



KANSAS STATE University Bands



NEWSLETTER

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What a year this has been! There are an incredible amount of fantastic things/events/places/etc. to wave the "Purple Flag" about!! This newsletter will provide you with all the updates, additions, and successes of this fantastic program and the students and staff within. As an alum, supporter, friend, and recruit of this great university and band program, I want to say thank you and provide a comprehensive update on what has transpired this last year.

We are moving aggressively past the pandemic era of education and back into the routines we have enjoyed for so many years and decades. Our festivals and clinics are at full capacity, our outreach to the schools of Kansas and the region is going strong, and our national/international exposure is growing once again!

First and most impressive is the new band facility at West Stadium, the "Tracz Family Band Hall!" It is done, we are living in it every day, and it is a true dream come true! There are pictures in this issue to show you what we have and what YOU have accomplished. We also welcomed Dr. Zack Deininger to our band staff as Assistant Director of Bands. He is doing a fabulous job and helping with all aspects of the band program from Athletics to Concert Band. The Concert Band has never sounded so good and is growing in numbers. He is assisting with the Cat Bands and Marching Band and is adding a fresh and new perspective to our groups. Dr. Deininger is also teaching beginning conducting as well as coaching the graduate students in their conducting experiences. It is great to have him with us and the program and all of us have benefited greatly from his contributions to all things K-State!

The bands continue to do incredible "outreach" programs for the university, city of Manhattan, and the great state of Kansas. Our Pub Crawl bands are legendary events on Friday nights before home football games. The schedule is packed, and we now have to post the schedule on a weekly basis so K-Staters young and not so young can be at their favorite restaurant when the PC comes busting in!! The "meet the team" after an away football victory is now drawing spectators to Vanier to celebrate with us. Coach Klieman and the team are very appreciative as you can see by the social media streams from these 2:00am mid-morning celebrations! Central States had over 40 bands marching in the "Bill" this last

October, the All-Star Marching Band continues to be a very popular event for high school students to join the PRIDE at a football game, Concert Band Clinic had over 600 students on our campus this past January working with 6 guest conductors in 6 honor bands, the "Side by Side" concert featured the Wamego High School Band with the K-State Wind Ensemble last May, the "Wabash on the Prairie" fundraiser, the Summer Music Camp and Auxiliary/Leadership camps had record numbers and great success, the Manhattan Municipal Band is filled with K-State students, faculty, and MHK community members providing 10 great summer concerts in the park, and the purple band beat goes on and on...Did I mention the "Pop Tarts Bowl", the NCAA Basketball Tourney, or the massive amount of pep bands and fundraisers the band has done for the good of the community and university?? What a fantastic group of students and staff we have here at K-State!

We continue to experience great support in all ways from K-State President Linton, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences - Dr. Chris Culbertson, Athletic Director Gene Taylor and staff, Coach Klieman, Coach Tang, and Coach Mittie, Director of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance - Dr. Bryan Pinkall, Adam Walker and the Alumni Association, Greg Willem and the Foundation (thank you Gordon Dowell for all he does for the future of this program), the Alumni Band for a great weekend of being back "home" again, my wife and family for all they do, and YOU - alums, donors, supporters, lovers of the K-State Band program!!!

Please enjoy reading all of these updates from the past year. We hope we make you proud of YOUR K-STATE BAND PROGRAM and I invite you all to come "home" and see this incredible "TFBH." I will give you a tour anytime - just email me when you are in town!

Thank You! GO CATS! GO BAND!

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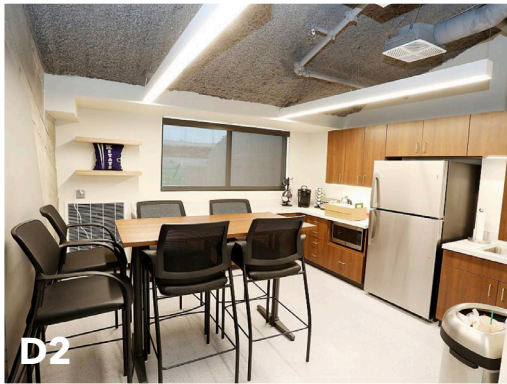
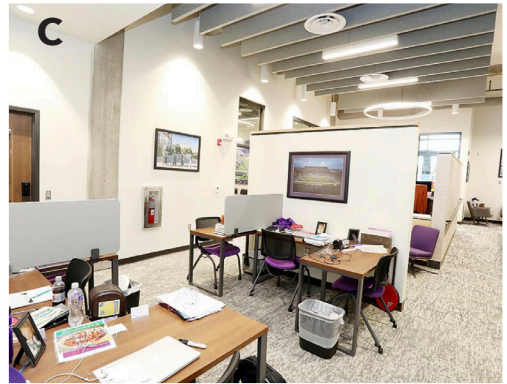
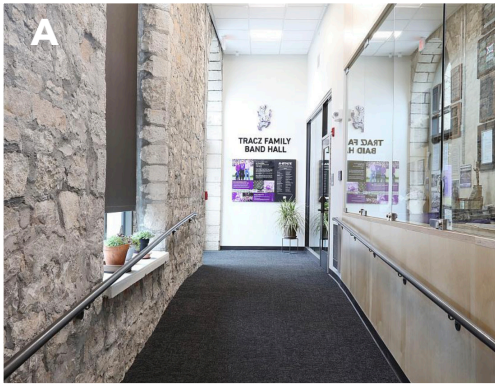
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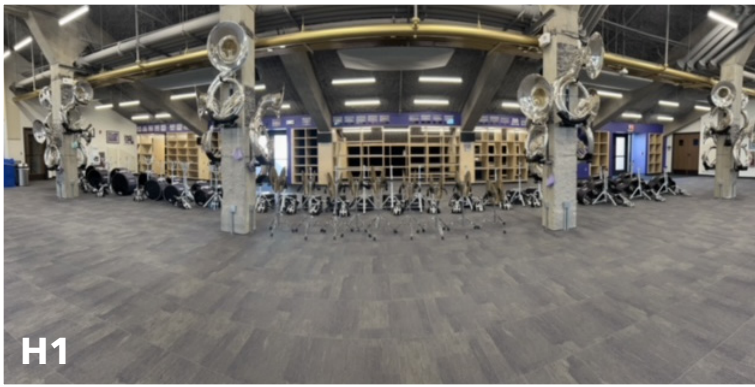




Welcome Home!! - The culmination of long hours, dogged determination, selfless sacrifice, and tons of purple love and respect by so many - the Tracz Family Band Hall, home to the PRIDE, is done!!! Let me take you on a tour of this fantastic, state of the art, and architecturally efficient, functional, practical, and beautiful facility....

- A) Walking into the NW doors, you will see a Memorabilia glass enclosure with awards, historical documents, and the Sudler Trophy! You'll also notice the Marching Willie and Wildcat Victory score decal on the windows.
- B) This is where Courtney Grecu does her magic to keep the band moving!!
- C) A space for 6 graduate students and guests to relax while watching one of the many video screens in the building.
- D) This is a great space for work/study projects, staff work area, and a kitchen to keep us all going!
- E) Finally, a place for us ALL to sit, meet, work, and bond as a staff!!
- F) A great place to wait and view the PRIDE on another screen while waiting to see Dr. Tracz.
- G) Offices for Dr. Deininger and Dr. Wimmer....and yes - bathrooms!!!!



