



# Musical Notes

Volume 2, Issue 10

Mt. Vernon Music Boosters

April 2017

## Calendar

- **April 7:** George and Icy Vaughn final competition, 7 p.m.
- **April 13:** High school preview concert, 7 p.m.
- **April 22:** High school ISSMA Organizational Festival
- **May 1:** Mandatory band parent meeting, 7 p.m.

## Competition coming up for MVHS bands

The 8th-grade band earned a gold rating at the ISSMA Organizational Festival competition **March 31** at Greenfield Central Junior High School.

"I am very proud of the 8th-grade band," said Mr. Ellinger. "Better yet is we have all but four students moving on to high school band!"

The high-school bands are competing next, on **April 22** at Pendleton Heights High School. And Mr. Ellinger will be very busy now that he has two bands in that festival.

The symphonic band, which meets during Block 2, will perform at **11:30 a.m.** The band is competing in Group III.

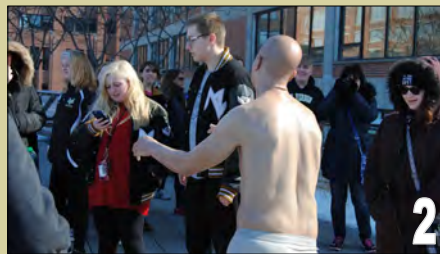
The wind ensemble, which meets during Block 1, performs later that day, at **4:35 p.m.**

The ensemble is competing in Group I.

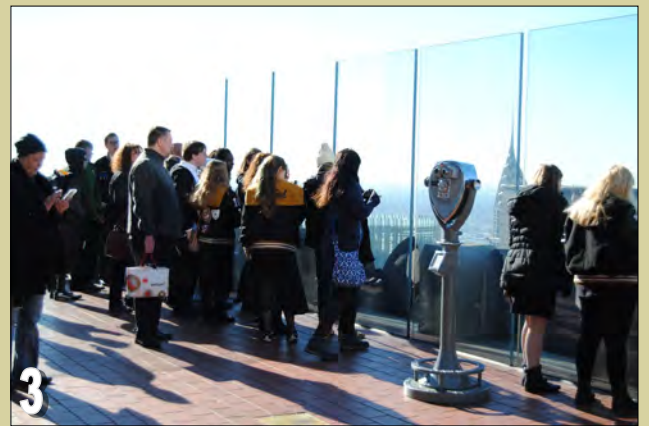
Both bands will give a preview concert at **7 p.m. Thursday, April 13**, in the auditorium.



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The 72 Marauders who played Carnegie Hall during Spring Break have lasting memories from the trip.

Memories include ferry rides to Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, and Battery Park; the hotel, with its goofy elevator system; the New York premiere of a cello concerto performed by celebrated cellist Yo-Yo Ma and the New York Philharmonic; the chilly weather the entire time there; skaters on the ice rink at Rockefeller Center, even though it was the first day of spring; and the flat tire that Bus #2 experienced on the way out of the city.

1: The band performs at Carnegie Hall. 2: Students from Bus #2 check out a life-like (and nearly naked) statue at [High Line Park](#) during a guided tour of the city. 3: Students and chaperones enjoy the city skyline from [Top of the Rock](#), the observation deck at Rockefeller Center.

## Schedule set for drum major auditions

Starting next week, the drum major audition process for the 2017 fall season will begin.

Actual meeting times are still being worked out, considering that both bands will be rehearsing after school for the upcoming ISSMA Organizational Festival. During each meeting, candidates will discuss leadership topics, the responsibilities and logistics of being drum major, and how to conduct.

All candidates will be compet-

ing for two positions: head drum major and assistant drum major. Each position is good for just one school year. If the current drum major wants to continue in that role this fall, she must audition again.

Candidates need to turn in an essay, due **April 19**, to explain why they want to be drum major, what it means to be a leader, and what they would do differently to make the band experience more successful. They also must receive recom-

mendations from three teachers, schedule a 10-minute interview with Principal Roach, and schedule a 10-minute meeting with Mr. Ellinger.

All their work will conclude **April 28** with an interview and audition before a panel of judges.

Successful candidates will be sent to a drum major-specific workshop at the Music for All Summer Symposium at Ball State University (see next page).

## Klinestiver to compete for Vaughn scholarship

Senior Leah Klinestiver, a flute player, will perform this week for the top prize in the annual George and Icy Vaughn Performing Arts Scholarship competition.

Eight finalists will vie for up to \$20,000 in scholarship money through this Hancock County Community Foundation endowment. To become a finalist,

Leah had to survive a school-level audition against two other band students March 8. Each high school in Hancock County chooses one student for each of two categories—instrumental and vocal—to compete in the finals.

