

Advanced Band

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Course Description

The primary purpose of the instrumental music program is to provide students an educational experience in music leading to mastery of the instrumental music content and achievement standards established by the State of Virginia. The program emphasizes those skills and concepts that will provide a foundation for lifelong learning and a way of knowing and understanding the world.

In addition to the musical training that students receive by performing in ensembles, students learn cooperation and teamwork, commitment, tolerance, and acceptance. Performing well with a group that plays well helps build self-esteem, confidence, and pride in their accomplishments. Music study also reinforces reading and math skills, and enhances gross and fine motor coordination.

Goals:

- *Performing* a varied repertoire of music
- *Reading* and notating (writing) music
- *Listening* to, analyzing, and describing music
- *Evaluating* music and musical performances
- *Understanding* music in relation to history and culture

Course Grading Policy:

- 1st / 3rd Nine Weeks - 40% of Semester Grade
- 2nd / 4th Nine Weeks - 40% of Semester Grade
- Exam - 20% of Semester Grade

Nine Weeks Evaluation

- 34% - **Performances and Required Rehearsals** - All performances (Football Games, Parades, Concerts...etc), dress rehearsals, and specified rehearsals. (*These special rehearsals will be announced at least two weeks in advance*)
- 33% - **Classroom participation** is a crucial part of a performing ensemble. This includes participating in daily rehearsals, class discussions, and other classroom activities.
- 33% - **Playing tests, written assignments, and other assessments**. Throughout the semester, there will be various forms of assessment. Some examples might include: reflection papers (on performances, musicals, or other topics), written or computer based tests, instrumental playing tests (prepared music, scales, or sight reading)

Resources:

ShoreMusic.org - A website for music on the Eastern Shore. Visit and participate in the forums!
<http://www.ShoreMusic.org>

Arcadia High School Band
http://www.shoremusic.org/groups/ahs_band/

Extra Credit Opportunities:

It takes one assignment to replace one missed performance. (Does not apply to final concert)

- Accomack Community Band Rehearsals (Must attend at least 2 rehearsals)
- Approved Concert Attendance (Must submit program and a reflection paper)
- Approved Performance (Must submit program listing your name and a reflection paper)
- Approved Research Assignment (3 Pages)

2010-2011 Performance Schedule:

- [PEP] September 10, 2010 - AHS vs Charles City
- [PEP] October 8, 2010 - AHS vs Windsor
- [PEP] October 15, 2010 - AHS vs Sussex
- [PEP] October 30, 2010 - Homecoming vs Northampton @ 1:00pm
- [MB] November 6, 2010 - Onley Veteran's Day Parade
- [PEP] November 12, 2010 - AHS vs Nandua @ 4:00pm
- [MB] December 4, 2010 - Chincoteague Christmas Parade
- [HONORS] December 11, 2010 - District Band Auditions
- [CB] December 15, 2010 - AHS Winter Night of the Arts @ 6:30pm
- [MB] December 18, 2010 - Onancock Christmas Parade
- [HONORS] January 8, 2011 - District Band Auditions (Alternate Date)
- [HONORS] TBA - All Shore Auditions
- [HONORS] March 9-10, 2011 - All Shore Concert
- [HONORS] March 23-24, 2011 - All Shore Concert (Alternate Dates)
- [CB] TBA - Arcadia High Spring Night of the Arts
- [CB] 6-8-2011 - Arcadia High Graduation

Music Awards

Each year, the music department recognizes gifted and exceptional students for their hard work and dedication to the Arcadia High School music program.

John Philip Sousa Award

The pinnacle of achievement in a high school band program, the Sousa Award recognizes outstanding dedication and superior musicianship. The award has become a nationwide symbol of excellence in musical achievement. All recipients of this award will have their name engraved on a special plaque that will hang in the band room for generations to come. (Senior Award)

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award

Louis Armstrong was the epitome of jazz as a trumpeter, singer, and band leader. His imaginative, simple style led the way for others and changed the course of jazz. His phenomenal skill dazzled audiences around the world. Lucille Armstrong, his wife in later years, described his love for people. "Louis's greatest personality traits were humility and generosity...He just loved people, and he always tried to understand them too...He was compassionate, generous, and understanding with everyone...He was loved, not only for his style, but as a person as well." The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award was introduced in 1974 with the approval of his widow, Lucille Armstrong, to honor outstanding jazz students. (Senior – may not be awarded every year)

The Patrick S. Gilmore Band Award

The Patrick S. Gilmore Award was introduced in 1994 in honor of the legendary 19th-century bandmaster and impresario. Patrick Gilmore (1829-1892) and his band joined General Burnside's expedition to North Carolina in the Civil War where they played for the troops and cared for wounded soldiers. Gilmore also played for every president of his day, from Buchanan to Cleveland, including Abraham Lincoln. (May not be awarded every year)

The Director's Award for Band

The Director's Award for Band honors the most outstanding freshman musician. The recipient of this award will receive a 5x7 inch wooden plaque. Their name will be recorded on a special plaque that is displayed in the band room for generations to come. (Freshman)

Performing Ensembles

Concert Band [CB]

The AHS Concert Band is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play a brass, percussion, or woodwind instrument. Enrollment will be by audition only. This performance based classes will include concert, jazz, and solo ensemble music. In addition, the Concert Band will concentrate on the basic fundamentals of instrumental music (scales, tone, rhythm, etc). Proper instrumental technique, ear training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines will be taught and maintained within the group throughout the semester.

Pep Band [PEP]

The Pep Band provides music for athletic contests at football games, pep rallies, and other campus and off-campus events. This ensemble is designed to foster a sense of community and school spirit in the student body. **All performances are required for students enrolled in Advanced Band.**

Marching Band [MB]

The Marching Band participates in various community sponsored parades throughout the season. This ensemble is designed to prepare quality music of various styles and then interpret that music through the idiom of the visual performing arts. An emphasis will be placed on both musical and marching fundamental techniques. Students should expect to develop enhanced technical skills musically in tandem with fine motor skills associated with intermediate to advanced marching fundamental techniques. Students should also expect to perform a vast repertoire of visual maneuvers matching the style and pacing of the musical selections. **All performances are required for students enrolled in Advanced Band.**

All Shore Band [HONORS]:

Each year, Northampton and Accomack County combine to form an honors band comprised of the best musicians from our two counties. Auditions are usually held in late January and the concert is usually in March (near St. Patrick's Day). It is a great honor to audition for this ensemble and a greater honor to be chosen. After two days of rehearsal, the honors band performs a concert for the public.

On the Web - <http://www.shoremusic.org/groups/AllShore/>

District Band [HONORS]:

In the same fashion as All Shore Band, there is a higher level District Band that is held on a regional level. The competition is tougher, but the prestige is greater. The first and second chair of each instrument group is eligible to go on to the All State Band.

Accomack Community Band [ACB]:

The Accomack Community Band is comprised of musicians from all over the Eastern Shore. It is a family setting where all musicians are welcome, regardless of level. It ranges from Middle School students who are just starting out to seasoned citizens who enjoy playing music. Currently, practices are held on Tuesday nights from 7:00 - 9:00pm at Onancock High School (formerly Onancock Learning Center). This is a great opportunity as it provides an opportunity to participate in a full band with most of the parts covered. For more information, see the website or ask Mr. Matthews

On the Web - <http://www.shoremusic.org/groups/acb/>