

PARENT HANDBOOK



**Hillsborough High School
Band Parents Association**

2011 - 2012



Important Contact Information

Director of Bands

Please address all band curriculum-related issues or student concerns to:

Director of Bands	Mrs. Julie “Jules” Haran	431-6600 ext. 3226 jharan@hillsborough.k12.nj.us
Assistant Director of Bands	Mrs. Jamie Pallas	431-6600 ext. 2661 jpallas@hillsborough.k12.nj.us
Colorguard Director	Mr. Joe Dobis	joedobis@gmail.com

Hillsborough Band Parents Association (HBPA)

Officers and Committee Chair People

President	June Blauvelt	369-7778	junejb@comcast.net
1st Vice President	Sian Godwin	874-4938	sian.godwin@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	Lisa Limyansky	359-3823	lisalimyansky@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mark Dalpé	240-6218	msd518@hotmail.com
Secretary	Andy Cropley	369-2287	acropley@comcast.net
Operations	Rick Ball	428-6728	rsball@comcast.net
	Dave Turner	809-2866	turneda@hotmail.com
Uniforms	Cindy Cochran	369-8153	bc3e4him@yahoo.com

Membership

To join, complete a membership form and send it in with a check for \$35 payable to the Hillsborough Band Parents Association (HBPA). Membership forms can be downloaded from the website.

Completed forms with payment may be sent to:

Lisa Limyansky
13 Pembroke Terrace
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Website

You can get the latest information for any of our bands and guard from our website:

www.hhs-band.org

Click the "HBPA" tab and then "Member Log-In". Type in the user name and password – **indeed**.

HBPA Meetings

Day: First Wednesday each month (Sept – May).

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: The room will vary each month.

The schedule is as follows:

- September 7
- October 5
- November 2
- December 7
- January 4
- February 1
- March 7
- April 4
- May 2 (Annual Meeting – elections)

About Our Bands

The Hillsborough High School band program offers a large number of ensembles for our students to choose from. Some are offered as part of the high school curriculum, and fulfill credit requirements for a diploma. Some are extra-curricular and provide a fantastic opportunity for the students to pursue their interest in music with a truly wonderful group of students. These bands and colorguard ensembles definitely provide the students with a “home” in the high school; a place to enjoy themselves, and make good friends. The following is a description of the ensembles, and the specific information you need to know about each:

Curricular Bands

Who they are

- **Freshman Band**
- **Concert Band**
- **Wind Ensemble**

What they do

Each of the three curricular bands meets every day for one class period, with sectional lessons scheduled as needed throughout the marking period. They are designed as instrumental ensembles emphasizing the performance of wind literature of all genres. The Freshman Band builds on the skills developed in the middle school bands, and the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble incorporate the elements of music reading and interpretation, solo performance and music appreciation.

Performances

All of the ensembles perform at two concerts held at HHS each year. These are the Winter Concert (held in December) and the Spring Concert (held in May). Attendance is required at all performances.

In addition, each ensemble may perform during the winter, along with bands from other local high schools, at Regional Band Festivals held in the area. These performances give each ensemble a chance to show what they have accomplished during the year. Additional rehearsals may be needed for some performances, and attendance is required unless excused by the director.

Performance Attire

- **Freshman and Concert Bands:**
 - **Boys:** white shirt, black pants, black socks, black dress shoes, a tie
 - **Girls:** white shirt, black pants or long black skirt, black socks/hose, black shoes
- **Wind Ensemble**
 - **Boys:** black tux, including cummerbund and bow tie (provided by HHS), black socks, black dress shoes, white wing-tipped tux shirt, shirt studs (provided by student)
 - **Girls:** black dress (provided by HHS), black socks/hose, black closed-toe dress shoes (provided by student)

Extra-Curricular Bands & Guards

Who they are

• Marching Band/Colorguard (Summer – November)	• Jazz Band (December – March)
• Winterguard (November – April)	• Jazz Ensemble (December – May)
• Percussion Ensemble (December – June)	• Small Ensembles (sax, flute, clarinet, etc.) (December – June)

What they do

Each ensemble provides opportunities for students to participate in music or colorguard activities after school. The schedules for each ensemble are provided at the beginning of their respective seasons.

Performances

Each ensemble has scheduled performances and competitions throughout their seasons. A detailed description of each ensemble is provided below.

