental Association (listed under non-profit organizations).

Register and verify your bank account for purchases (safe and secure using encrypted ACH).

Shop and earn money.

There are so many good things about Benefit Mobile.

They are instant. You purchase a gift card from your phone, after you get your total from the checkout, at Target for example.

They can be the exact amount of your purchase. Certain minimum and maximum amounts apply. No balances to remember to use later.

The gift cards are all stored in your app on your account. No need to carry plastic gift cards around with minimal balances to use later. No need to remember to bring the gift card with you to the store. Pre-planning is not necessary since gift cards are available 24/7 for instant purchase.

Please see the detailed Benefit Mobile guide attached for further instructions. You can definitely get your family or friends involved also. If they wish to raise money for your benefit, just send their name to me so I can list them as your beneficiary for purchases they make.

The full retailer list can be found here.

<https://www.benefit-mobile.com/our-retailers>

Some of my personal favorites from the 148 retailers offered include.

Charming Charlie's – 13% rebate (I'm like a kid in a candy shop here)

Bed Bath and Beyond – 7% rebate

On the Border – 8% (anytime I don't have to cook is great)

Home Depot – 3% (because we are always fixing something at home)

All proceeds earned will be returned to the individual student account. You're shopping and spending the money anyway right? Why not pay with a purpose?

Scrip con't...

Option #2 Great Lakes Scrip Company



Great Lakes Scrip Company (GLSC) offers many ways to earn money while shopping. First, they offer the traditional plastic gift cards. Second, you can order an e-scrip gift certificate delivered to your email or as a gift to someone else. This is typically delivered within minutes of the order. Third, you can order plastic gift cards, register the cards with GLSC and reload those gift cards at your convenience. Let's look at the options in depth below.

Plastic Gift Cards

Traditional gift cards like you would purchase from a store. They look the same, work the same and have a preloaded amount on the gift card. They are typically sold in a variety of denominations with some available from \$5 up to \$500. You must pre-order them and they are delivered to the coordinator weekly.

E-scrip gift certificates

The e-scrip certificates are delivered to email and are available through the wallet section of the GLSC website for your individual account. These can be printed and taken to retailers to use. Some retailers allow the use of the certificate from your phone. Many can be used online with retailers such as Amazon. These are available 24/7 and delivered within minutes to your account.

Reloaded Gift Cards

There are several retailers who allow reloaded gift cards. These require the purchase of an initial plastic gift card from GLSC. You will "register" your card with GLSC on their website in your "wallet". Once you have the card registered, you can reload the card with almost any amount (per the individual retailer rules – some are multiples of \$10 beginning at \$10 up to \$100, some are multiples of \$25 beginning at \$25, etc.). The reload is almost instant and you can continue your shopping.

One huge benefit from GLSC is they offer Visa, Discover and American Express gift cards. These are typically in denominations of \$50, \$100 and \$250. The best part is there is no activation fee for these cards. You're saving \$4.95 right off the bat. Second, the Visa cards can be "registered" to you so you can use them online. Want to get a free two week trial offer on something but need to enter a credit card? It's always best to cancel but in cases where you don't these cards are great for that because you can enter this card and have no risk that they will bill you continuously after your free trial. It also protects you from buying anything online if you are leery about using your credit card online.

To get started visit www.shopwithscrip.com and click "Join a Program". When prompted for the enrollment code, enter 82AB951355598. You will need to register your bank account again to be able to pay for the gift cards. This will be a weekly fundraiser ordering gift cards every Monday for you to earn money.

You can find the full retailer list here.

<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop/Product/Browse#?saved>

Option #2 Scripzone



United Scrip works the same way GLSC works. We alternate some weeks with GLSC and some weeks with United Scrip. The rebate percentages are better with United, but GLSC has the option to reload. Again, sign up as a new user for Fremd Music Association. Our code is 2882 if required. I'll add you to the email distribution list so you can get notified of the order dates and if there are any specials I am aware of for that week.



Scrip con't...

Tips and Tricks

I have been using manna / scrip fundraising for over 12 years and have earned a substantial amount of money this way for several non-profit organizations I've been involved with. Here are a few tips and tricks I've learned through the years.

Got a Kohl's credit card? Shop at Kohl's using your credit card to get all the perks and discounts available to you.

Then purchase a Kohl's gift card and pay your bill at the customer service counter.

Use a Visa gift card anywhere they do not offer a gift card through either organization. For example, if you love Portillo's, they do not offer a gift card through GLSC or Benefit Mobile. That's ok, use a Visa gift card and still earn money from your purchase.

Pay your home bills like cable, satellite, phone, cell phone with a Visa gift card.

We are also looking for assistance with distribution for the scrip program. This is a once a week commitment getting the gift cards to the individuals who ordered for the week. Typically, it is a quick meeting out front at Fremd one night (or as I like to call it, drive thru manna – I park in front of Fremd and families drive up to pick up their orders) or a pickup from your home. If you can help, please contact me via the information listed below.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sue Lech – FMA Scrip Coordinator

847-702-7345 (cell – voice or text)

s.lech@comcast.net



FREMD MUSIC ASSOCIATION



Membership Form

Your FMA contribution is used to directly fund programs at FHS!

If your employer offers a matching gift program, please include matching gift forms when making your donation.

STEP 1 – MEMBER INFORMATION

Name	<i>Please print your name(s) as you wish it to appear in our concert programs.</i>						
E-mail address	<i>Preferred for sending newsletters / tax letters and for contacting volunteers</i>						
Mailing Address							
Phone							

Student or Alumnus Name	Grade Level / Graduation Year <i>(please circle or write in year)</i>					Music Affiliation <i>(circle all that apply)</i>		
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		Band	Choir	Orchestra
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		Band	Choir	Orchestra
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		Band	Choir	Orchestra
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		Band	Choir	Orchestra
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		Band	Choir	Orchestra

STEP 2 – CONTRIBUTION LEVEL

Contributors will be recognized in all music department concert programs.

\$	Diamond (\$500 and up)
\$	Platinum (\$100 - \$499)
\$	Gold (\$50 - \$99)
\$	Green (\$25 - \$49)
\$	Supporter (\$10 - \$24)
\$	Alumnus (\$10)
\$	Additional donation to (please circle) Band Choir Orchestra

STEP 3 – VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteering is a great way to learn more about FMA and meet people. Please indicate area of interest.

Band

Choir

Orchestra

Special skills (e.g. accounting, audio / video editing, sewing, trip coordination, fund raising, hospitality)

STEP 4 – PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM AND INCLUDE

1. Checks payable to Fremd Music Association
2. Matching gift form from your employer if applicable. FMA is a 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization.

3. Mail to:

Fremd Music Association
c/o Suriya Ramachandra
917 Boardwalk Court
Palatine, IL 60067

847-991-5029 – suriya@ldsindustries.com