



Alumni Newsletter 2017

**The Pride Alumni Band Association
would like to welcome the Class of 2018**



Sam Alvis
Marissa Bowers
Erika Coffy
Daniel Criss
Zach Dunphy
Michael Emmett

Mai-Ling Francis
Andrew Goodrich
Anya Hutchison
Alan Kolar
Kaitlyn Kuntz
Nolan Lippy

Bryanna Lowe
Taylor Martin
Andrew Mee
Gabriel Mule'
Destiny Myers
Sarah Nichols

Logan Qualls
Robert Reed
Daniel Rinehart
Lauren Scott
Sydney Smith
Tyler Ulbricht

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As I start my 14th year as Alumni President, I continue to be awed and humbled by the love and dedication to The Pride by every one of you. It's because of your continued dedication that we start our 49th year of existence! Keep an eye out as we're planning a VERY big 50th in 2019! I'd like to start off by thanking the alumni committee and our Directors Scott Curfman, Dustin Harris, and Brandon DuVall for their continued dedication by putting together an incredible program this past year and of course, Bob Feldbush for arranging our concert number! We're already hard at work on your 2018 schedule! Your alumni committee is a very well-oiled machine at this point with much tenure and dedication, and continues to be an incredible group to work with, but we can always use fresh ideas from you, so please join us and get involved!

This past year we saw one of the larger groups of alumni gather for the Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade, many of the members having graduated within the past 6 years! We also saw good attendance at the Stow Fourth of July parade!

Our band show performance was awesome! You voted on the concert number and chose Journey's Open Arms. The crowd loved it as we are so well known for our power ballads! This year's band show is August 14th. We're hoping to see many of you attend!

My daughter Marissa will be joining us on the field in August as an alumnus. It's amazing how fast 4 years in the Tiger Band goes by! While I'm a proud alumni, I can't describe how great it is seeing your own child in our uniform, on our field, playing our music, and doing what we do. I do get a bonus 3 more years of Tiger Band'ing as my son Will's on the tuba line.

This year's Pride Award recipient was Jim Kierstead, who sadly passed the prior year. His sister Margie accepted. Jim's dedication to The Pride was huge and he made the trip every August from MA posting travel comments on FB all the way here.

Our fundraising this past year was VERY successful. The Pride and the IMP had so much fun and camaraderie together pouring the suds, that we will join again in 2018 for Festa Italiana. A big thanks goes out to Kalli Alvis, IMP President, the IMP members, AND the Pride Alumni members, who continue to help make this happen! Together, we make a difference!

We awarded the ninth Pride Alumni Scholarship in May of 2017 to Mr. Julian Selvaggio, who's heading to Kent, and plan a tenth for the Spring of 2018! We also provided \$150 for second prize of IMP's I-PAD raffle.

We cannot continue to do this without you! Your participation helps us to help our Tiger Marching Band! 2018 IS the year to get re-involved and re-acquainted with the Pride! This organization exists for you and because of you! Please review the 2018 calendar on the back page and make plans to attend some of these exciting events to show your pride and dedication!

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Bowers, President
The Pride Alumni



THANK YOU!

Please help the Pride to thank CIC who came through with rental instruments, Kalli Alvis- IMP President, Dustin Harris and Courtney Lambert who always allow us to come home and use the band room, Brandon DuVall, Scott Curfman, Robert Feldbush for arranging our concert number, Marsha McKenna at the Falls City Press, and finally, thank you to all who attended this years' events.

The Alumni would once again like to thank the Forsheys for having the Mustang available for the parades. Also, we welcome and thank our waterboys for being there for both parades. Daniel and Joseph Braun, sons of Mike Braun, you both did an excellent job!

2018 Officers

Congratulations to your 2018 Officers: Mark Bowers ('85), President; Steve Mietus ('81), Vice President; John Walk ('72), Treasurer; Mike Price ('99), Secretary

Instrument Rentals and Donations (Mike Price)

I would like to thank everyone who borrowed an instrument this year as they were all returned in great condition. It was very nice this year to have almost run out of instruments for all of you to rent. That being said I am glad to also say that we now have a total of 7 piccolos and we have gained 4 flutes this year as well. Let's keep up the number of rentals this coming year and as always if you have or know of instruments that can be donated please get in touch with either myself or mark. Hope to see many of you at the parades and the band show.

