

Ensemble Descriptions

Honors Wind Ensemble:

Honors Wind Ensemble is the highest level of wind band offered at Liberty. This group studies a wide variety of challenging literature comparable to that of a college wind band, performing grade level 4, 5 and 6 music. Many members participate in honor bands, outside music programs, and/or take private lessons. Some go on to study music in college. The Wind Ensemble performs annually at the Carroll District Band Festival, earning superior and excellent ratings, and has been invited to perform many times at the MD State Band Festival. Enrollment is by audition only. Select members perform in the full orchestra. An honors music theory exam is given for the semester and final exam. Students are eligible to enroll in the Honors or AP Music Theory class.

Honors Symphonic Band:

Honors Symphonic Band is an upper level wind band that performs challenging music of a diverse and varied repertoire at grade level 3 and 4. Members are music enthusiasts who wish to further develop individual musical skill through the study of more challenging works. Enrollment is by audition only. An honors music theory exam is given for the semester and final exam. Students are eligible to enroll in the Honors or AP Music Theory class.

Concert Band:

Concert Band is open to any Liberty student who wishes to enroll in a wind band class. An audition is not required. Students study grade level 2 music, and much emphasis is put on developing skill and individual playing technique. Students are introduced to the fundamentals in music theory, on which an exam is given for the semester and final exam.

Orchestra/ Honors Orchestra:

The Orchestra is open to any string musician at Liberty who wishes to develop musical skill through challenging orchestral literature of grade levels 3 and 4. Students are introduced to standard orchestra classics and well as modern string compositions and popular selections. The orchestra performs as both a string orchestra and a full orchestra. Wind Ensemble musicians join the class at select times throughout the year to study full orchestra works. This ensemble performs annually at the Carroll District Orchestra Festival, earning excellent and superior ratings, and has been invited to perform at the MD State Orchestra Festival. Honors credit is given to students who participate in orchestra for more than one year. No audition necessary. Orchestra is open to any student who wishes to study a string instrument. An honors music theory exam is given for the semester and final exam to all students. Students are eligible to enroll in the Honors or AP Music Theory class after one year of orchestra.

Percussion Ensemble:

Percussion Ensemble is a class devoted solely to percussionists at Liberty. (No percussionists are enrolled in the wind band classes due to crowding and large class size.) Percussionists study percussion ensemble music (music written only for percussion instruments) as well as wind band music. A competitive audition is held in September to determine which students will be assigned to the three levels of band (Concert Band, Honors Symphonic Band and Honors Wind Ensemble). Students are assigned to a wind band group according to skill level on snare, timpani and keyboard percussion. Wind band music is studied in class groups and reflects the descriptions provided for each band level. Much time is spent in independent study or guided group work. Students who are assigned to an Honors band are eligible to enroll in Honors or AP Music Theory. Honors credit is given to those individuals. No audition is necessary. Any student with the desire to learn percussion may enroll.

Honors Jazz Ensemble:

Honors Jazz Ensemble is an upper level group dedicated to the study of jazz from Dixieland, Blues, Big Band, Swing, Bebop, Latin, Funk, to more popular selections. The group performs a diverse and varied repertoire of music of grade levels 3, 4 and 5. Members are jazz enthusiasts who appreciate the rich history, unusual compositional styles, and unique music theory elements associated with the genre. Members are introduced to improvisation and soloing techniques. This ensemble may perform at several events in the community throughout the year. Enrollment is by audition. Students are eligible to enroll in the Honors or AP Music Theory class.

Lion's Pride Marching Band:

The "Lion's Pride" Marching Band is a renowned unit known for their excellence in music and marching on the East Coast. Since the early 1980's the "Lion's Pride" Marching Band has been a top competitor in the Tournament of Band circuit, winning several MD State Championships, Chapter Championships and placing third at Atlantic Coast Championships. The "Lion's Pride" Marching Band is the 2007 Chapter V Champion for Group I, winning awards for Best Music, Best Marching, Best Percussion, Best Auxiliary, and Best Drum Major. They are currently ranked 9th on the Atlantic Coast for Group I bands. The "Lion's Pride" Marching Band has a staff of qualified professionals devoted to excellence and superior musicianship. The marching band is an extracurricular activity with a season that runs from the first week in August until the second week in November. Membership requirements are: willingness to work hard and improve skill, commitment to the seasonal schedule, and enthusiasm. Evening rehearsals are Tuesday and Thursday from 6-9 pm, with sectionals Wednesday afternoon or evening. Competitions are scheduled on Saturdays. Summer Band Camp is mandatory.

Indoor Guard:

The Indoor Guard is a competitive unit competing in the KIDA circuit. Emphasis is placed on developing skill on silks, rifle and saber. Students are introduced to more rigorous guard work and perform a challenging indoor show. Indoor Guard is an extracurricular activity with a season that runs from late November to the first week in April. Membership requirements are: willingness to work hard and improve skill, commitment to the seasonal schedule, and enthusiasm. Evening rehearsals are Tuesday and Thursday from 6-9 pm, with dance instruction Friday afternoon from 3-4 pm. The Indoor Guard is under the direction of Barbara Anastasion.