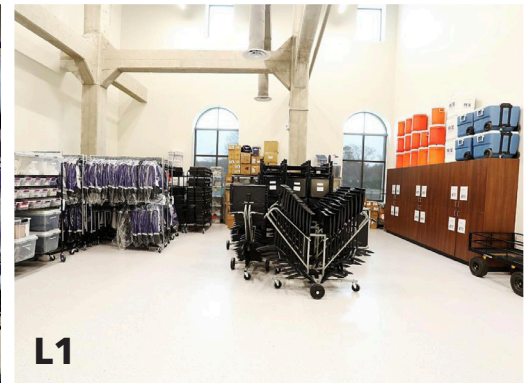
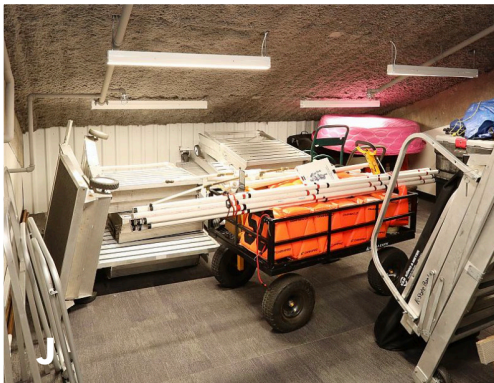


H) I have been to hundreds of band rooms across the country and this is certainly the most unique and efficient space there is! Check out the sousaphones hanging on the pillars, the drums on stands in the back, the cubbies for instrument storage, the 7 video screens, mirrored wall for the auxiliaries, and the garage door for loading and unloading from the INSIDE!!

I) Easy and quick access to Memorial Field with doors that stay open, no bar in the middle, and nothing to trip over on the floor - percussion love this!!!

J) Easy and quick storage and access for all things for the practice field: podiums, water, God Box, etc.

K) This band has a great history and finally we can display it proudly!! Old uniforms, pictures of all directors from 1887 to present, and a lot of pictures/articles on the wall.



L) Finally, all instruments, uniforms, parts, supplies in one room! The new "Band Cats Pantry"; Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma storage; Classy Cat, Colorguard, and Twirler storage as well as a meeting/dressing room; and a complete repair room with an instrument shower basin and a washer and dryer!!

M) A great donor, alumni, supporter, band fan brick patio!!

N) And of course the "purple" spotlights on the tower!!!

Pictures do not do this place justice. You MUST come see this in person. I invite you all to come by and I will give you a VIP tour - just email me and if I am in town I will come up and show you YOUR new HOME!! It can be evenings or weekends. You need to see this! Thank you all!!!





DREAMS REALLY DO COME TRUE

Pop-Tarts Bowl

December 28th, 2023

K-State made history as the Wildcats beat the North Carolina State Wolfpack at the inaugural Pop-Tarts Bowl in Orlando, Florida! The Pride of Wildcat Land delivered spirit to our fans through performances at pep rallies, the Parade of Bands, a parade at Sea World, and of course, Pregame and Halftime. Additional highlights included a stay at a beautiful Orlando resort, an evening at Sea World, an impromptu trip to Disney Springs, and two visits to a Pride favorite, Buc-ees!



Thank You UCF

We wish to thank two of K-State's own, Dr. Scott Lubaroff and Dr. Tremon Kizer for the generous hospitality and inviting the Pride to rehearse on the Marching Knights' field at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Lubaroff is a former Assistant Director of Bands at K-State and is currently the Director of Bands at UCF. Dr. Kizer is a K-State alumnus and former Head Drum Major of the the Pride; he is currently the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at UCF.

From left to right: Dr. Tremon Kizer, Dr. Frank Tracz, Sarah (Lubaroff) Zembraski, Dr. Scott Lubaroff



Classy Cats

National Champions

Congratulations to the K-State Classy Cats on their Division 1A National Championship at the College Classic National Invitational in Orlando, Florida. The Classy Cats placed first in the D1A Pom Division, bringing home a NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP - the second year in a row the team has done so!! We are extremely proud of this amazing group of students as well as their Coach, Sara Heptig, for accomplishing this incredible feat!!



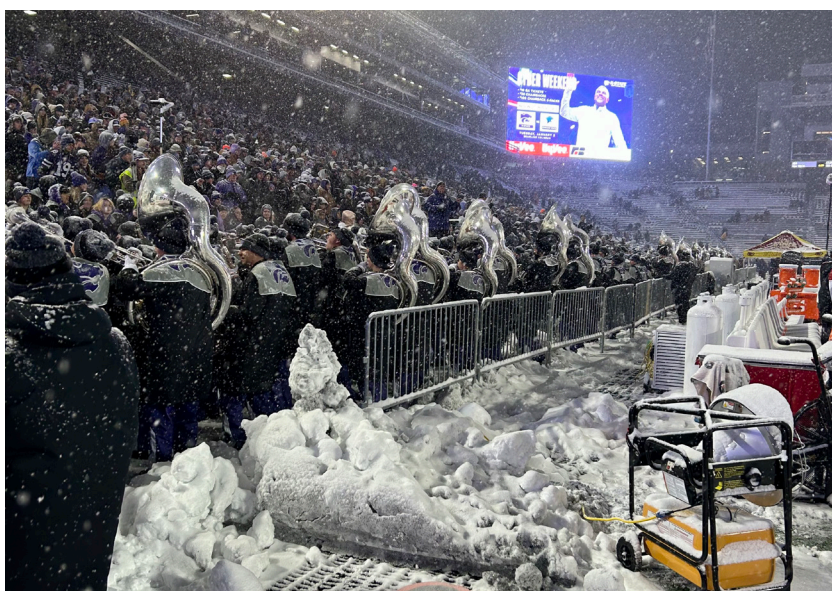
Alumni at the Super Bowl!

The 2024 Super Bowl in Las Vegas saw 4 familiar faces on the sideline! We're proud of these former K-State stars (Classy Cats & a Twirler!) who are now showcasing their talents as Kansas City Chief Cheerleaders! Congrats: Delaney Madden, Cooper Allison, Ashton Thomas, & Josi Frigon



The Band is Hot...and Frozen!

From our first home game of the season (in 104 degree heat) to Senior Night (in 25 degree cold and seven inches of snow), the Pride of Wildcat Land proved that they will persevere through anything the weather will throw at them (including snowballs)!!!!





Internationally Recognized

Congrats to K-State Feature Twirler Bailey Walke and Twirler Kaylee Brungardt! Bailey was invited to compete in the International Baton Twirling Federation's World Baton Twirling Championship in Liverpool, England. She competed in 3-baton and represented the senior division (ages 18+), which had the most athletes of all divisions. Internationally, Bailey placed 18th. Kaylee was one of 12 twirlers selected from across the nation to represent the USA in Peru at the renowned 71st International Festival of Springtime. She performed in the legendary five-mile parade, other festival events, and was featured in several TV commercials!