Pride Alumni Band Association 2017 Treasurer's Report
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Beginning Balance 1/01/2017	\$ 7,657.70
Income:	
Italian Festival	1,103.00
Stow Fourth of July Parade	500.00
Amazon SMILE	5.00
Feldbush Book Sales	176.29
Member Donation Challenge	1,979.00
Member Donations	780.00
Membership dues & merchandise sales	730.00
Expenses:	
Scholarship for Senior	(500.00)
Donations to IMP	(100.00)
Donation to Uniform Campaign	(425.00)
T-shirts (for graduating seniors)	(510.14)
Pizza party for graduating seniors	(67.85)
Food & supplies (Sunday dinner)	(420.00)
Hall Rental (Monday party)	(100.00)
Food & supplies (Monday party)	(195.15)
Pizza (pizza party w/Tiger Band)	(488.00)
Christmas Party	(154.25)
Gift Certificates (directors, announcer)	(150.00)
Parade Supplies	(139.56)
Copies - music & routines	(23.06)
Gridiron Alumni Dinner	(175.00)
Video to DVD Conversions	(1,099.00)
Pride Award	(59.48)
PO Box Rental	(90.00)
Ending Balance 12/31/2017	<u>\$ 8,234.50</u>

Entertainment Committee (Alan Cool)

Well it has been another busy year of partying with the Pride Alumni and the current Tiger Band! In case you did not know the Entertainment Committee is responsible for all of the food and party related entertainment that is hosted by the Pride Alumni. So to start the year off our first party is for the graduating seniors after their last concert of the year. It is a pizza party hosted by the Alumni to wish our seniors well and to thank them for all of their hard work in the Tiger Band over the years. It is also when we get their information to keep in contact with them and to help bring them into the Pride Alumni. The next batch of parties happen with the band show. The first being the Chicken dinner after the Sunday practice. We got chicken and jojo's from Fiesta Pizza and Chicken on Bailey Rd. here in the falls. Then after Monday night's practice we go to the Italian American Club on 9th St. for our party. This year the first drinks for everyone alcoholic or non-alcoholic, depending on age and preference was paid for by the Alumni. Typically we would have had subs from ACME, due to a rather large mistake on ACME's part there were no subs to be had for the alumni. Thanks to the fast thinking of Ed Hankins and the wonderful people of the State Rd Subway (home of what once was the Taco Bell) and the Marco's Pizza on Portage Trail, we had various sandwiches for all. The night of the band show as tradition we had "Chilly Willies" from Reiter Dairy for our post performance beverage. Then there is the always anticipated Pizza Dinner after the band show with the current Tiger Band. This year between the kids and the Alumni we went through a towering amount of sheet pizzas from Rocco's Pizza on Portege Trail. It may not seem like much but food keeps us all going and happy and the Entertainment Committee is happy to do the job. I could not have done it without the other members of the committee. Then there were the countless other saps.. I mean helpful people of Sue, Julie, Ron, Steve, Mark, Evan, Bridget, Sandy, Gail, Dan, and Deanna. We would not have the "Chilly Willies" if not for the incomparable Eddy Hankins and none of this would be possible without the money from John Walk, So a big thank you to all from the bottom of my heart. If anyone has ideas or would like to help out please see me I am the tall nerdy glasses wearing drummer in the Percussion section.

Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade (Steve Mietus)

I think this year was a banner year for the Pride Alumni Band and the annual Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade. While I did not get an exact count, we had over 60 marchers– that's right – **over 60 marchers!!!** I think that this sets an attendance record for the alumni at the Memorial Day Parade. If all of you were there, you could have been a part of this record setting event! But the weather was perfect. It had rained for several days before the event, and there was a 50% chance of rain forecast for the parade, but luckily, we had sunny skies and a nice breeze.