Marching Band

Our award-winning Hillsborough Raider Marching Band is made up of a dedicated group of **musicians and colorguard members** who work together as an ensemble emphasizing performance in field show production. The marching band competes at various United States Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) competitions in the area, as well as regional, state and this year, a Bands of America competition in Towson, Maryland.

They also perform at all of the Hillsborough High School football games.

➤ The Season

Our marching band begins its season in June, when the rest of the high school community is winding down for the year. Several practices are conducted to acquaint the incoming freshmen and other new band and guard members with the way the band operates. The students are given their music, as well as practice and performance schedules for the season. During July, our percussionists (both pit and battery) and colorguard are working hard to prepare for the season, and the rest of the band joins them in August. The end of August brings band camp, followed by the beginning of the school year and marching band season! The season concludes with State Championships in Old Bridge (November 5), and a festive dinner for the kids the following week.

➤ Practices

During July, each section schedules rehearsals separately. All band members are expected to be at their scheduled rehearsals whenever they are in town. Beginning the second week in August, the entire band rehearses together at the high school. The marching band schedule can be found on the website. If your family has vacation plans, please notify Jules at least two weeks in advance, and let her know which days your son or daughter will be away.

Beginning with band camp at the end of August, all rehearsals and competitions for the rest of the season are mandatory.

➤ **Band Camp**

Mandatory band camp includes:

- All day Saturday practice on August 27th (followed by pot-luck dinner for students/families).
- Sunday, August 28th through Thursday, September 1st – a full five days of music, marching and fun at Lake Greeley Camp, Greeley, PA.
- 6:00 PM on Thursday, September 1st – the first performance of the Hillsborough Raider Marching Band's 2011 Show for families and friends, upon return from camp.

➤ **Rehearsal Etiquette**

Rehearsals are closed to spectators. This is to prevent the students from being distracted. Please remember that only those individuals authorized by the Director of Bands will be permitted at rehearsals. But you can hear them beautifully from the parking lot!

➤ **Band Room Etiquette**

Prior to performances only authorized individuals are permitted in the band room.

A lot happens when the kids are getting ready for a performance, but we try to keep the uproar in the band room to a minimum. Parent uniform and pit crew volunteers may be there to help get things ready, but adding additional parents makes it more chaotic than it needs to be. Please do not enter the band room if the door is closed and activities are being conducted (meetings, instruction, sectionals etc.). Generally during the season, when the band room door is open, it is OK to enter the band room.

➤ **Performance Etiquette**

The band's performance at games begins at pre-game and does not end until the students return to the school after the game. During a competition, the performance extends from their arrival and warm-ups, until they have left the field after they compete. Please refrain from talking to your child during these times (exception: third quarter snack time). They need to focus on performing!

Also, keep in mind the Director of Bands is involved in the performance and *cannot* give parental questions the consideration they deserve. If you have questions about the competition, any of the HBPA board members would be happy to try to answer it. If you have questions about your student, please contact Jules or Jamie at their phone number in the band room (listed in the front of this guide).

➤ **Performance Times**

Beginning in September, the marching band performs at all of the Hillsborough High School football games, both home and away. At home games, they usually perform at half-time, and at away games they usually perform about 6:30 pm. They will also be competing at a number of USSBA events, and a BOA competition, from late September through early November. Dates of all games and competitions are listed on the calendar that the students were given during the June practices and are also on the website.

Specific times for football game performances and competitions may not be available until right before the event. As a result, detailed weekend schedules including meal, rehearsal, travel and performance times will be provided at the Monday or Wednesday rehearsal prior to the event.

➤ **Meals**

Prior to football games, during longer practices, and prior to leaving for competitions, students will be given the opportunity to eat before dressing for performance. **Students are not allowed to leave school grounds during meal times.** Students may bring food to the band room prior to practices or parents may drop off food at the school. Parents should bring all food to the commons and not to the band room. Dinner break times will vary week to week, and will be listed on the weekly schedule. A band parent usually will be in the commons 15 minutes prior to the scheduled mealtime, and stay to monitor the drop-off. Please try to get their meals to them prior to, or at the beginning of scheduled meal times. That way they can eat at a leisurely (for them!) pace.