New Uniforms

After 12 years, the Pride of Wildcat Land has new uniforms! With three overlay options and taller plumes, the students will take their performances to new heights. Old uniforms have been sold to students and turned into throw pillows and future banquet awards. Nothing will go to waste! Thank you to our generous donors for the opportunity to update the Pride!

Welcome, "Band 2"

There is a new addition to the band family! A six-seater ATV, affectionately named "Band 2," joined the Pride in late-September 2023. This vehicle is street-legal so keep a lookout for Dr. Tracz cruising around town, whether it is to and from a home football game or driving students to classes across campus!



New Drumline

In Fall 2024, keep an eye out for the new drumline! With time and harsh weather conditions, it became clear it was time to retire the current equipment. We are adding 14 new Ludwig snare drums, 6 Ludwig quads, and 12 Ludwig bass drums. Retired equipment was sold to current students first and then to local schools.





Concert Ensembles

The Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Concert Band, and University Band have been very busy with rehearsals and concerts throughout the year. The bands are looking forward to residencies with composers Shuying Li and Dr. Larry Blocher. During Dr. Blocher's residency, the Concert Band will give the world premiere of his work *There Is A Season*, a tribute to Robert W. Smith.

The Wind Ensemble is proud to have performed 3 consortium premieres - *Bury and Rise* by Catherine Likuta, *Concerto for Winds (Games)* by James Stephenson, and *When the Winds Speak* by Arturo Rodriguez. The Rodriguez featured KSU Assistant Professor of Flute, Dr. Colleen White and Associate Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse, Dr. Jonathan Borja.

The Wind Symphony has had a highly successful year and is excited to give a consortium premiere of Kevin Day's *Stride* at their finale concert in April!

For the first time in program history, the Concert Band has a full time staff director. Dr. Zack Deininger has enjoyed working with the Concert Band and has led them to wonderful performances throughout the year while also increasing the size of the group.

The University Band is working hard and serving as a fantastic training ground for many of our undergraduate music majors. 10 upperclassmen music education majors are leading the ensemble with the guidance of the directors and graduate assistants.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW



DR. TREMON B. KIZER

Dr. Kizer attended Kansas State University from 1996 to 2002, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education. Dr. Kizer was involved with the KSU Band Program for six years, where he was involved

in the KSUMB, Volleyball Band, Pub Crawl Band, Symphony Band, Concert Band, University Band, Men's Glee Club, Concert Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab A, Jazz Lab B, Dixie Cats (Dixieland Jazz), KSU Orchestra, and Trombone Ensemble. Dr. Kizer had achieved multiple accomplishments and positions in the KSU Band Program - serving in positions as a drum major and a trombone section leader. Dr. Kizer was awarded the "Most Inspirational Band Person" award and was also in the trombone section when they won "Section of the Year!" Dr. Kizer is currently the Associate Director of Bands, Director of Athletic Bands, and Associate Director of the School of Performing Arts and Associate Professor of Music at the University of Central Florida. When Dr. Kizer was asked "what does the KSU Band Program mean to you?", he states that *"Being part of the KSU Band Program shaped my philosophy on teaching and life. Through my time, I learned a lot about developing and cultivating a work ethic, how to leave things better than I've found it, and to always outwork everyone in sight. As I write this close to 1AM, these mantras are part of why the students I teach continue to push the boundaries of innovation and performance. I am forever grateful for Dr. Tracz, President Wefald, and all the other educators I've had at KSU."*



DR. SUSAN WILLIAMS

Dr. Williams attended Kansas State University from Fall of 1974 to December of 1979, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Music Education. Dr. Williams was involved in

many facets of the KSU Band Program for a total of 7 years. Dr. Williams was involved in Concert Band, Symphony Band, and Pep Band (she also played in the Manhattan Municipal Band - under the direction of Larry Norvell). She received her Band Letter her freshman year and was a piccolo section leader in the KSUMB. She was also the head manager for the KSUMB and continued in that position until her graduation. She also helped manage the 1980 London Trip. Dr. Williams is currently Endocrinologist Physician-Scientist, practicing at the Cleveland Clinic. She practices in out-patient clinics, teaches residents and fellows, and she continues to lecture and publish. She is also Associate Professor of Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. She is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the American College of Nutrition, a Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and Fellow of the American College of Endocrinology. When asked "what does the KSU Band Program mean to you?", she states that *"The lessons that I learned in the KSUMB have served me well throughout my professional life - successfully competing for leadership positions, enduring 36-hour shifts in residency, running codes* in the hospital, and taking ownership of my professional growth, trajectory, and success."*

Without a doubt, some if not most of the best memories from undergrad are of trips, parades, performances, and shenanigans with my pals in the KSUMB - playing for the Chiefs (and nearly freezing to death), playing in Dallas and waving to Howard Cosell, traveling to Colorado and getting stuck in a snowstorm in Goodland, and , of course, the London trip-- Although I wish I had more pictures of those friends, places, and moments, I am thankful that iPhones and social media were still decades in the future! But oh, my goodness, we had fun!

And as for my KSUMB friends, well - some of us still get together for Homecoming every year. We spend the weekend having meals together, watching the parade, going to the game, tearing up during the pregame, recalling shenanigans, laughing - a lot, raising a glass in memory of those who have passed on, and wondering just how the hours - and the years - manage to fly by so doggedly quickly. Those times together now - those soul-restoring moments -- that all started with the KSUMB? Priceless!"



JOHANNAH DIETRICH

Johannah Dietrich graduated from K-State in 2013 with a Bachelor of Music Education-Percussion. She spent all four years in the KSUMB as well as many other ensembles: Concert Band, Wind Symphony, Percussion

Ensemble, Orchestra, University Band, and Brass Ensemble.

Johannah is in her fifth season with the Seattle Seahawks Blue Thunder Drumline, fourth season as bass drum section leader. Playing with the Seahawk's Drumline has given her the opportunity to drum with artists like Macklemore, Aloe Blacc, Mike Portnoy, Sir Mix-a-Lot, and Chad Smith from RHCP. She has been selected for the NFL All-Pro Drumline 3 times, twice with the Seahawks and once with Denver Broncos. When she's not performing, she's teaching. Johannah is also in her fifth season at Hilltop Heritage Middle School in Tacoma, WA, where she teaches band and drumline. She also instructs drumline camps and clinics around Puget Sound and has recently started adjudicating Solo/Ensemble Contests and Drumline Festivals in the Tacoma/Seattle area. In 2023, she traveled to Cuba with Dr. Gartner and PlazaCuba for music and cultural study. *"I always knew that I wanted to go to K-State, but I had no idea how impactful the band program would be on my life. KSUMB was the best times with the best people. I will never forget the standing ovation we got on the first note of the 2009 Chicago show and the first bass drum Varsity Donuts practice. When I remember these moments, I always think of the people I was lucky enough to share them with. I am so happy that I got to experience the culture of learning, leadership, dedication, and care that is this whole program. Thank you so much to all my professors, my family, and my friends. I wouldn't be who I am today without your continued support and guidance."*



