



THE LANCER BAND PROGRAM

GOALS

The Thousand Oaks High School Lancer Band is a collaboration of outstanding students, parents and instructors all striving to achieve program excellence. Lancer Band Members join a team, focused on the thrill of performance, self-sacrifice for the good of the group and the fun and success that comes from planning and hard work. We work as a unit for the good of the Band, the School and the Community.

STRUCTURE

Each fall, the entire Lancer Band membership performs as one unit in field show competitions at the local, state and national level. Field shows have evolved from the traditional football game halftime performance into a remarkable display of musicianship, marching and artistic movement. We perform our show for appreciative audiences at Friday night football games, Southland competitions, State finals and National finals.

As the Field Show season draws to an end in late November, our instrumental students transform into the concert bands. During the second semester, instrumental students continue to perform in concert bands assigned through an audition process. Color Guard students continue in their regularly scheduled class, keeping fit and practicing their skills. Jazz Bands, Winter Guard and Spring Drumline programs are additional options for interested students.

PERFORMANCE GROUPS

During the concert season, the Thousand Oaks High School Instrumental Music Department features three concert performance ensembles: Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band. Placement into these ensembles is determined by audition. During the marching season, all individual ensemble members participate in the Lancer Marching Band. Students receive Visual/Performing credit, UC credit and/or P.E. credit depending on ensemble.



Wind Ensemble

The Wind Ensemble is premier performance concert band at Thousand Oaks High School. Members of this exclusive group study and perform the most advanced literature available for band. Designed for advanced students, band members must audition during June and January each year for acceptance into this select ensemble.

Instrumentation in this ensemble is usually one per part and students are seated by performance ability. The top chair in each section is the principal player and earns the responsibility to organize the needs of their perspective section. The principle player also is the soloist for any given solo that is required for the ensemble. Wind Ensemble section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process. During their spring season, the Wind Ensemble participates in a number of district and regional band festivals throughout Southern California. This elite group has consistently earned "Superior" ratings at these festivals, many of which are by invitation only.

Wind Symphony

The Wind Symphony is designed for experienced student musicians who wish to extend their training by studying and performing a challenging musical repertoire. As their musical abilities mature through study and practice in the Wind Symphony, many of these student musicians will move on to become members of the Wind Ensemble.

Lancer Band Class Descriptions February 2009 Because of the high level of musical skill required, band members audition for membership in this ensemble during the months of June and January. Instrumentalists in the Wind Symphony are organized by section, with each group having a section leader called the principal player. Section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process.

During their spring season, the Wind Symphony participates in a number of district and regional band festivals throughout Southern California. This ensemble has consistently earned "Superior" ratings at these festivals.



Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band is designed for novice and intermediate student musicians who wish to extend their training by studying and performing an appropriately challenging musical repertoire. As their musical abilities mature through study and practice in the Symphonic Band, many of these student musicians will move on to become members of the Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble. Band members audition for placement in our concert bands during the months of June and January. Instrumentalists in the Symphonic Band are organized by section, with each group having a section leader called the principal player. Section members are ranked by audition and may challenge the player in the next chair through the challenge process.

During their spring season, the Symphonic Band participates in a number of district and regional band festivals throughout Southern California. This ensemble has consistently earned "Excellent" and/or "Superior" ratings at these festivals.

TOHS Jazz Program

Jazz opens up an entirely new dimension for students in the Thousand Oaks Instrumental Music Department. It gives students an opportunity to experience and experiment with new styles of music. A broad range of jazz styles is explored including examples of: bebop, swing, Latin, rock, etc. Members are encouraged to improvise.

Members of the Jazz Ensembles perform with the following instrumentation: Alto Sax, Tenor Sax and Bari Sax; Trombones; Trumpets; Piano; Guitar; Bass; Trap Set (Drum Set); Auxiliary Percussion.

Thousand Oaks High School has two jazz ensembles and other individual combos: The AM Jazz Band and the PM Jazz Band. Placement into these ensembles is determined by audition. Both Jazz Ensembles perform for school activities, concerts and in various Jazz Festivals in the spring.

AM Jazz Band

The AM Jazz Ensemble is the number one jazz ensemble at Thousand Oaks High School. The members of this ensemble are selected through audition held in August from the membership of our other performing ensembles. All of AM Jazz Ensemble members are in another instrumental ensemble class and are members of the Marching Lancers. This is a yearlong class, which meets at 7:00 AM, Monday through Friday, hence the name, AM Jazz. The AM Jazz Ensemble performs at an annual booster fundraiser and silent auction, sponsored by the TOHS Band Boosters.

PM Jazz Band

The PM Jazz Ensemble is designed for beginning and intermediate Jazz Students. This ensemble meets in the second semester of the school year in the afternoon after the normal school day.