➤ **Football Game Days**

Your child will not be home after school is dismissed on days of a football game. The band generally rehearses from 2:45 until their scheduled dinner break. They will then eat, dress, and go to the game. The weekend schedule will list dinner break, performance and pick-up times.

- **Uniform** - Students can bring their uniform in the morning, and store it on racks available in school. Or, you can bring it if you are dropping off a meal for them.
- **Snacks** - Each child should bring a snack (enough to feed approximately 10 kids) every Friday morning to the band room. Snacks are shared by all at the third quarter break along with hot chocolate and cold drinks provided by the Band Parents Association. We suggest baked goods, string cheese (coolers are available), fruit snacks and cookie/snack bags (ie. Nabisco). Please avoid greasy or messy snacks such as chips, cheese puffs/Doritos and chocolate candy, that can do a number on uniforms and instruments. Instead of purchasing snacks, you can make a \$30 donation for the season and our snack crew volunteers will purchase the snacks.

➤ **Competition Days**

The schedule provided during the week will indicate what time the band members need to arrive at the school, what time eat and dress will be, and what time to pick students up.

Our performance time will be on the weekly schedule, but you may also want to check the USSBA website to see what time other bands will be performing. You may be interested in seeing another school from our area, or in watching all the bands in our group. You may view the schedule by going to the following site: www.yea.org and selecting the USSBA link.

At competitions we cannot provide a refreshment table, so we suggest your child bring money to purchase snacks.

➤ **Dress for the Occasion**

Marching band is an outdoor activity, and both you and your child need to be prepared for inclement weather. Rain happens! So does cold and wind. What looks like a beautiful day in the morning can be miserable if you're not prepared for a drastic drop in temperature. You and your child may want a blanket and warm gloves for use in the bleachers.

➤ **Uniforms**

It is essential that every part of the uniform arrive with your child prior to a scheduled performance. This includes raincoats for both musicians and colorguard, even though there is no threat of rain or snow. Students with incomplete uniforms will be unable to march.

Band Members: The band uniform consists of the following:

Provided to student by school:

- Black pants
- White cape
- Red, white and black jacket
- Red raincoat
- Hat
 - Sheiko for most band members
 - Nothing for pit members
- Black gloves* (except for pit and battery)

Needs to be purchased by parent:

- Black "Drillmaster" shoes (Jules will order)
- Black socks
- Black beret for tuba players

Provided by HBPA:

- Band t-shirt
(second one can be purchased)

* If gloves given to student are lost, a new pair can be purchased from Cindy Cochran.

Colorguard:

Rehearsals: The colorguard is required to wear black clothing to all rehearsals, shorts and T-shirts at the start of the season progressing to longer trousers and hoodies at the end of the season. Sneakers should be worn for all rehearsals.

Performances: The colorguard uniform changes year to year, to go along with the show's theme. Uniforms for guard members will be ordered in June so they arrive in time for the first competition. The guard is also provided with red raincoats, which can be worn when not performing. Members are responsible for the cost of accessories such as gloves, makeup, undergarments and hairstyling products.

➤ **Uniform Care**

Band: Our band looks its best in clean uniforms. Dry cleaning uniforms must be accomplished weekly, often with short notice. Take care of the cleaning immediately after the last performance of the weekend (either a football game or competition) and you won't find it a hassle. Be prepared to do some spot cleaning of uniforms and shoes for weekends with two or more performances!

Special Notes:

- The snap-out neckpiece on the uniform jacket must be removed *before* the uniform is brought to the dry cleaner and hand washed or machine washed, gentle cycle, and hung to dry.
- Raincoats are NOT to be dry-cleaned!! They should also be machine washed, gentle cycle, and hung to dry.

At the end of the season, please dry-clean uniform/wash raincoat. Because of limited storage at the school, each student is asked to keep their uniform until the spring, when it will be needed for other performances (for example, the Memorial Day parade and the Disney trip). After the last performance of the school year, please have the uniform dry-cleaned, (and if worn again, wash raincoat) and return it to the school with the dry-cleaning tag still attached.

Guard: Raincoats should be machine washed, gentle cycle, and hung to dry. At the end of the season, raincoats must be washed and stored until spring, and returned to school after last performance of the school year. Specific uniform care will be provided when they are handed out to students.