MICHAEL STURD

Mr. Michael Sturd attended Kansas State University from the Fall of 2007 to Spring of 2012, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree. Michael was involved in many ensembles during his time at K-State, including KSUMB, Cat Band,

Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Ensembles, as well as the percussion studio. During his time with the KSUMB, he was awarded the "Wabash Award". After graduating from K-State, he moved to Nashville, Tennessee in 2012 to pursue a career as a touring drumset player after some convincing from Ben Worcester, another alum of the KSU Band Program. He states that *"Although it was nothing like I expected, I'm fortunate enough to say that I made a good run at it and have had the opportunity to play shows all over the country with some very talented live musicians. Even better, I've made a lot of friends along the way!"* In 2018, Michael added a career path in sales. He plays about 75 shows a year on the road annually. When asked "What does the KSU Band Program mean to you?" he states *"The life skills that I learned while being a student at Kansas State and a member of the KSUMB are irreplaceable. Growing up in Arkansas City, KS, I felt like I was raised in a good community where everyone worked hard. It helped prepare me for the work ethic I needed to be a successful member of the KSUMB Drumline. A couple of key takeaways from the program that ring true to this day: Showing up, being prepared, and ready to work will help you be successful in ANY professional career, as well as being a sponge. Lastly, to be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late. To be late is to be left. I think about these daily, and they've helped me over the past twelve years to build strong relationships and further my musical and professional career!"*

WHERE ARE THEY NOW CONTINUED



SHELBY GOSS

Shelby Goss attended Kansas State University from 2014-2018 and graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education in the spring of 2018. As a student, Shelby played bassoon in the KSU Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, and various chamber ensembles.

She also played tuba in the KSUMB for two years and was a student staff member for one year.

While at KSU, Shelby was an active member of Tau Beta Sigma and served as the Vice President of Service for one year. During her tenure, she created several different service projects that provided opportunities for band students including a solo and ensemble festival for middle school. Shelby was also a part of a research team under Dr. Ruth Gurgel that studied how teachers would use Culturally Relevant Pedagogy in the classroom. The team presented their findings at various conferences including the Cultural Diversion in Music Education (CDIME) Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal. Shelby was the recipient of the Rookie of the Year Award, Grit Award, and the Stan Fink KKY/TBS Scholarship.

Currently, Shelby is the Co-Director of Bands for Maize High School, Maize Middle School, and Maize Intermedicate School teaching 5-12 band alongside her Co-Director, Connor Siler. Under her direction, the Maize High School Symphonic Band has received numerous I ratings at the KSHSAA Large Group Festival. The Maize High School Marching Band has received I ratings at the Central States Marching Festival, Air Capital Invitational, and they took 1st place with multiple caption awards at the Lee's Summit Marching Invitational. In 2022, the marching band performed as a part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration at Disney World in Orlando, FL. Outside of band, Shelby enjoys being with her 9 year old daughter, Aurora, playing bassoon, and CrossFit.

Shelby feels extremely grateful to be an alumnus of KSU and for their band program. Dr. Frank Tracz, Dr. Alex Wimmer, and many other professors were incredible mentors that provided experiences through KSU Band which helped her to be successful as a band director. As a professional now, she can look back on her years at KSU and know that without the support of everyone there, she wouldn't be where she is today.



CJ LONGABAUGH

In 2021, CJ Longabaugh began serving as the Director of Bands at Irondale High School in New Brighton, MN, where he teaches four concert ensembles, two jazz bands, pit orchestra, marching band,

and oversees the winter drumline and winter guard programs. During his tenure, the Irondale Marching Knights were named the Minnesota Class AAA State Marching Band Champion in 2021, 2022, and 2023 as well as the Bands of America Whitewater Class AA Champion and third place finalist in 2023. The concert ensembles have received straight superior ratings for three consecutive years at the Minnesota State High School League Large Group Festival and the Wind Symphony has performed internationally in Italy (2022) and Germany/Austria (2024). The Winter Drumline is a consistent WGI World Championships finalist and was named the WGI Scholastic A World Champion in 2023.

CJ completed his Masters of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in Saxophone Performance with a secondary emphasis in Musicology at the University of Minnesota where he studied with internationally renowned concert artists Eugene Rousseau and Preston Duncan. During his graduate studies, Dr. Longabaugh competed at numerous prestigious solo and chamber music competitions and was named a finalist and a prizewinner at the 2017 William C. Byrd International Concerto Competition, a finalist and a prizewinner at the 2017 Plowman National Chamber Music Competition, and winner of the 2016 Masters Concerto and Aria Competition sponsored by the Kenwood Symphony Orchestra.

CJ completed his Bachelor of Music Education from Kansas State University, where he studied with Dr. Frank Tracz and Dr. Anna Marie Wytko. During his undergraduate studies, he served as a section leader and drum major for the Pride of Wildcat Land Marching Band and participated in numerous national solo and chamber music competitions. His saxophone quartet was named a finalist at the 2010 Coleman National Chamber Music Competition as well as a semi-finalist in the 2010 Plowman National Chamber Music Competition. In 2010, he competed in the MTNA Young Artist Competition, where he was named winner of the state round in Kansas and received second prize at the regional level competition.

Other Happenings Around the Program

Volleyball Band

The Kansas State University Volleyball Band, under the direction of Dr. Deininger, had a blast cheering on our volleyball team this past fall. The auditioned group of 22 members helped bring the K-State spirit to the brand new Morgan Family Arena! The band performed at all 13 home games and was a part of four consecutive Top 25 victories! Each member of the band received a scholarship for their efforts throughout the season and can't wait to cheer on the Cats next fall!

Cat Band

The Cat Band, Co-Directed by Dr. Wimmer and Dr. Deininger, plays at all home and tournament basketball games for both the men's and women's basketball teams. This season, 180 students comprise the group and are split into two bands (Purple and Silver Bands). The 2023-2024 basketball season includes three rehearsals, 36 home games, a trip to Kansas City to cheer on the Wildcats against Wichita State, and a return to Kansas City in March for both the women's and men's BIG 12 tournaments. This enthusiastic group of students brings the energy wherever they go and is beyond excited for the NCAA tournament possibilities this season!

Concert Band Clinic

Concert Band Clinic XXXI took over McCain Auditorium and many other buildings on the south side of campus January 19th - 21st. Over 600 students, representing 71 high schools from across the region, and many high school band directors participated in this year's event. The Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Tracz, performed an exciting concert featuring Maslanka's *Give Us This Day*, Bernstein's *Slava*, Goldman's *On the Mall*, *Canzona* by Mennin, and *Run to the Light* by Trevino. Guest conductors for this year's clinic were Dr. Andy Feyes (Doane University), Dr. Jay Gilbert (Doane University - retired), Dr. Haley Armstrong (University of South Dakota), Dr. Isaiah Odajima (Baylor University), Dr. Janet Kim (University of Connecticut), and Dr. Karen Fannin (University of Nebraska-Omaha).

