

Dear 8th Grade Parent & Student:

This brochure is designed to give you information on membership in the Trojan Band at NSHS. We are extremely excited to have you join our band family in one of the most successful organizations at Newman Smith. Please feel free to call or email us with any additional questions:

NSHS Band Hall 972 968-5327
Mr. Rein

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Website

www.nshsband.org

Your association with the band program at NSHS can be one of the most rewarding and memorable experiences of your high school years...

Musically, the Trojan Band offers you numerous opportunities for musical growth through performances with award-winning groups. These groups perform at various times throughout the school year and are recognized for their musical excellence.

Academically, you will be associated with the best and brightest students at NSHS. The vast majority of NSHS Band members are enrolled in Advanced Placement and Honors level classes. In addition, every year the Trojan Band boasts of having several of the top students in each class.

Socially, membership in the Trojan Band offers students a chance to make lifetime friends and memories from a host of activities. Thru band membership, students are associated with an outstanding group of young men and women who are among the most talented, bright, and motivated at NSHS. Former NSHS Band students continue their band careers are currently succeeding in a variety of endeavors at colleges and universities across the country.

Course Descriptions for the NSHS Band Program

Trojan Marching Band

The Trojan Marching Band consists of all students enrolled in the band program. Students meet separately during their concert band period during the school day and rehearse together after school. Summer rehearsals begin prior to the start of the fall semester. The Trojan Marching Band is the most visible part of the NSHS Band Program and is one of the most successful organizations at NSHS. The group performs at all pep-rallies and Trojan varsity football games, as well as competing at UIL Marching Contest, Bands of America Marching Contest, and hosting its own marching festival,

the Carrollton Tournament of Champions.

Concert Groups

All members of the NSHS Band Program are placed into one of three concert groups. Auditions occur each semester. The Wind Symphony consists of the most accomplished musicians in the band program. This award winning group is a perennial UIL Sweepstakes recipient, as well as having been recognized for outstanding performances at numerous music festivals. The Symphonic Band is dedicated to the continued development of quality student musicians in the band program. This group has also been recognized for superior performance at both UIL and various music festivals. The Concert Band is committed to the improvement and maturation of younger students, both musically and academically. All three concert groups perform several times during the spring including at the pre-UIL and UIL contests, the spring trip festival, and the year-end spring concert.

Jazz Ensembles

The NSHS Jazz Program consists of two jazz ensembles selected through auditions each May. Students in the jazz ensembles must also be enrolled in one of the three concert groups. The Jazz Program strives to foster an understanding of the jazz idiom and provide quality performance

opportunities for its members. The award winning NSHS Jazz Ensemble I is recognized as one of the most outstanding high school jazz ensembles in the region through superior performances at area jazz competitions. Both Jazz Ensembles perform a fall concert and a spring concert, as well as competing at several area jazz festivals and at a regional or national festival each spring.

Percussion Ensemble

All percussionists are placed into percussion ensemble class. During the fall semester these students

Reasons To Be In The Trojan Band...

You will be a part of one of the most successful organizations at NSHS.

You'll have a ready-made group of friends when classes start.

You'll be associating with some of the best and brightest students at Newman Smith.

You will learn to work hard and play hard.

The Trojan Band will teach you how to be organized, responsible, and dedicated.

You will get to perform over 20 times a year in front of thousands of people!

You'll get to travel to ski or swim every year!

perfect their marching routines. During the spring semester, the percussion ensemble presents a percussion concert and performs as part of the three concert bands. In addition, this group participates in various drum line contests during the fall and at UIL solo & ensemble contest in the spring.

Individual Opportunities

Members of the band program have the opportunity to develop their skills and excel in a variety of ways. In the fall, students may audition for the All-Region Jazz Ensemble and the All-Region Band.

Research shows that students who are involved in Fine Arts perform better academically than those who aren't.

You will learn to set goals and achieve them while working with others.

Band prepares you to be successful in college...regardless of your major!

You can develop yourself fully as a musician and performer on your instrument.

There are new performance opportunities such as jazz ensemble, full orchestra, and the musical pit orchestra.

There are lots of parties and social activities.

Many members advance from All-Region to the Area level and on to the Texas All-State Band which performs in San Antonio in February. In the spring, students perform solos and ensembles for student recitals at NSHS and at UIL competition. Many members of the Trojan Band receive scholarships to continue their music study in college. Numerous members also excel academically and are among the most recognized students at NSHS.

You are ready to be a member of the Trojan Band!!

Frequently Asked Question:

*** How much time does band take?**

Band meets one period per day during school. After school band practices 8 hours per week during marching season. In the spring you will have a sectional once per week after school. There are also several competitions on Saturdays and the annual Spring Trip.

*** Will I be able to participate in other activities?**

Yes. Band students are active in a variety of activities including athletics, theater, choir, orchestra, UIL academics, student government, and special interest clubs.

*** Will band interfere with AP or Honors courses that I want to take?**

Definitely not. Band students are highly involved in the AP program at NSHS and are some of the best and brightest students including several Valedictorians.

*** What will I get out of being in band?**

A great set of friends and a top notch group to belong to. Lots of positive self esteem in knowing you can be an important part of a winning organization. Also, an appreciation of music and development of important life skills that will serve you well after high school.

*** Do I play well enough to be in high school band?**

Yes, there is a place in band for students of all abilities.

*** Are there opportunities to be recognized for doing well?**

Yes, there is All-Region, Area, All-State, Solo & Ensemble, as well as student leadership positions such as section leader, officers, and Drum Major.



**Welcome to
the...**

