



Mt. Vernon Music

Musical Notes



December 2015

-  **Tuesday, Dec. 8:** MVHS choir concert, 7 p.m., auditorium
-  **Thursday, Dec. 10:** MVHS band concert, 7 p.m., auditorium
-  **Saturday, Dec. 12:** Snow Whirl school dance, 8-11 p.m.
-  **Tuesday, Dec. 15:** MVMS choir concert, 7 p.m., MVHS auditorium
-  **Wednesday, Dec. 16:** MVMS band concert, 7 p.m., MVMS gym

Students sign up for yearly Solo and Ensemble contest

A few students have taken up Mr. Ellinger's challenge to perform for him rather than perform at the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble contest in January.

Out of 94 MVHS band members, 92 have signed up to perform before judges, either as soloists or as ensemble members. In the 8th grade band, 38 out of 45 have signed up. That means nine students will face Mr. Ellinger instead of an anonymous judge.

Among the soloists are 28 high schoolers and 15 8th graders. From the high school band, 20 ensembles have signed up; the 8th grade band has signed up six ensembles.

In the high-school band, 19 soloists and 13 ensembles are attempting Group I music. If they receive a gold rating, they qualify to compete at the state level in February.

Preparations continue for annual Snow Whirl

Snow Whirl organizers have decided to change the theme of this year's dance to simply a winter theme. As a result, they don't need to borrow any carousel horses.

Tickets went on sale this week during lunchtime. Tickets cost \$20 per person.

You should have already received a Signup Genius email seeking volunteers and donations for the Snow Whirl. Volunteer opportunities include manning the snack tables or the coat check; donations include snacks such as brownies, fruit, cookies, melting



Members of the band and color guard enjoy last year's Snow Whirl.

chocolate for a fountain, and punch ingredients. Please consider helping out, because this is the biggest fundraiser for the music department.

During school hours, students will

choose a king and a queen for each grade level. Each king and queen must be in the band or choir. Royalty won't be announced until the night of the dance.

Winter concerts to warm holiday hearts

Because it's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year, the Mt. Vernon bands and choirs are preparing to warm everyone's hearts with holiday cheer.

The performances start next week in the auditorium with a concert by all the Mt. Vernon High School choirs: Premiere, Expressions, Center Stage, and the *a cappella* choir Locked Out. These choirs will take the stage starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Two days later, all the Mt. Vernon High School bands and 8th grade band will perform a holiday repertoire at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The high-school bands include the concert and steel

drum ensembles.

The middle-school choir will perform Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The next day, Dec. 16, Mr. Day will direct the 5th and 6th grade bands in the middle-school gymnasium at 7 p.m.

Help support the bands

Starting at 7 p.m. before the band concert Dec. 10, the music boosters will host a holiday social, featuring the bell and student choirs from Mount Comfort Elementary. During that time, you can buy decorated holiday cookies, order poinsettia bouquets for your

favorite musicians, and order shout-outs. All proceeds will benefit the high-school band program.

Help support the choir

Center Stage, Mt. Vernon's show choir, has reached the Top 5 of all Indiana high-school choirs in the 2015 B105.7 Christmas Choir Competition. The winning choir will receive \$2,500 and be featured in a 30-minute special on 105.7 WXYB Dec. 24 and 25. To show your support, you have until midnight Sunday to visit the [contest site](#) daily and vote for Mt. Vernon. The choir wants to apply the winnings toward its trip to NYC and Carnegie Hall in June.