Pub Crawls

A fan favorite, the K-State Pub Crawl Bands once again traversed the community throughout the fall to bring the Wildcat Spirit to all! This year, 3 bands comprised of approximately 20 members each "Wabashed" their way through Aggieville, Poyntz, and many other Manhattan establishments. The auditioned groups prepared fans to celebrate the next day's victory in "The Bill."



Central States & Vanier Victory Pep Band

The band program hosted its annual Central States Marching Festival in Bill Snyder Family Stadium on October 14th. 40 schools and nearly 5,000 students from 3 states attended this year's event. K-State staff and students worked together to provide each visiting school with an exciting day in "Manhappiness." In addition to their performances in the stadium, many schools participated in clinics led by the K-State band directors and judges of the festival. The Pride of Wildcat Land rehearsed in the brand new Shamrock Indoor Football Practice Facility and dazzled fans were their performance of Journey!

A few hours after wrapping up this massive event, over a hundred members of the Pride welcomed back the football team following a win over the Red Raiders of Texas Tech with Wildcat Victory on the steps of the Vanier Football Complex. It was an awesome day for all!

MARCHING PRIDE

SCHOLARS PROGRAM



Long time band photographer and #1 supporter “Red” Skelton and Dr. Tracz went to lunch one day and the meeting started like many other meetings with Red: “I have an idea!!” From this idea, the “Marching Pride Scholars” program was born! All of you know the tremendous pride and passion that Red had for this band, and he has given more and done more for this band than anyone can imagine. His

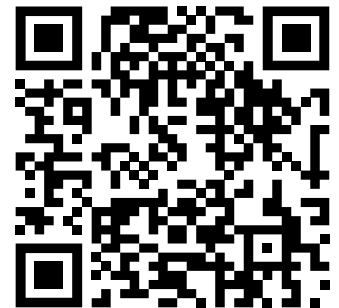
love for the K-State Band as a whole is only surpassed by his love for each of his “Kids” in the band – all 400 plus! The idea is simple; the results and benefits are priceless.

One of the major issues all of the collegiate marching bands face is the retention of the older players. The Junior and Senior years become a challenge for students to not only schedule band in their day but also afford the cost. Most students will eventually have to make a choice between the band and a part-time job to stay in school. Thus, the “Marching Pride Scholars” is a great way to provide a \$500 scholarship to the upperclassmen who stay in the band.

It is simple: the more experienced and mature players/marchers that are in the band, the better the band can perform. As senior membership continues to grow with the help of the “Marching Pride Scholars”

program, I am confident we can help the upperclassmen students stay with The Pride. The eleventh year of this campaign provided a \$500 scholarship for 122 juniors and seniors! We anticipate senior and junior marchers to be in even larger volume in 2024! Your donation makes a huge difference and we are grateful.

All donations are tax deductible.



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Over 160 high school students from more than 28 Kansas and Nebraska High Schools gathered at Memorial Field on Friday, September 22nd and were ready to rehearse with the Kansas State University Marching Band as the 2023 "All-Star" Marching Band. These students were nominated by their directors and were selected to be a part of this ensemble, with the opportunity to play in front of thousands of K-State fans on the September 23rd game against a new Big 12 Conference foe - the University of Central Florida!

During the Friday evening rehearsal, the All-Star band students learned music and drill for their own performance of Skillet's *Monster*. They played through the tunes for the first time as an ensemble and quickly dove into learning their drill. Having set the entire show in less than two hours working with Dr. Tracz, band graduate teaching assistants and K-State Marching Band leadership, the All-Star group prepared for a performance they would give just 24 hours later. After this, they were joined in the last

part of rehearsal by the entire 400-piece KSUMB to learn Stray Kids' *All In* and *As It Was* by Harry Styles. The rehearsal ended with a full run of halftime from both ensembles which included the joint "All-Star" Marching Band alongside the K-State Marching Band.

On Saturday, September 23rd, these students got the experience of a lifetime - going through a gameday with the Pride of Wildcat Land! The weather was great, the Bill was rockin', and the bands were HOT! Everyone had a great day that was full of fun, music, and memory-making! We hope each of these students becomes members in the Pride of Wildcat Land very soon!!

Additionally, the K-State Bands hosted its annual Band Director Day. Band directors observed the All-Star Band/K-State Marching Band's gameday rehearsal, were treated to a great lunch, and got a seat to watch K-State defeat the University of Central Florida! A VERY special thank you goes to Gene Taylor and everyone at K-State Athletics for making these two events possible.



STAY TUNED
k-state.edu/band

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Our Graduate Students work extremely hard to keep one of the country's best band programs strong.



**HOUSTON
FLEISCHMANN**

Houston is a second-year graduate teaching assistant for the percussion studio and marching band program at Kansas State University. Houston completed his bachelor's degree in music performance from Washington State University in the spring of 2020, studying under professor David Jarvis and Dr. Danh Pham. After graduating from Washington State, Houston was appointed as the coordinator of percussion for the Seattle All-City Marching Band for the 2021 season after participating as a drumline staff member for many years in the program. In 2021, Houston also returned to Pullman, WA, to assist Dr. Chris Wilson and Dr. Troy Bennefield as an assistant drumline instructor for the WSU Cougar Marching Band. Houston brings an extensive range of experience in the marching and concert realm to Kansas State University being an accomplished member of the WSU School of Music, a former member of the Washington All-State Marching Band, and has participated in countless other high-level performance programs in and around the state of Washington; including the percussion section of the Washington-Idaho Symphony Orchestra.



**BEN
RAJEWSKI**

Ben is from Hays, Kansas. He graduated from Kansas State University in 2020, with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. During his time at Kansas State, he was involved with the Pride of Wildcat Land Marching Band as section leader of the trombone section and President of Kappa Kappa Psi. Ben also played in the Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Concert Band, Brass Ensemble, Volleyball Pep Band, and Basketball Cat Band. After graduating from K-State, Ben went to Winfield, Kansas and taught grade 6-12 band and 7-8 choir. During his time at Winfield, he received the WNEA Teacher of Promise Award. He was also fortunate to be able to assist in acquiring a new band trailer and took the Winfield HS Band to their first marching festivals in many years. Ben enjoys spending time with friends and family and his beagle Peanut Butter.



**RICH
EBERSOLE**

Rich is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Temple University where he majored in Music Education and Jazz Studies. Upon graduating,

Rich moved to Arizona to begin his teaching career where he spent 10 years teaching both elementary and high school band. He experienced great success in building the band program at Dysart High School, from 11 students to 65 in four years. From there Rich moved to Liberty High School in Peoria, AZ, where he again grew the band program from 60 students to just over 120 students. While at Liberty, his bands consistently earned superior ratings in marching, concert, jazz, and solo & ensemble festivals.

Rich and his wife Melissa have two children: Elliot (2.5) and Addison (7 months). Rich works with the band program and is pursuing a Masters Degree with an Emphasis in Conducting.



**HEATHER
BAKER**

Heather Baker, from Mishawaka, IN, is entering her second year as a Graduate Teaching Assistant with the K-State band program. As a Ph.D candidate, she studies *Curriculum and Instruction* with a Music Cognate. Before moving to Kansas, Heather taught in the Indiana Public School system for 10 years.