We lined up right behind Immaculate Heart of Mary school as usual and visited with old friends and even made some new ones. We were pleased and proud to see so many members of the recently graduated class of '16. They were the biggest reason for our record attendance.

After visiting with our colleagues, Scott Curfman gave us a brief warm-up and run through of the tunes. "This is My Country" and "Tiger Rag" were our usual tunes for the parade, but this year they added "Tiger Song" to the rotation. Thank heavens for those recent graduates, as some of us "more veteran" graduates who didn't know it was going to be added and haven't played it in a while had to rely on them to get us through it a couple of times before our memories were refreshed.

The parade went smoothly and not only did we have a great turn out with our marchers, but the crown turnout was equally impressive. And all of you alumni who were in the audience, don't think we didn't see you! We want you in the ranks next year so we can have an even bigger turn out.

As I was marching this year, my mind wondered back several years when at the start of the parade a huge military plane would fly overhead at a low altitude to kick off the parade. I don't know what kind of plane it was, but it was a

big 4-prop plane. Just as my mind drifted back to those days, two fighter jets soared overhead. While not at as low an altitude as the prop plane, it was equally impressive and exhilarating to watch and know that it was for all of us – marchers and spectators alike.

It seems like the parade just started and the next thing you know you're in front of the judges stand. And we all know the drill ... Tiger Rag followed by two cadences of the J.W. As tired as you are, you always have the energy to do the J. W. Then it's just a few more songs in the rotation and then you're at the cemetery for the halt. Once again, you've had a great time and feel good about what you have accomplished and now you're going to go call all of your classmates from whatever year you graduated to urge them to join us for the next parade. Did your phone ring?



4th of July Parade (Steve Mietus)

We once again got very lucky with the weather for the Stow 4th of July parade this year. The skies were clear and the sun was ... well ... sunny! There was also a slight breeze that made marching in a parade that much more pleasurable. But not as pleasurable as seeing and visiting with so many of your high school band mates and making friends with new ones.

To be honest, I don't recall the total number of marchers that attended, but there was a large number, but it would have been much larger if YOU were there. As always, we are very excited to see so many new members. In this case, it was members with a "17" on their back. As usual, the new class of marchers is the largest. And we're pleased to see those numbers. But wouldn't it be great if YOU contacted all them members of YOUR class to rally for the next parade and have a class from the 00's, 90's, 80's or even 70's or earlier be the largest class? That's my challenge to all of you! Get your class represented!

As for the parade, there is a routine that happens that is anything but boring or monotonous. We meet in the parking lot before the start of the parade. While we're there to warm up and prepare for the parade, the most important part is visiting with old friends (some of us older than others), and even make new ones. And then there was the whistle. We would come to hear that whistle all too many times as the parade went on.

And the parade went on. After a short warm up we were on our way to march in the parade. We stepped off and started our trek to the judges stand. It wasn't long before we started seeing familiar faces in the crowd that should have been out here marching with us. Hopefully next (whistle) year you'll be there.

We went up hills and down hills and through deep and thin gatherings of spectators who were very appreciative of our efforts. And as you can guess, Mr. Harris wasn't shy about blowing his whistle! But it wasn't long before we finally reached the coveted judges stand.

You gather everything you have left in you after all of those whistles and then it comes. You play "Tiger Rag" for the last time in the cycle with everything you have. And you perform with everything you have left. Well, almost everything. There are two cadences of the JW that follow, and that takes the last bit of what you have left. And you feel great, you've finished the parade and you're still breathing. Breathing hard, but breathing! And now that it's over it starts again!

It's a great feeling to finally finish, but the hard part is saying good-bye to all of your old and new friends. But you know that you'll see them again next year, and may some more if YOU show up, as you should!



Band Show (Ken Snyder)

Congratulations to the Pride Alumni Band for another outstanding performance at the 2017 Preview of Bands Band Show at Clifford Stadium on 15 August 2017.