➤ **Spectator Information**

Whether we are at a football game or a competition, it is very important that our kids hear us cheering and supporting them. Learn the Hillsborough marching band's mantra:

Go Band! Go Guard! What a Band! Indeed!

At competitions, hearing us cheering can actually help improve their performance! We can accomplish this best when we sit as a group in the stands. To make it easier for our kids to spot us, and for us to spot each other, we have created the **"Sea of White."** White band hats (available for purchase at the Pot-Luck dinner), worn by our spectators, create an impressive visual and identify us as proud Hillsborough parents! We will also be selling t-shirts and sweatshirts before band camp, and at the beginning of the season.

➤ **Championships**

This year we are scheduled to compete in:

♫ **USSBA New Jersey State Championships** – Old Bridge, NJ

The trip to Towson for the **Bands of America** competition will be an overnight trip. Details will be provided as they become available. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in fundraising events to help defray their expenses (see the fundraising section of this handbook for more information).

Winterguard

Winterguard is an indoor colorguard activity, derived from the outdoor marching band activity. Instead of performing as a visual accent to the marching band, each winterguard team picks its own music to perform to. This helps to encourage individuality. Winterguard teams are judged, not only on talent and precision, but also on creativity. There are multiple ways that winterguards perform. They can use various equipment (flags, rifles and sabers), props, and dance moves. This is a great opportunity to develop poise and grace alongside a sense of rhythm and showmanship. Along with the aspects of performance, the winterguard members learn life skills such as discipline, dedication, leadership and teamwork. In the process, strong friendships will also develop.

➤ **Practices:**

Practices start in November almost immediately after marching band competition season ends and continue through to the end of April. Students who join winterguard must be members of the marching band's colorguard ensemble.

All performances of the winterguard are during competition season. These competitions provide an exciting opportunity to perform for large audiences. This group performs around the state of New Jersey, and competes in one or two out-of-state regional competitions.

➤ **Performances:**

The Hillsborough winterguard competes in two competition circuits, Winter Guard International (<http://www.wgi.org/>) and Mid-Atlantic Indoor Network (<http://www.mainguards.com/>). These competitions involve travel to venues across the east coast, including Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. These competitions provide an exciting opportunity to perform for large audiences. This year the Winterguard is planning to compete in the WGI Color Guard World Championships – in Dayton, Ohio.

Our fundraising activities help to cover the cost of travel to these events. Specific times for performances at competitions may not be available until right before the event. As a result, detailed weekend schedules including meal, rehearsal, travel and performance times will be provided and sent out via e-mail during the early part of the week prior to each event.

Uniforms:

Uniforms vary from season to season to reflect the theme of the performance. Details are provided at the beginning of the winterguard season. Members are responsible for a part of the cost of the uniforms plus accessories such as gloves, makeup, undergarments and hair styling products.

Jazz Band & Jazz Ensemble

These ensembles introduce members to jazz literature and provide performance opportunities, including school concerts and jazz competitions at other schools. Successful audition is required for participation.

Start of the Season: Auditions for these two ensembles are held after the marching band season has finished, and rehearsals begin in December.

Practices: Schedules will be provided to band members at the beginning of the season.

Rehearsal Etiquette: Rehearsals are closed to spectators. The rehearsal time is limited, and having others in the room is a distraction.

Performances: Both ensembles perform at the Combined High School and Middle School Jazz concert at the high school in March. In addition, there may be an opportunity for performances on the spring trip or at festivals, along with other jazz bands in the area.

Performance Attire:

- **Jazz Band:**
 - **Boys and Girls:** black shirt, black pants, black socks, black dress shoes
- **Jazz Ensemble:**
 - **Boys:** black tux including cummerbund and bow tie (provided by HHS), black socks, black dress shoes, white tuxedo shirt, shirt studs (provided by student)
 - **Girls:** black shirt, black pants, black socks, black dress shoes.

Small Ensembles

These ensembles allow students to pursue additional performance opportunities. This past school year, we had percussion, saxophone, flute, clarinet, and brass groups. Many students use this as an opportunity to pick up a second (or even third) instrument.

Start of the Season: Sign-ups for these ensembles are held after the marching band season has finished, and rehearsals begin in December or January.

Practices: Schedules will be provided to band members when practices begin.

Rehearsal Etiquette: As with all our bands, rehearsals are closed to spectators.