Heather holds an undergraduate degree from Ball State University (Munice, IN) and a Master of Music Education degree from Vandercook College of Music (Chicago, IL).

A member of the National Band Association, Heather is an honorary member of Tau Beta Sigma, and an alumnae member of the international music fraternity, Sigma Alpha Iota. Most recently, she was a 2024 Intern Scholar for the Technology In Music Education (TI:ME) Leadership Academy (San Antonio, TX) and a 2021 Outstanding Music Educator Award Recipient of Michiana's Indiana Region. While teaching, her school system was recognized as a NAMM "Best Community for Music Education" from 2016-2022. Heather has been a member of the Conn-Selmer Institute Volunteer team for over 15 years and was a "Hall of Fame" Award recipient in 2015

Heather and her husband, Dan, have two children: Bryant (6) and Charleigh (4). Dan is a former high school choir director and works remotely as the Executive Producer of Heart of America Productions, LLC, hosting performance events for elite choirs in cities across America. The Bakers are very excited to enter their second year as part of the Wildcat Band Family.

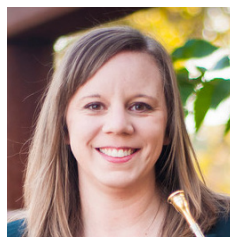


KYLE GRIMES

Kyle is from Saint George, Kansas, a small town east of Manhattan, and has earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Kansas State University. During his time as an undergraduate, Kyle performed with the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Trumpet Ensemble, Undergraduate Brass Quintet, and University Band. He also marched with the "Pride of Wildcat Land" Marching Band and served as the Music Instructor of the trumpet section for two years. Kyle is a member of Kappa Kappa

Psi, honorary band fraternity, The National Association for Music Education, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

In 2019, Kyle began his teaching journey by starting a trumpet studio that he maintained throughout his time in his undergraduate degree. His students, ranging from beginner through collegiate-level trumpet players, received instruction via in-person or online lessons. As a performer, Kyle is an avid soloist who has performed in many different venues in and around the Manhattan area. His primary musical interests are in the art of conducting and the study of wind band music. In his down time, he enjoys working on puzzles, jump-roping, reading books, and running. Kyle strives to continue his learning and personal development with the K-State Bands by further refining his skills as both an educator and conductor.



SHARYN WORCESTER

Sharyn Worcester is currently in the first year of her graduate studies, seeking a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a Cognate in Music. She has a diverse and extensive career in music education, performance, and adjudication throughout Kansas. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree and a Masters of Music Education in Instrumental Conducting from Kansas State University where she studied under the direction of Dr. Frank Tracz, Director of Bands, and Dr. Jacqueline Fassler-Kerstetter, Associate Professor of Horn. Prior to continuing her studies, Sharyn served as the Lead Academic Advisor for the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at K-State. In this role, she facilitated the academic

progress for all undergraduate majors and minors in these degree tracks. As part of this work, in 2019, she presented "Music Beyond High School," at the Kansas Music Educator's Association In-Service Workshop to provide resources for educators to prepare their students for college music programs or careers. Additional duties included membership in the Music Course and Curriculum Committee and the Music Recruitment Committee, as well as advising Sigma Alpha Iota, the International Music Fraternity for Women.

Prior to her appointment at K-State, Sharyn served nine years as Instrumental Music Director at Junction City High School where her teaching duties included marching band, concert band, wind ensemble, music theory, music appreciation, and piano classes. Her bands have performed across Kansas and the United States including the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., the Fiesta Bowl Parade in Tempe, Arizona, and the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tennessee.

Sharyn performs as a member of the horn sections in the Manhattan Municipal Band and the Salina Symphony. She has performed in a myriad of musical pit orchestras throughout Kansas, which most recently includes the Manhattan Art Center's production of *The Sound of Music*.

Sharyn resides in Manhattan with her husband, Ben, their eleven-year-old son, Harley, and their husky/shepherd, Riley.

SUMMER

< *camp*s >



MUSIC CAMP

June 9 - 13, 2024

At K-State's Summer Music Camp, students in grades 5-12 are invited to K-State's Manhattan campus to rehearse with experts, perform for a crowd, and have some summer fun. Not only will campers get to know the K-State Band family, but they will also return home as strong performers who are excited about band. The camp staff is composed of the finest musicians and teachers from the area, including college music students. They are chosen for their interest and ability to inspire and teach talented young musicians. Students perform in one of three large concert ensembles and a variety of chamber ensembles. Students can experience dorm life by staying on campus or commuting from home.

For more information and registration, contact K-State Bands at (785) 532-3816, or visit k-state.edu/band/camps/summermusic/



LEADERSHIP & AUXILIARY CAMP

July 14 - 17, 2024

Summer is the perfect time to make sure your band or auxiliary team is a fine-tuned machine. Join K-State experts this summer to rehearse, network, and grow as both a performer and leader. This camp is designed for students currently in grades 9-12 in a variety of band and auxiliary groups including drum majors, section leaders, percussionists, and color guard. The camp staff is composed of current and former K-State Marching Band Drum Majors, Color Guard, Drumline, and various band program staff. Staff members supervise all student rehearsals and activities throughout the day and evening.

For more information and registration, contact K-State Bands at (785) 532-3816, or visit k-state.edu/band/camps/leadaux/



For more information and registration: www.k-state.edu/band/camps

K-STATE SUMMER MASTERS PROGRAM

The Kansas State University Music Department is excited to offer graduate-level courses this summer. Students will do the majority of their learning online but will come to campus for a one-week residency (June 14-20, 2024); the best of both worlds! These classes are designed to appeal to music educators at all levels who wish to improve their knowledge in a variety of skills, techniques, and concepts while earning their master's degree or continuing education credits. The Summer Master's Program has a wide variety of courses to offer, including graduate studies courses, music theory and history courses, and music education courses.

For more information about the K-State Summer Graduate Study Program, please visit our website at online.k-state.edu/programs/music-masters



ALUMNI BAND WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Band Alumni!

My name is Natalie Alton Crow, your newly elected Alumni Band President! I played clarinet and was a drum major when I was in the band from 2014-2018, dual majoring in Elementary Education at K-State and Bible and Leadership at Manhattan Christian College. I am now in my 6th year teaching 5th grade in the Kansas City area! I've been married to my husband Wesley (trombone 2015-2019) for five years now, and we welcomed a daughter last March! I have loved being part of the Alumni Band as Treasurer the past five years and I look forward to working with fellow alumni band officers Marissa Archuleta (Member-at-Large), Stacia Piroutek (Events Coordinator), Victoria Thompson (Secretary/Treasurer), and Mark McHaney (Vice President)!

Wow! What a great Alumni Band Day we had last September. It was so wonderful to gather and partake again in our game day traditions, play our school songs, and have "stupid college kid fun" as DT would say! We hope to see you again at our next alumni band day in fall of 2025. But the Alumni Band is more than a biennial reunion. We have provided funds towards the new band golf cart, sponsored a hole at the KSUMB golf

tournament, and awarded a scholarship at the band banquet.