Sunday was a huge success. We had a great turnout and both registration and practice in the south parking lot went very smoothly. The weather was excellent. The temperature was near 80 degrees; the wind was out of the NNE with humidity relatively low for August. Former Tiger Band directors Mr. Brandon Duvall and Mr. Scott Curfman co-directed the Alumni Band at both practices and the band show. Sunday's practice was followed with a chicken dinner in the cafeteria.

Practice on Monday evening was held in the stadium. Once again, the weather was great. Both the temperature and humidity were quite comfortable. As usual, a party was scheduled at the Italian American Center on Ninth Street following band practice. However, this year we had a glitch. The organization that we normally order the sub sandwiches from either lost or forgot our order. Ed Hankins was a hero. He was able to order the subs from another establishment, pick them up and save the event. Ed came in to pitch in the bottom of the ninth and saved the game.

At both practices, Mr. Curfman announced to the band that in the 2018 Band Show we would be making a change to the routine. Our intention is to replace *More* with *Eye of the Tiger*. The drill will be basically the same with a slight variation at the end. **It will be awesome!!!** However, for the 2019 band show, we will revert and play *More* in its entirety. Starting in 2020 forward, we will only continue with the *Eye of the Tiger*. Over the last couple of years, the alumni band committee has been trying to come up with an idea like this, but Mr. Curfman gets the credit for implementing an actual working plan. He is such a huge asset to this band.

Tuesday night, the evening of the band show, finally arrived. As always, we had our picture taken in the bleachers beneath the Tiger logo. Again, the weather was great. It was partly cloudy, about 80 degrees with the humidity near 58% when the Tiger Band emerged from the tunnel and performed their pre-game routine, after which the Alumni Band joined the Tiger Band for the playing of *The Star Spangled Banner*.

Following the pre-game show, the first band to perform was the Wildcat Band from Mogadore High School. Next were the St. Vincent-St. Mary Fighting Irish Band, the Bulldog Band from Woodridge High School, and the Tiger Swing Band from Massillon Washington High School. Then it was our turn.

When the Alumni Band was called to attention, they received a huge reception from both the crowd and the Tiger Band. I think that everyone in the band got an adrenaline rush from the cheering. The band did their running cadence on field followed by a jump halt and our fanfare. Randy Fillmore, the voice of the Pride Alumni Band, introduced us. He then dedicated the performance to the memory of Linda Booker, who had passed away in 2016. She was the daughter of Mr. Robert H. Feldbush. After four bass drum beats, the band took off downfield playing the first segment of *Tiger Rag*. That was followed by the circle-drill *More* and a conversion that put the band into a concert formation.

Next, the band was able to catch their breaths during the presentation of the Pride Achievement Award. The 2017 recipient was Jim Kierstead from the Class of 1970, who passed away last year. For years, Jim had traveled from western Massachusetts in order to participate in the band show. His sister Margaret, Class of 1967, also an Alumni Band member, accepted the award.

The playing of the concert number followed the award presentation. For the fourth year, the Pride Alumni Band Committee asked the band to vote online as to which song they wanted to play. We also invited friends and followers to vote. During band show registration, each member was asked what two songs they would like to play as a concert number. From that, the committee compiled a list of power ballads, which is the style of music that we are basically looking for. The final five songs that made the cut were *Open Arms* by Journey, *Heaven isn't too far Away* by Warrant, *Demons* by Imagine Dragons, *High Enough* by Damn Yankees, and last year's runner-up *We All Fall Down* by Aerosmith. The winner was *Open Arms*. Mr. Robert Feldbush provided the arrangement.

After the concert number, there was another conversion that set up the remainder of *Tiger Rag*, the three-count turn around, stomp down, bow and extension. Again **THE CROWD WENT WILD**. This was followed by the running cadence off field, which led the band into J.W. Once again, the adrenaline kicked in and exhaustion wasn't a problem because **IT WAS ALL ABOUT BAND**.