Performances: A schedule of performances will be handed out in December or January.

Performance Attire:

- **Boys and Girls:** black shirt, black pants, black socks, black dress shoes.

The Purpose of the HBPA

The mission of the HBPA is to provide support and services for the enhancement of the Hillsborough High School band and guard programs. The Hillsborough school district is supportive of our band and guard programs, but with the support of the HBPA our students have even more opportunities to learn musicianship, teamwork and leadership. The HBPA serves our students in the following capacities:

- Organizes and carries out HBPA fundraising events
- Provides assistance and support at football games, concerts, competitions and band camp
- Promotes support and involvement in the band and guard programs by informing other parents and the community of events scheduled throughout the year
- Encourages, supports, cheers, and congratulates students involved in all areas of the band and guard program. The recipients of our year-round support include our:
 - ♪ Marching Band
 - ♪ Winterguard
 - ♪ Wind Ensemble
 - ♪ Concert Band
 - ♪ Freshman Band
 - ♪ Jazz Ensemble
 - ♪ Jazz Band
 - ♪ Small Ensembles

Simply stated, we support all of our great kids' endeavors!

Keep Informed!!!

- **Newsletter:** The association sends out a newsletter to members each month that provides information about the events coming up during the month. It also includes messages from both the Director of Bands, and the HBPA President.
- **Website:** The website provides schedules, calendars, photos, contact information and other details about all of our bands and winterguard.
- **Email lists:** When information needs to go out quickly, or when reminders for volunteers or spectators need to be sent, e-mails can be sent to our members in a timely fashion. Simply provide your email address on the membership form, which is available on the website.

Fundraising

Each year a number of fundraising events are conducted; some by the students and some by the HBPA. They are generally grouped into three categories:

Student Fundraising (through school):

Students in all of our ensembles are given the opportunity to participate in several fundraisers each year including a magazine and fruit sale. Additional student fundraisers may also be scheduled. An account is established in each student's name. A percentage of funds raised from these sales are credited to the individual student's account. The total value of each student's account will be deducted from the total cost for planned band trips. To save yourself money, encourage your kids to sell fruit and magazines and participate in the other fundraisers as well!

Band Council Fundraising (through school):

The Band Council is a group of students, similar to the Student Council, acting as representatives for the band and guard members in discussions regarding fundraising and other activities. They conduct several fundraising events during the year, such as selling an entertainment coupon book, arranging nights at restaurants such as Saladworks, where they get a percentage of the sales, and organizing a bowling night. The funds they raise go to support their programs including the dinner at the end of marching band season, and the end of the year dinner for all students in our programs.

HBPA Fundraising:

The purpose of the HBPA's fundraising is to enhance the quality of the band and related programs. Our funds are used to purchase music, accessories, supplies and equipment for all our ensembles. We also provide money for competition fees, scholarships, guest soloists and instructors.

Included in our plans for the year are the following fundraisers:

- \$ Membership Drive
- \$ Band Apparel Sales
- \$ Raffles
- \$ Gift Cards
- \$ Raider Marching Band Festival
- \$ Clothing Drives
- \$ Winterguard Show
- \$ Casino Night
- \$ Book Fairs
- \$ Cash for Gold

It is a very ambitious schedule, and we need every band parent to help make the year a success! Please attend our meetings and see how you can help!

How to Get Involved

- ♪ **Attend band parent meetings.** By staying informed, you can learn how best to support the kids!
- ♪ **Attend football games, competitions and other band and guard events.** The kids love to hear their fans cheering for them.
- ♪ **Join the Marching Band Pit Crew.** During each football game and marching band competition we need at least ten people to serve as the "Pit Crew" to:
 - load and unload the band truck before and after all away football games and competitions.
 - lift and set up large band equipment (mostly for the pit) and any needed props, for all football games and competitions.
- ♪ **Help out the Snack Crew at football games.** We need at least five people to set up and take down the refreshment table at home and away football games. The refreshment table consists of snacks (baked goods, cheese & crackers, veggies etc.) provided each week by the students, and drinks provided by the HBPA. Each Friday morning during football season, students bring snacks to the band room to be given out at the refreshment table that evening.
- ♪ **Lend a helping hand.** You can help get everyone home sooner by assisting with unloading the band truck after band events. When you see it pull into the parking lot please lend a hand. The students will show you where things go.