The finals are set for **7 p.m. Friday** at the H.J. Ricks Centre for the Arts in Greenfield.



## Briefs

### Color guard auditions set for fall season

Mt. Vernon's two color guard teams have scheduled auditions for the fall season on **April 24–27** from 4–6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Enter through Door 7.

Students who are now in 5th through 11th grades can audition. No prior experience is necessary. Auditioning students should bring with them a water bottle, athletic clothing, a good attitude, and a friend. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Ellinger or contact [Thomas Thawley](#), color guard director.

### IU offers summer instrument academies

Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music is offering instrument-specific [summer academies](#) for students in grades 7 through 12. These academies enable students to immerse themselves in their chosen discipline for several days or weeks.

Specific academies and workshops are available for strings, percussion, piano, saxophone, ballet, and even ballet. A college audition preparatory workshop is also offered. The academies take place throughout June and July.

### Ball State hosts annual Music for All camp

Drum majors aren't the only people to receive specialized training at this camp. The [Music for All Summer Symposium](#), presented by Yamaha and run by Bands of America, provides experiences for anyone in marching band, concert band, orchestra, jazz band, color guard, percussion, and even middle-school band.

Ball State University will host this camp June 27–July 2.

# Landscape event to raise band funds

By **Katie Smith**  
*Senior/trumpet*

"Are you ready for some spring renewal?" That's what the Mt. Vernon Music Boosters are asking the community at large, and they are also providing some outlets for that renewal—at the first annual **Lunch, Lawn, Leisure and Landscaping** event set for 2 to 5 p.m. May 7 at Mt. Vernon High School.

Leading up to this event, band and guard members will be selling mulch by the bag as a fundraiser. Each bag of black- or brown-dyed mulch or natural mulch will be \$5 and sold April 3–14, with delivery April 22. After that, starting April 24, geraniums and petunias will be sold. With these items purchased ahead of time, home-

owners can come to discuss planting plans and ideas with landscape architects and gardening pros at the Lunch, Lawn, Leisure and Landscaping festival. Other vendors will be available to discuss rain water irrigation and watering. Also, fashion, health, and gardening products will be sold, including flowers and mulch for those last-minute plantings.

This event promises to be an annual event, according to co-chairs Darci Pellom and Jim Smith. Each spring, they explained, people start planning their yards and how they want them to look, and the Band of Marauders can provide the tools necessary to make their yards and gardens shine! In future years, the event can grow to

include statuary and vendors for such items as irrigation systems, in-ground sprinklers, and more. The more variety, the better fundraising effort results!

If you know of any vendors who would be interested in booth space, please contact [Darci](#) or [Jim](#). The cost is \$25 for the time of 2–5 p.m. Vendors keep their profits; we only charge the vendor booth fee.

This event is a great way to share with the community and is partly an outreach effort for community service. Any student helping with setting up, assisting, or working the day can have community service hours logged for other organizations such as 4-H, Boy Scouts, and National Honor Society.



The Mt. Vernon Indoor Percussion Ensemble placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Scholastic Concert A class at the Indiana Percussion Association's state finals Saturday in the Hulman Center at Indiana State University, Terre Haute.

The ensemble scored 86.275, just 3.225 points below Warren Central's first-place score.

Mt. Vernon qualified for the state finals March 18 at the IPA's state preliminaries at Decatur Central High School.

## Consider the college marching experience, part II

Last month's *Musical Notes* promoted the marching bands at the state's public colleges. Here are the three bands at in-state private universities that seniors can consider joining.

### Butler's marching band (BUMB)

Auditions aren't required to play a wind instrument in the BUMB. However, percussionists go through placement auditions in the first few days of rehearsals. Band members fulfill their PWB core requirement and receive a \$100 tuition reduction. Visit the band's [info page](#) for details.



### Notre Dame's Fighting Irish band

Rather than pay to see Fighting Irish football in South Bend, you could join the Band of the Fighting Irish for free access to the games. Students attending Notre Dame or nearby St. Mary's

or Holy Cross colleges can join this band, which was founded in 1846, making it the oldest in the state. Auditions happen right before band camp in August. If you want to march under the watchful gaze of "Touchdown Jesus" (the mosaic on the university's library), visit this [info page](#).



### Marian's Marching Knights

At this small university in Indianapolis, you can audition for a marching band scholarship, no matter what your major is. The band is open to all Marian University students. The band's [color guard](#) has auditions this month. You can find general information about the band itself [here](#) (scroll down).