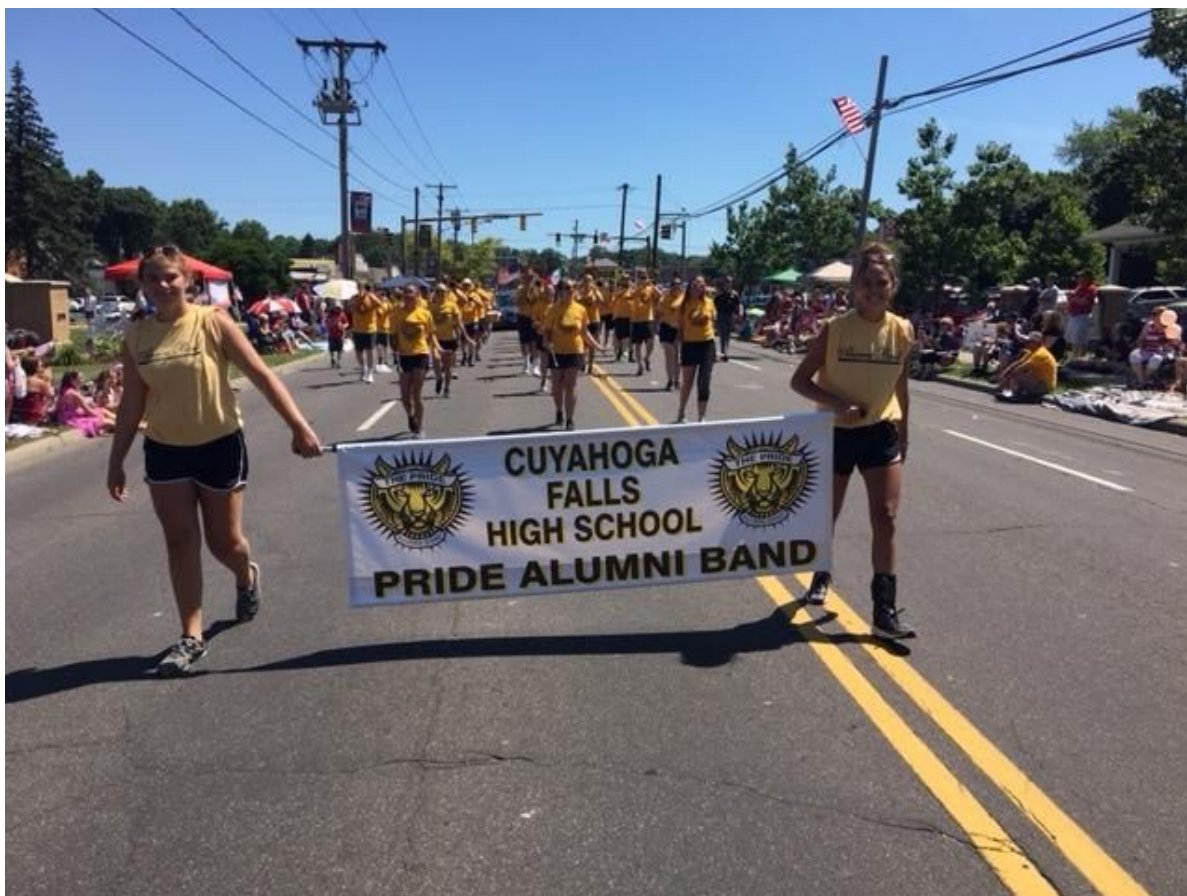
Following our performance there was a ten-minute intermission in order for the crowd to regain their composure. In the second half, we were treated to the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Band, the Bulldog Band from Green High School, and the Hudson High School Swing Marching Band.

Next was the award presentation. This year the Alumni Band recognized and/or awarded four categories other than the Pride Achievement Award. The best-represented class (for the second consecutive year) was the Class of 2016 with 17 marchers. The most senior participants were Ron Wahl and myself from the Class of 1966. The best represented family were the Reinhold's with 7 in attendance. The band member who traveled the farthest to march in the 2017 Band Show was majorette Wendy King, Class of 2000, from Enterprise, Alabama.

The exclamation point to the evening was the Cuyahoga Falls High School Marching Tiger Band. They were completely and totally awesome. Following the band show, the Tiger Band and Alumni Band gathered in the cafeteria for our annual pizza party. It's always a pleasure for everyone.