- ♪ **Take an active part in each of our fundraisers!** Join a committee and have some fun while making a difference. Committee chairs will be announced at the HBPA meetings.
- ♪ **Help with flags.** Join a group of band parents who either sew or adorn flags and other necessary items that enhance the visual effect of the marching band and winterguard.
- ♪ **Be a demonstrative fan.** During competitions we need loud, vocal supporters sitting in close proximity of each other to show our kids how much they are supported and appreciated. Be part of the “Sea of White”.
- ♪ **Mark your calendars now!** The Raider Marching Band Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 29th. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year and everyone is needed the day of the show. Sign up information will be available at the pot-luck dinner. Also, look for e-mails on how you can help!
- ♪ **Learn the Hillsborough Marching Band’s mantra:**

*GO BAND!! GO GUARD!! WHAT A BAND!!
INDEED!!*

And finally..... JUST ASK!!

Don’t be afraid to ask what seems to be a “dumb question”. If this is new to you, please remember that it was once new to the experienced members of the HBPA as well! We all realize the more you know about the band activities and the Band Parents Association, the more you’ll feel comfortable about getting involved. So ask -- we’ll be delighted to help.

*“Once a band parent...
always a band parent”*

Frequently Used Terminology

The USSBA

The US Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) was formed to provide educational, exciting, and positive performance opportunities for high school marching band students. The USSBA provides superior evaluation and adjudication for high school marching bands, their directors and instructors, and helps promote innovation, creativity, and growth of the marching music activity. The HHS Raider Marching Band participates in a number of USSBA sanctioned competitions including a “Championship” at the end of the season. USSBA scores and schedules may be obtained by visiting their web site at www.yea.org and following the links to USSBA. You can also get an explanation of scoring, and other aspects of USSBA Shows.

The HHS Band Parents Association will proudly sponsor our annual **Raider Marching Band Festival**, a USSBA sanctioned competition, on Saturday, October 29, 2011.

Bands of America

Bands of America was originally created in 1976, and merged with the Music for All Foundation in 2006 to create Music for All. Music for All is committed to lifelong learning and nurtures the pursuit of music making by creating and providing quality opportunities and experiences for everyone. Their belief is that music and arts education is a core to students’ education and must be available to all students.

Music for All’s Bands of America (BOA) marching band competitions are the premier events for marching bands in the nation. The BOA marching band shows offer life-changing experiences for the students, teachers and parents of the bands who participate, as well as fans and spectators. In addition to competing, marching band students have the opportunity to observe, and learn from other marching bands from across the country.

For more information go to www.musicforall.org.

Marching Band Competition Terms

Bands are categorized into groups or “*classifications*” and their performances are judged against other bands within that group. The total number of band and auxiliary (colorguard) members determines classifications. A panel of judges evaluates and awards the marching bands at competitions based on the following criteria:

♪ Visual Performance ♪ Musical Performance ♪ Overall Effect

Perfect visual, musical and overall effect scores sum 100 points. Additional caption award categories may include: “*Best Visual (Marching)*”, “*Best Percussion*”, “*Best Colorguard*” and “*Best Music*”. All bands must perform in at least two USSBA sanctioned competitions in order to attend Championships.

Colorguard

The *Colorguard or Auxiliary* consists of the marching band members who provide the “*Visual Effects*” of the band show. The colorguard members enhance the band performance with professionally choreographed dance routines and colorful flags, rifles, sabers, and other field accessories to complement the show’s theme. The colorguard is an integral part of the HHS Raider Marching Band.

The Pit

The Pit is the group of musicians who play the stationary musical equipment at the front of the band. Members of the Pit do not execute field marching maneuvers.

Regions

Region auditions are sponsored by the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA). The State of New Jersey is divided into three regions for the purpose of auditioning for Region Band, Orchestra, Jazz and Wind Ensemble. Students who choose to audition for Regions are provided with information by the Director of Bands regarding specific audition requirements. Regional auditions are usually held in December.

All State

Also sponsored by NJMEA, All State Band, Orchestra, Jazz and Wind Ensemble are groups for which students earn a chair. Placement is determined following auditions held in January. Students who have earned certain positions as part of the Regional competitions are invited to audition for a chair in the All State organizations.