

July 2011

Dear Doane Band Members:

Hope your summer has been enjoyable and restful. Things have been quiet in Crete without the summer community band. Thanks to all who helped out with the recording of the National Anthem at the end of school. It will be available online in early August. 13th Street remains torn up and is six weeks behind schedule. So we can anticipate some inconvenience at the start of school. But it will be nice when it is finished and less congested after big on campus events. Our campus projects seem to be moving along nicely. There is new field turf and as I write to you they are building a new fire pit outside of Smith Hall. I look forward to being with all of you and with the over 30 new freshmen we have coming to band. I am hoping this letter will serve to answer any questions you may have about the band program and the start of school.

Program Highlights

This year the Concert Band will take a one day tour of the surrounding towns in the fall. Pep band will again add a few new tunes to their repertoire and SWE and Jazz Ensemble will tour to Kansas City. The Doane Band is participating in two commissioning consortium this year; one with Indianapolis composer Michele Schelle which will be completed during the school year and the other with Kansas City composer James Mobberley which will be finished in 2012. I am already looking forward to our Christmas Festival in December.

Please start checking your Doane email for important information and updates.

This will provide you with the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the opening of school.

Mandatory Meeting For All First-Year and Transfer Students on Sunday, August 29th

I would like to meet with all students who are new to Doane (incoming freshmen and transfers) on Sunday, August 29th, from 4-4:45 p.m. At this meeting I will discuss auditions, instruments, lockers, and schedule. We have more than 35 new students and our first performance occurs on Thursday, September 2nd, so please know that your attendance at this meeting is both appreciated and expected.

Auditions for New Students and Returning students who wish to play in SWE

New students who have received instrumental scholarships should be enrolled in instrument lessons (most of you will be in Music 111C). All new students will need to audition with me on Monday, August 29 between Noon and 3:45 p.m. The purpose of this audition is to properly place you in the band program and also to select freshmen to place into the Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE). A sign-up sheet will be on my office door, CM65. Please sign up for a time that works in your schedule. **DO NOT SKIP A CLASS TO AUDITION. THIS WILL BE YOUR ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO AUDITION FOR SWE. IF YOU CANNOT COME IN THIS TIME PLEASE LET ME KNOW.**

Auditions and Audition Etude

I would like to get a better understanding of each of your abilities. To do this I would like to hear each of you play the SWE Audition Etude. This can be found at www.doane.edu/bandhandbook under the heading Symphonic Wind Ensemble Audition Etudes. In the audition I will ask you to play a Chromatic Scale, the etude, and to sight read. It will last less than ten minutes. If you do not have an instrument, don't worry. Just send me an email, and we will visit.

Upperclassmen in SWE

I would like to visit with all upperclassmen who auditioned and were accepted into SWE during our regular rehearsal time on Monday, August 29, from 4-5:00 p.m. The first rehearsal of SWE will be on Tuesday, August 30. e will be preparing for the opening convocation on Thursday, September 1. If you need an instrument, please e-mail Becky Brewer (becky.brewer@doane.edu) prior to August 25.

Upperclassmen in Concert Band

We will hold our first rehearsal on Thursday, September 1, at 5:20 p.m. If you need an instrument, please e-mail Becky Brewer (becky.brewer@doane.edu) prior to August 25.

All Students Interested in Jazz Ensemble

The first rehearsal of Jazz Ensemble will be on Wednesday, August 31, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. If you are interested, please come to this important rehearsal up as we will determine then if we are holding auditions. Wade Howells, who taught Saxophone for us last year is our new Jazz Ensemble director.

Tiger Pep Band

The first rehearsal of the Tiger Pep Band will be Friday, September 2, 4:00-5:15 p.m. The percussion will learn the cadence on Thursday night September 1 6:30-8:00 p.m. **Please note that this year we have a home football game on the Saturday of Fall Break. The pep band will be there to perform and therefore I expect everyone to be at the game.** We will have a pizza party after rehearsal on Friday October 21.

Band Handbook Online

The Band Handbook which has every calendar for each of the ensembles is now ready for your perusal You can find it at www.doane.edu/bandhandbook.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. You may do so either via email (jay.gilbert@doane.edu) or phone 402-826-8256.

I look forward to the start of school and working with each of you. Best wishes for the remainder of the summer.

Regards,

Professor Jay W. Gilbert, D.M.
Director of Bands
Chair of Music