In all, we had 112 members that participated in the show, which were 3 more than those who attended in 2016. Next year let's hope for at least 125.

On behalf of the Pride Alumni Band members and committee, I want to thank Brandon Duvall and Scott Curfman for their hard work and leadership. I also want to thank our announcer, Randy Fillmore, CIC Music, The IMP, and a special thanks to Dustin Harris and Courtney Lambert who appear to understand our insanity. Most of all, I want to thank Mr. Robert H. Feldbush, without whom none of this would exist.



Bringing Back Memories... One More Time! (Tanner Martin)

Memories were made through the blood, sweat, and tears that have all brought us all together throughout the years. The musical excellence created by the students of Cuyahoga Falls deserves to be kept alive across all generations of the members of all of the music programs in the school district. I have been collecting recordings of all formats of all of the music programs in the Cuyahoga Falls School District.

This includes recordings of, but are not limited to, The Tiger Marching Band, The Goldtones, the Concert bands, the High School Orchestra, the Choir program, and Middle School Bands. I have the ability to convert many different formats. If you so wish, once I have copied the original recordings, I would be more than happy to send new digital copies back with the originals. Areas of high interest is any marching band footage and audio recordings dating from the 80's and earlier, because most, if not all of the footage of the band performances have been accounted for from the 90's and beyond. However, all video and audio recordings will be considered for archiving.

The formats that I can convert will be in the following list:

Video Formats:

-8mm Film	-VHS
-Super 8 Film	-VHS-C
-16mm Film	-Betamax
-Hi8 Tapes	

Audio Formats:

-Vinyl Records	-8 Track Tapes
-Reel to Reel Tapes (Open Reel)	-Cassette Tapes

If you wish to contact me for archiving, or would like further details about the process, please either send an email to cfhstigerbandarchives@gmail.com, or please call and leave a voicemail to 330-612-8553.

Alumni Band Historian
Tanner Martin

Message from Michael Emmett Tiger Band President, 2017-2018

I'm going to start this off by thanking the fantastic people that keep this show running. Thank you to Mr. Harris, Mrs. Lambert, Miss Thomas, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Reinhold. Each of them has spent a huge amount of their own time making sure we have the best marching band experience possible. Their advice and attitude has helped much more than they know, and I see all of them as inspirational examples of what you can accomplish by being professional, knowledgeable, and all around positive role models. Thank you to the IMP, and all of the chaperones that take care us every weekend with contagious enthusiasm. As a side note, a big thanks to whoever decided to start giving us animal crackers, you're a hero. Thank you to Marissa. You are just the right person for the job, and I am extremely proud to call you my vice president, but more importantly you'll always be my close friend. Thank you to our fantastic majorettes, who have been working so hard and destroying all season, we're all so glad to have such great majorettes.

Lastly, thank you to the band. As we all know, the Tiger Marching Band is no small commitment. Not for the students, not for the parents, and certainly not for the directors. We have spent an exceptional amount of time practicing this season. But none of that time was wasted. This season was incredible. If you put last year's tiger band side by side with us, it's very obvious how much we've improved. Sure, there were some new members, some old ones that left us, but we're largely the same group of people. The big question is "why are we so much better than last year?" It's a change in attitude. It's the type of change that requires a lot of people to be on board with the same ideas, and we all had to be willing to work hard for the good of the band. The marching band is a place for people to find friends. I've seen people who I believed to be completely different from each other become great friends just by being around each other in band. It doesn't matter how different you are from the person next to you, because we all share a strong commitment to this band. It doesn't matter if you aren't in the same grade, the same squad, the same section, or any number of things, because this activity brings people together. That is the reason we have been so successful, because we care about each other, and we care about this band. The friends I've made over my four years in this organization are very close to my heart. Whether I met them in kindergarten or just this year, I feel very fortunate to know them and I appreciate all of the good times we've had. If the Tiger Band stays on the same path that it's on right now, the next few years are going to be better than ever before. I'm beyond proud to be your president, and I love you all.

