

## **JHS Bands – Mid Winter Newsletter!**

**2/2/09**

**Remember to stay for the Marching Band meeting immediately following the concert!!!!**

### **Honor Bands!!**

Several JHS Band students have had much success this year auditioning and being selected for regional and state honor bands. On Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup>, Fergus Falls Community College hosted the Northwest Band Directors' Association 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade Regional Honor Band Festival. The following JHS students were selected for membership in to this honor band: Bennett Freitag – Trombone, Peter Brackin – Tenor Sax, Rachel Astrup – Alto Sax, Shanna Thoen – Percussion, and Nick Hansberry – Tuba.

Several students submitted audition CD's to Concordia College for their honor band festival to be held April 17-19. Students selected for this honor band include: Lizzy Liefkort – flute, Nick Hansberry – Tuba, and Stephanie Kaiser – French Horn. The following students were selected as alternates for the festival: Zach Anderson – Tuba, Lydia Griffin – French Horn, and Rachel Astrup – Alto Sax.

Zach Anderson – Tuba, and Lizzy Liefkort – flute, were chosen as musicians for the St. Olaf College Honor Band Festival that was held on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Congrats to all students being involved with honor bands this year!

### **AAA Award Winners!**

Congratulations to Alicia Montbriand and Jim Ahlquist for being chosen as Alexandria's representatives for the AAA Award! The AAA award is special recognition for senior students that are leaders in the areas of Arts, Athletic, and Academics. Jim (percussion) and Alicia (trumpet) are both members of the Wind Ensemble. Way to go Jim and Alicia!!

### **Central Lakes Conference Music Festival hosted by Alexandria!**

On Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> Alexandria will be hosting the Central Lakes Conference Music Festival. Each of the 9 conference schools will be bringing their top choir, band and orchestra to the festival. Throughout the day bands will be performing in the JHS Gym, the choirs will perform in St. Mary's Church, and the orchestras will perform in the DMS auditorium. The day will be capped off by a performance by the All – Conference Orchestra, Choir and Band which will be in concert that evening starting at 7:00 p.m. in the JHS Gym. CLC All Conference Band members from JHS include: Lizzy Liefkort – flute, Whitney Radil – clarinet, Anna Guaas – bass clarinet, Kelli Dietz – alto sax, Tanner Carlson – tenor sax, Ari Carlson – baritone sax, Sam Dale – trumpet, Beckah Ripley – trombone, Aaron Frederick – trombone, Zach Anderson – tuba, and Aaron Lemmon – percussion. Dr. James McKinney from South Dakota State University in Brookings will serve as the band clinician/honor band director.

### **Upcoming Events – Solo Contest!**

Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - Solo and Ensemble contest in Brainerd during the school day. Jefferson High School Band will be bringing 36 entries to contest. The contest is open to the public and parents are invited to attend the performances at Brainerd High School. We wish to thank the accompanists that will be playing for the students that day: *Bonnie Brand, Linda Iverson, Mark Graf and Karen Erickson*. The time these musicians spend with the students is very much appreciated!!! A schedule of the events/performances will be available approximately 2 weeks ahead of the contest.

### Pep Band Updates

It has been a very successful winter pep band season for the Red, Black and Small Group Pep Bands. The students have done an excellent job of clearing their personal schedules to perform for the pep band events. There are only three more scheduled winter pep band events to play for. The Black Pep Band will perform for Boys Basketball this Thursday night, and the Small Group Pep Band will perform for the Girl's Hockey game on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. As soon as tournament schedules are set, the directors will relay those dates and times to the students.

### Upcoming Concerts!

**A NIGHT OF PERCUSSION:** A unique percussion concert will be held at the DMS Auditorium on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 p.m. This concert will be percussion only, and will feature the following groups: The Concert Band Percussion Ensemble, the Symphonic Band Percussion Ensemble, the Wind Ensemble Percussion Ensemble, and the Alexandria Winter Drumline. Come hear some awesome concert and marching percussion music on this concert!! Free admission.

The **KIWANIS CONCERT** will be held on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 p.m. The Kiwanis Concert is the only concert that features the top performing groups of the JHS Music Department, which includes the Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, and the Symphonia Orchestra. The three ensembles will be performing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" together at the end of the concert.

Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> will serve as the date of the annual **POP CONCERT**. This year, we will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the pop concert!!! Yes, the pop concert was started back in 1959 by former band director 'Bud' Christiansen. Look for many special things behind the scenes as the planning starts for that concert soon!

### The Donkeys are coming, the Donkeys are coming.....Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> in the JHS Gym!

The world famous 'Dairyland Donkey Basketball Shows' from Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin will be coming to Alexandria on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>!! The event will start at 2:00 p.m. in the JHS Gym and will feature 4 teams of local Alexandria celebrities riding donkeys, playing basketball, and having a blast! This fundraiser event is being set up as a scholarship fund that will set aside funds for students that need financial assistance for marching band costs. Tickets are available in advance from Sheree Oberg in the Activities office at JHS - 762-7754. All tickets are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door, preschool are free. Concessions will be available during the game.

### Marching Band Uniform Fittings/Registrations

Registrations and fittings for Marching Band will be coming up soon! We are fortunate to have a crew of awesome uniform moms that do an outstanding job of organizing all this behind the scenes. It is quite the operation! This year Connie Boraas and Beth Telander again will be the leaders of this project. Uniform fittings for JHS upperclassmen will start on March 17<sup>th</sup>, with DMS underclassmen starting March 30, 31, and April 6, 7, and 20. Registrations and necessary fees will be taken care of at the uniform fitting time.

### Jazz Ensembles

The JHS Jazz II and Jazz I will be attending the annual University of Minnesota Morris Jazz Festival on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The spring Jazz concert will be on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at the JHS Gym starting at 7:30 p.m. We hope you enjoy this evening's jazz bands!