



STAG NOTES

Volume 26, Number 1

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

September 2021

FROM THE PODIUM. . . MR. JAMES S. ROPER

It is SO nice to be back in the classroom after 18 months away. When I was studying music education at the University of Maryland so many years ago, I would have never thought that I would have to teach my students through a computer screen. Heck, at that time, there was no such thing as a laptop! I give tremendous credit to our students who persevered under very trying times, yet were able to produce numerous virtual performances. If you have not done so already, go to YouTube and search for "DeMatha (choose a musical group) virtual performance". I think you will be pleased with their performance given the fact that we NEVER met as an ensemble last year.

As we try to get back to "normal", our rehearsals (for the wind bands) consist of students using a specially designed mask and bell covers for all wind instruments following the protocols issued by a team of researchers from the University of Maryland and University of Colorado, Boulder.

However, we still plan to have a "scaled back" (sorry for the musical pun) Kaleidoscope Concert on Oct. 16. See the box to the right for information. We also will have our 5K Run/Walk fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Glenn Dale Community Center. If you are an alum, please contact me if you wish to sponsor a student.

NINTH ANNUAL KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT

October 16, LT (SEAL) Brendan Looney '99 Convocation Center

Doors Open: 6:45 PM Concert: 7:30 PM

Concerts of "pop" and "novelty" musical variety, on three stages, performed by various Instrumental groups—some will be joined by DeMatha non-music faculty members performing alongside. Jamie O'Connor '90 and Andrew Eck '11, beloved and current DeMatha faculty, to serve as Masters of Ceremony.

Following is a taste of the program:

Blinding Lights	Stand by Me	Fantasia for Strings
El Primer Fuego	Motown Forever	Pardox II

And, our own Fr. James, DeMatha's President, will be singing "The Impossible Dream" from the Man of LaMancha with the Wind Ensemble.

Tickets are \$20 if purchased before October 4, \$25 after. Due to COVID restrictions, NO food or drink at the event this year.

Funds for our program are raised through sponsorships and advertising in our commemorative program. Please consider supporting this way, either sponsoring the program with a donation or purchasing an ad. We encourage special message ads congratulating individual students, the music program or a specific music group. Of course, this is a great way to promote your business. More than 600 people are expected—quite the large audience for a small price, and your ad will also continue to run in the Fall and Spring Concert Series programs.

Please visit the [Stag Store](#) online or in person to reserve your tickets. To be a sponsor or place an [ad](#), view the information sheet [here](#).

5K Sponsorship

While many of you "danced" for up to 15 hours to raise money for the program, the 5K has taken the place of the infamous Dance Marathon. Please consider sponsoring a young man for this event by emailing [me](#). Your name will be provided to a current Stag, who will be asked to contact you. What a great way to stay in touch with the students that are preserving your legacy!

Two Scholarship Fund Opportunities

The *John H. Mitchell Scholarship Fund* gives tuition help to talented Instrumental students.

The *Charles Lawrence Scholarship Fund* gives help for private lessons to those who cannot afford them.

[Please consider helping one or both!](#)

New Music Admin

We said goodbye to Kit Sin, our Administrative Assistant. This fall, we are very fortunate to welcome Mrs. Maritza Velasquez-Paolucci to that role. You may recognize her name as "Mrs. V" was the Associate Director of College Counseling here at DeMatha.

CONCERT SCHEDULE 2021 – 2022

Saturday, October 16 Convocation Center	KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Sinfonia, Advanced Percussion Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble II 7:30 PM
Thursday, November 18	FALL CONCERT Concert Band I, Concert Band II, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble I Bladensburg High School, 7:30 PM
Thursday, December 9	FALL CONCERT Symphonic Band, Concert Strings I, Concert Strings, Sinfonia, and Philharmonic Bladensburg High School, 7:00 PM
Monday, December 13	FALL CONCERT – Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble II, and Advanced Percussion Ensemble Bladensburg High School, 7:00 PM
Thursday, December 16	FALL CONCERT – Wind Ensemble Bladensburg High School, 7:30 PM
Thursday, April 28	SPRING CONCERT Concert Band I, Concert Band II, Percussion Ensemble I, Concert Strings I, and Concert Strings Bladensburg High School, 7:30 PM
Tuesday, May 3	SPRING CONCERT Percussion Ensemble II, Advanced Percussion Ensemble, Sinfonia, and Philharmonic Bladensburg High School, 7:00 PM
Thursday, May 5	SPRING CONCERT Concert Band and Symphonic Band Bladensburg High School, 7:30 PM
Monday, May 9	SPRING CONCERT Wind Ensemble Bladensburg High School, 7:30 PM