Regards,
Michael Emmett

We Want Your Band Stories

In just two short years the Pride Alumni Band will celebrate our 50th anniversary (2019)! In preparation for the big event, we thought it would be a great idea to compile a collection of your personal band stories from back in the day. No matter how far back that day was, we would like to hear your stories. We don't want specific names mentioned (including your own) as all names will be removed to protect the guilty! If you want to include the approximate year, that is fine. Our vice-president, Steve Mietus, will collect and edit the stories. While we're not quite sure how we will share the stories, we need to collect them first. If you have a story (or stories) that you would like to share, please email them to Steve Mietus at smeitus@neo.rr.com and please put "Band Story" in the subject line.

VISIT THE TIGER BAND AT www.cftigerband.org

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PATRONS OF CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO
2018/2019 - IMP Patron Form**

The purpose of IMP is to provide money and support for instrumental music in the Cuyahoga Falls public schools. All parents of children in any instrumental music program are members of IMP: however anyone interested in maintaining and improving the quality of the music program in our schools may become a member.

The IMP benefits all Falls public school bands by the purchase and care of uniforms, instrument repairs, scholarships, purchasing new music, assisting with band trips, school instrument repair, social and recreational activities, and providing chaperones and other necessities that the Board of Education is unable to provide under Ohio State Law.



The IMP supports the 800 plus band students in our program through a variety of fundraisers, including, this Patron Program, Band Shows, Tag Day, Patron Drives, Golf Outing, Car Washes, sales of Entertainment Books, candy and food, Varsity Gold Cards, and various other events throughout the year. We need both your time and financial support to help maintain the high standard of excellence for which the Tiger Band is known. Join us or send your contribution or Patron check to IMP today!

Become a sponsor of the IMP and reserve a place in our programs for recognition of your support. Music students who have graduated less than 4 years ago may become an **Alumni Patron for \$10.00**. The following levels of support will be included in our printed music programs: **\$25.00 Patron, \$50.00 Gold Level Patron, \$75.00 Black Level Patron, \$100.00 Honor Level Patron, \$150.00 or more Director's Level Patron.**

Patrons in the Honor Level will receive a pass to enter all IMP musical events free of charge. Patrons at the Director's Level will receive 2 passes to all IMP musical events. Free events must be sponsored by the IMP. Other non-instrumental groups such as the M&M's, Spring Musical and band shows at other locations are not included.

*Sincerely,
Kalli Alvis, President
Instrumental Music Patrons*

Your donation is tax deductible.

Music students who have graduated less than 4 years ago may become an Alumni Patron for \$10.00. The following levels of support will be included in our printed music programs; \$25.00 Patron, \$50.00 Gold Level Patron, \$75.00 Black Level Patron, \$100.00 Honor Level Patron, \$150.00 or more – Director's Level Patron. Make checks payable to the IMP.

Mail to:

Instrumental Music Patrons (IMP)
Cuyahoga Falls High School
C/O Mr. Dustin Harris
2300 4th Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Patron Level: ___ Alumni ___ Patron ___ Gold ___ Black ___ Honor ___ Director

2018 Pride Alumni Marching Band Schedule

[See the full calendar on our website](#)

Cuyahoga Falls Memorial Day Parade

- May 27, 2018 Sunday- 1-2:00 PM Band room Practice, Instruments available
- May 28, 2018 Monday- 9:00 AM Parade begins, Lineup 8-8:30 AM

Stow Fourth of July Parade

- July 1, 2018 Sunday- 1-2:00 PM Band room Practice, Instruments available
- July 4, 2018 Monday- 10:00 AM Parade begins, Lineup 9:00 AM

Preview of Bands Show*

August 12, 2018 Sunday

- 12-2:00 PM Registration, Instruments available
- 2-5:00 PM Practice

August 13, 2018 Monday

- 5-6:00 PM Registration, Instruments available
- 6-9:00 PM Practice

August 14, 2018 Tuesday

- 6:30 PM End Zone Photo
- 7:00 Show begins

***one practice is mandatory, preferably Sunday**

2018 Fundraisers TBD, we will post on our [Facebook Page](#)