Perhaps the most fun and rewarding function of the Alumni Band is simply interacting and sharing a love of band and K-State! We stay connected via our Facebook page "Kansas State University Alumni Band" and love supporting the KSUMB at sporting and band functions. Check out our website <http://ksualumniband.org/> for more information and updates. Be sure to sign up for our email list there as well.

Stay hot, band!

President - KSU Alumni Band



UPCOMING CONCERTS AND EVENTS

APRIL

6	Color Guard Clinic	2:00pm	McCain 201
20	Color Guard Auditions KSU DL Experience Camp 3	11:30am 12:00pm	Rec Center TFBH
21	Wind Symphony/Wind Ensemble Concert	3:00pm	McCain
22	Concert Band/University Band Concert	7:30pm	McCain
26-28	Classy Cat Auditions	All Day	Rec Center

MAY

4	High School Drumline Mini Camp	8:00am	TFBH
5	Spring Picnic	4:00pm	TFBH
18	Drumline Auditions	10:00am	TFBH

Concerts

At K-State, we are very excited to have four active concert bands! Each band performs two concerts per semester. The Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, and Concert Band are all audition-based groups composed of both music majors and non-music majors. The University Band is made up of non-music majors and music majors playing secondary instruments. These University Bands are conducted by junior and senior music education majors who are mentored by Dr. Tracz, Dr. Wimmer, Dr. Deininger, and the graduate students.

Auditions

The KSUMB holds auditions for the Classy Cats, Color Guard, Twirlers, and Drumline in the spring and early summer. Auditions for wind players will occur during band camp, which starts the week before classes begin in the fall. For more information about these auditions, please visit www.ksu.edu/band

Camps

We offer many camps that cater to just about every middle school and high school musician and auxiliary member. The Drumline Mini-Camp is a great event to attend if you plan on auditioning for the Drumline or if you want to learn more about marching percussion. The two summer camps we offer are very popular among students across Kansas. Our Summer Music Camp is an honor concert band camp that is a ton of fun. The Leadership & Auxiliary Camp is incredible training for aspiring student leaders and auxiliary members of the band. More information can be found on our website - www.ksu.edu/band

2024 SUMMER/FALL SCHEDULE

JUNE

9-13 K-State Music Camp McCain

JULY

14-17 Leadership & Auxiliary Camp McCain/TFBH

27 Marching Pride Classic 9:00am Colbert Hills

AUGUST

9-18 Marching Band Camp TFBH/Memorial Field

30 Purple Power Play Blue Earth Plaza

31 K-State Football v. UT Martin Bill Snyder Family Stadium

SEPTEMBER

13/14 K-State Football v. Arizona - Harley Day Bill Snyder Family Stadium

15 Wabash on the Prairie Memorial Stadium/TFBH

28 K-State Football v. Oklahoma State - All-Star Marching Band Bill Snyder Family Stadium

OCTOBER

5 Stout Center Pep Band Stout Center - K-State Campus

12 Central States Marching Festival Bill Snyder Family Stadium

25 Homecoming Parade

26 K-State Football v. Kansas - Homecoming Bill Snyder Family Stadium

NOVEMBER

16 K-State Football v. Arizona State - Fort Riley Day Bill Snyder Family Stadium

23 K-State Football v. Cincinnati - Senior Day Bill Snyder Family Stadium

24 Marching Band Concert TBD

DECEMBER

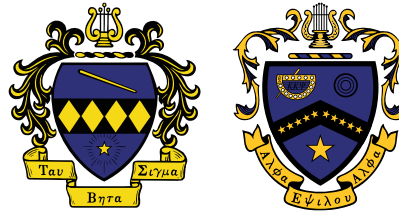
1 Band Banquet TBD

6 Manhattan Spirit of the Holidays Lighted Parade

7 Big XII Championship AT&T Stadium - Arlington, TX

TBD Bowl Game - Late Dec/Early Jan TBD

A LETTER FROM KAPPA KAPPA PSI & TAU BETA SIGMA



Happy Spring from the Brothers and Sisters in the Epsilon Pi chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Delta Kappa chapter of Tau Beta Sigma! These chapters are part of a national honorary service organization dedicated to serving and promoting college bands, musicians, and their surrounding communities.

Our chapters were busy this summer and fall preparing for the KSUMB's season. We were so excited to move into our new facility, the Tracz Family Band Hall, and issue new uniforms. One day in September, both chapters came to McCain and repainted all the music stands. We had everyone on a rotation this semester to set up and tear down our marching band rehearsals. The chapter has done small service projects after every meeting this past semester, such as cleaning our new facilities, making mental health bags for band members, and preparing merchandise for the Pride Store. Finally, the chapter helped the band staff check in band members and tag luggage for the Pop-Tarts Bowl. Upon return, the chapters helped collect instruments and uniforms.

We have plenty of projects in store for this spring semester. The chapters will be cleaning the McCain Dungeon (one of our storage spaces) one weekend coming up. Our secretaries are hard at work planning concert receptions for our concert bands, and getting members to help set up risers and chairs for our concerts. We are currently in progress of collecting and organizing band uniforms that are coming back from the dry cleaners.

The Midwest District of our organizations is giving us many opportunities for leadership development. Our executive members have been in communication with our district leadership to help grow the chapters. Our district has planned two Local Harvest Days, which are short events to

learn more about being in leadership of a student organization. In April, several members will be sent as delegates for our Midwest District Convention in Des Moines, Iowa.

Tau Beta Sigma is focusing on finishing our Focus on Five campaign, a series of eight service projects and leadership development activities. We are hosting Katherine Needleman, principal oboe for the Baltimore Symphony, for our Women in Music speaker series. In April, we will host a beginning band festival for schools in the Manhattan area. We already finished two of our projects in the fall - the first was an anti-hazing workshop, and for the second we gave a holiday concert for a local nursing home.

Kappa Kappa Psi has recently started the "Founder's Circle" training (the national leadership training program). The chapter is also working on acquiring funding from our Student Government and national office to bring in guest composers for the band's second spring concert. Then, on April 13th the chapter will host our first recital since the pandemic. The recital will focus on diverse composers and is called "Our Diversity Matters Recital".

Alumni members, please feel free to reach out to us! Our mailing address is 226 McCain Auditorium, Manhattan, KS, 66506. You can also send us a message on Facebook or Instagram, visit our website at k-state.edu/kkypsi/, or send us an email at kkypsi@gmail.com.