Instrumental Music Awards — May 15, 2021

Site: Not held due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Director of Instrumental Music: James S. Roper
Percussion Instructor: Dr. Michael Gatti

Principal: Dr. Daniel J. McMahon
Director of Orch/Assoc.Dir. of Bands.: Matthew Bickel
Assoc. Dir. of Bands/Orch: Carlos Castrillon

DIRECTOR'S AWARD FOR ORCHESTRA: Leo Maring
DIRECTOR'S AWARD FOR PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE: Christopher Allen
DIRECTOR'S AWARD FOR BAND: Cole Gilbert
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA BAND AWARD: Zachary Cheng
U.S. MARINE DISTINGUISHED MUSICIAN AWARD: Zachary Cheng
BRUCE PASQUALINO MEMORIAL JAZZ SCHOLARSHIP: Jared Jefferson
LOIS MITCHELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Brandon Cibor
REIHER BAND SCHOLARSHIP: Joel Ayers
BARBARA REIHER ORCHESTRA SCHOLARSHIP: Chase Pearson
TIMOTHY HAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Keyvar Smith-Herold
RICHARD STAFIEJ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Michael Duarte
TED ALBANO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Keyvar Smith-Herold
MAURICE BUGNOSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Joshua Kucharski
FUNKE TUBA SCHOLARSHIP: Kip Banks
COLEMAN MELLETT SCHOLARSHIP: Keyvar Smith-Herold
COLEMAN MELLETT OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN SCHLRSHIP: Joshua Kucharski
FRIEND OF THE BAND AWARD: Mahala Shillingford and Hilton Hall • Tamar Eskin and Edward Cheng

NATIONAL CATHOLIC BAND ASSOCIATION HONOR GROUPS

HONOR JAZZ BAND: Myles Rice • Patrick Sowers • Will Lawrence • Hackett Rascher

HONOR ORCHESTRA: Fife Dehinbo • Vincent Snearly

HONOR BAND: Adam Zgol • Zachary Cheng • Juan Hernandez • Kai Stammnitz • Andrew Brown • Christopher Allen

Seniors 2021

44 seniors graduated from the instrumental music program this past school year. They attend a variety of institutions of higher learning with an equally diverse choice of majors. These seniors were offered over \$6.6 million in scholarships.

Christopher Allen- Liberty University
Joshua Beavers- Mount St. Mary's University
Sef Blackman- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Jedidiah Bonner- Undecided
Nathan Bress- Prince George's Community College
Andrew Brown- Baylor University
Darrell Brown Jr.- Towson University
Justin Burrows- Old Dominion University
Cian Cabodevilla- Frostburg State University
Zachary Cheng- Oberlin College and Conservatory
Andrew Daniel- Georgia Tech
Henry Davis- St. John's University
Fife Dehinbo- Penn State University
Mohamed Diop- Marist College
Shane Grant- St. John's University
Malcolm Gray- Howard University
Kaie Hall- Howard University
Tommy Harrison- Eckerd College
Coree Harvey- St. John's University
Juan Hernandez- Catholic University of America
Miguel Hernandez- Mount St. Mary's University
Herbert Lacy III- US Naval Academy

Christopher Lamb- Towson University
Will Lawrence- Auburn University
Mikkel LeBlanc- Frostburg State University
Robert Libcke- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Jaiden Mosley- Tufts University
Anders Murphy- University of Maryland, College Park
Konrad Neely- Temple University
Wesley Peters- University of Maryland, College Park
Dwayne Preston- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Hackett Rascher- Miami University of Ohio
Myles Rice- Temple University
Graham Roberts- Millersville University
Carter Rodia- Indiana University-Bloomington
Isaac Royal- Florida A&M University
Peter Ruddy- Catholic University of America
Vincent Snearly- University of Dayton
Patrick Sowers- University of Maryland, College Park
Kai Stammnitz- Wake Forest University
Samson Sudan- Catholic University of America
Scott Tran- University of Maryland, College Park
Ian West- Anne Arundel Community College
Adam Zgol- Purdue University