President
Tau Beta Sigma

President
Kappa Kappa Psi

2024 SEASON AWARDS

**Section Leaders
of the Year:**

Katie Bailey
Katie Horner

**Music Instructors
of the Year:**

Kyle Grimes
Chase Keesling

**Marching and
Maneuvering**

Instructors of the Year:

Shelton Lauderbaugh
Katie Reinert

**Assistant Section
Leaders of the Year:**

Devon Autry
Jayce Hildebrand

Harry Erickson Award:

Josh Avery

Rookies of the Year:

Chloe Crooks
Avery Stephany
Chase Wassom

Wabash Award:

Izzy Furioso

**KKY/TBS Bandsman &
Bandswoman:**

Farhan Chowdury
Audrey Farrell

Most Inspirational:

Audrey Farrell
Shelton Lauderbaugh

**Rod Funk Memorial
Scholarship:**

Erin Jackson
Colby Johnston
Jasper Vallad

Alumni Band Award:

Audrey Farrell

Fight Like a Band Girl:

Bailey Haines

Phil Hewitt Award:

Farhan Chowdhury
Audrey Farrell
Colby Johnston

Marching Pride Award:

Clarinets
Classy Cats

EMAW Award:

Twirlers

Section of the Year:

Trumpets
Tubas

Grit Award:

Devlyn Jochum

Give Back Award:

Drew Fabrizius

Ernie Barrett Award:

Bailey Walke

Helping Hand Award:

Colton Schrag

Wildcat Loyalty Award:

Bryant Kniffin

Director's Award:

Bill Snyder

Lifetime Loyalty Award:

Amy Button Renz

Wefald Award:

David Yoder



Dr. Frank Tracz

Hometown
Cleveland, Ohio

B.A.
Ohio State University

M.A.
University of
Wisconsin-Madison

PhD
Ohio State University

Public School teaching
experience in DeForest,
Wisconsin

High School experience at
West Geauga High School
in Chesterland, a suburb of
Cleveland, Ohio

First college teaching job was
at Syracuse University in NY as
Assistant Director of Bands

Director of Bands at
Moorehead State University
in Kentucky

31 years
Director of Bands
Kansas State University

42 years of Marriage to
his wife **Gerilyn Tracz**

Three daughters
Jessica, Kelley, & Carly

Became a Grandpa to
Caden Tracz-Kelly on
December, 11 2020



A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE DIRECTORS

The year began in the heat of August with the task of moving into the brand new "Tracz Family Band Hall" - the start of what would be another fantastic and extremely memorable year for the K-State band program. We added a new face and voice in leadership with the addition of Dr. Zack Deininger as Assistant Director of Bands. As you can read from his bio, he has a great foundation of education and experiences that have already benefitted us all here at K-State. We continue to recruit, fundraise, and outreach with passion, energy, commitment, and drive. Our enrollment outlook is fantastic for next year, and the talent level continues to climb.

With the addition of a third director, we have reorganized responsibilities and opened up new avenues of doing what we do to secure a bright future for the program.

Here is a look into the rearview mirror of our efforts:

- 7 home football games starting with temps above 100 in game 1 and culminating with "Snowmageddon" against Iowa State with temps in the teens and 8 inches of snow coming down! The field was covered with literally inches of snow each hour, athletics facilities staff used blowers and shovels to keep the yard lines clear, the band stood in a couple inches of snow and freezing water - all of which resulted in conditions that would not let us march on the field at pregame or halftime.
- The Central States Marching Festival featured 41 bands and continues to be the premier festival in the region if not beyond! The clinics, video critique, and a performance by the PRIDE was a recipe for great success. Once again, our band played and marched at the highest level.
- Wabash on the Prairie, a fundraiser for the Children's Defense Fund, was another huge success for all. A thousand people came to the prairie in the Flint Hills to hear and see the PRIDE to help raise funds for this great cause.
- We celebrated the official "opening" of the TFBH to a massive outpouring of support at Memorial Field in September. The West Stadium stands were full along with seats on the track, hundreds of donors sitting under canopies on the field, and the PRIDE standing behind the stage where Greg Willems, CEO of the Foundation, addressed the crowd. The TFBH was packed with everyone who came to see this fabulous facility.
- The 6th annual All-Star Marching Band was another huge success with 170 All-Star Band members from many high schools across the the state of Kansas. The ASMB performed one piece by themselves then were joined by the PRIDE to march and play together in front of a packed house at the "BILL." We ended with some awesome tunes and, of course, Wabash!! Great time for all and GREAT recruiting!!
- The Classy Cats once again won another NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP in Pom at the College Classic Invitational in Orlando, Florida this past Spring 2023. BACK TO BACK!! They also took 3rd in Jazz and 5th in Spirit Showdown. Over 60 schools participated in the College Classic National Invitational. These young ladies have consistently represented K-State and themselves in the most professional and highest quality dancing we have seen at K-State. These ladies exemplify everything that is right and of the highest quality in performance, attitude, work ethic, and representation of themselves, their school, and us all. We could not be prouder of these incredible ambassadors for the University and PRIDE. Under the leadership of Coach Sara Evans

Heptig, they are in the best coaching and teaching hands possible. Sara is a true leader who is not only extremely talented, but is a teacher and motivator of incredible talents. Bravo to Sara and the NATIONAL CHAMPION Classy Cats!!

- Our Summer Music Camps reached record numbers this past summer with 200 kids at Music Camp and 150 at the Leadership and Auxiliary Camp. Kudos to Dr. Wimmer and the staff for another great summer!
- The "Marching Pride Golf Tournament" once again raised over \$26,000 for the MPS scholarships for all 3+ year members of the KSUMB!!
- The concert ensembles continue to thrive. The Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Concert Band, and University Band have had a great year so far with some fantastic concerts. The Concert Band has experienced great growth under the baton of Dr. Deininger. The ensembles continue to perform new literature and are actively involved in the commissioning of new works. The Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony have performed numerous new pieces of which K-State was a consortium member.
- POP-TARTS BOWL!!! What a great trip to the Sunshine State for the PRIDE! It was a long trip with a 2-day bus ride there, 4 days in Orlando, and 2 days back. We stayed in a resort right next to SeaWorld, performed at SeaWorld and had some free time, marched in a great parade in Winter Park, and we won the game!!
- The 31st annual Concert Band Clinic saw almost 600 young musicians come to campus and participate in 6 honor bands. Almost 75 band directors attended clinics, rehearsals, and a concert by the Wind Ensemble. This K-State classic continues to grow after the pandemic, and we are excited to bring all of these potential K-Staters to our campus.
- The Manhattan Municipal Band enjoyed a great summer of concerts featuring soloists and very entertaining summer time music to hundreds at each concert. Our students, faculty, and staff also played in the ensemble.
- We continue as directors to get out into the public schools to teach, lecture, conduct, and recruit the best to one day become members of the Wildcat Band family. We are also busy teaching, conducting, lecturing, and presenting across the country spreading the word about this great University and band program.



We will continue to represent us all well, and to educate our students the K-State way across the country and world!

Thank you, Go Cats, and GO BAND!

Frank Trace

Alex Wimmer

Zack Deininger

Dr. Alex Wimmer

Hometown

Gretna, Nebraska

B.A.

University of Nebraska-Omaha

M.M.

Kansas State University

PhD

Kansas State University

Public School teaching experience at Gretna High School and Middle School in Gretna, Nebraska

Dr. Zack Deininger

Hometown

Wayne, Ohio

B.A.

Bowling Green State University

M.Ed.

Auburn University

DMA

University of South Carolina

Public School teaching experience at Green Valley High School in Las Vegas (Henderson), Nevada



KANSAS STATE

University Bands

618-001

226 McCain Auditorium
Manhattan, KS 66506