



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Darrell S. Keech, *Director*

1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12450

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April 3, 2019

To All Prospective Marching Band Members & Their Families:

It gives us great pride to welcome you to our 52<sup>nd</sup> year of the award-winning Arlington High School Marching Band (AHSMB)! The Band is the three-time defending New York State Champions and will hope to welcome over 45 new members this season!! The staff has been at work for months getting ready for an exciting, fun, and positively memorable 2019 season. This year or show will focus on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Woodstock and feature music by: Sly and Family Stone, Bob Dylan, The Beatles, and many more!

The amount of exciting news and information is too great to be included in a letter, so each year we gather to “kick-off” and register for our new season. At that time, you will have many questions answered, receive lots of information, meet people from each part of the band (students and parents), hear about our very important volunteer opportunities, find out information about the show theme for the next year, sign-up for the 2019 Marching Band, and much more!!

There are two items that I would like to bring to your attention now: first, marching band does cost money, but we have established programs that allow everyone to participate no matter what their financial situation. *NO ONE SHOULD MISS OUT BECAUSE OF MONEY ISSUES!!* Second, many students think the Marching Band is “very time-consuming.” It does take time, but **WE REHEARSE LESS THAN MOST SPORTS TEAMS AT AHS.** We practice only *two nights a week* once school starts. We find that Marching Band, *good grades*, and a successful first year at Arlington can go together!!!

Below you will find an outline of our schedule through the summer. This is a great overview, but not a complete list. The most accurate calendar can be found on our website. Our spring schedule overview is as follows:

- **KICK-OFF to registration MEETING** - SUNDAY, May 19th @ 2:00pm in the Arlington HS Auditorium  
ALL MEMBERS & AT LEAST ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN *MUST* ATTEND.  
If you wish, you can take all the paperwork home and decide about joining later. If you are ready to sign-up on the 21st you can!!! Each member will need to make a **\$150 Membership Fee payment** to enroll in the program.
- **Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion & Color Guard Workshops and Auditions**  
Your journey starts this month!!!! Check [www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com) for more details.

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“A Commitment to Excellence”  
[www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com)



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- **Summer Full Band Rehearsals\*\*\* - One time per week, Wednesdays, July and August.** Check [www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com) for more details. If you have a vacation or music camp planned for a few weeks of this time, don't worry you can still be a part of the Band!!
- **BAND CAMP WEEKS\*\*\***  
**August 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, Monday-Friday, 8:30am – 5pm**  
**MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS**  
Parent Night/Band Camp wrap up!! - Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:00pm in the AHS Stadium

\*\*\*Summer vacations and music camps are valid excuses for missing two (2) of the summer rehearsals; missing more than 2 rehearsals could jeopardize your place in the field show (Member vs. Marcher).

## 2019 Performance Schedule

**All members are required to attend all performances!**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday	August 23	Parent Night and Show Debut @ Arlington HS
Friday	Sept 6	Home Football Game – 6pm Kick-off
Saturday	Sept 14	NYSFBC Competition @ Mohonasen HS
Sunday	Sept 22	NYSFBC Competition @ Copiague HS
Friday	Sept 27	Home Football Game – 6pm Kick-off
Sunday	Oct 13	NYSFBC Competition @ Arlington HS
Sunday	Oct 20	NYSFBC Competition @ Kingston HS
Saturday	Oct 26	Parent Show and Senior Recognition @ Arlington HS
Sun-Mon	Oct 27-28	NYSFBC State Championships – Syracuse, NY

At any time, if you have a question, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Keech. I sincerely hope you are as excited about our season as I am. Your talents and great energy will help guarantee a great year filled with great friends, great memories, and GREAT PERFORMANCES!!

Sincerely,

Darrell Keech, Director

**See you SUNDAY – May 19<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm**  
**In the Arlington High School Auditorium**

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*“A Commitment to Excellence”*  
[www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com)

January 25, 2019

To the parents of 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students:

Greetings from the Arlington High School 9<sup>th</sup> grade band directors, Mr. Darrell Keech Mr. Evan R zodkiewicz!! We have had a chance to visit your children at each middle school and would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and provide some exciting information as you and your child prepare for participation in band at Arlington High School.

So, who are the 9<sup>th</sup> grade band directors? Below you find out how to contact us and what ensembles we teach. In addition to these ensembles, we teach small groups, pull-out lessons as in middle school, and provide opportunities for our students in honor groups and NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Festivals.

**Evan R zodkiewicz**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands  
Concert Band (Grade 10-12)  
Jazz II & III (Grade 9-12)  
Marching Band (Grade 9-12)

erzodkiewicz@acsdny.org  
845-486-4860 x70807

**Darrell Keech**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands  
Symphonic Band (Grade 10-12)  
Marching Band (Grade 9-12)  
Winter Guard & Percussion (Grade 9-12)

dkeech@acsdny.org  
845-486-4860 x70285

We hope that your child continues into the 9<sup>th</sup> grade band program at Arlington High School. This award-winning department has dozens of large and small ensembles in all styles for your child to enjoy. In addition to these opportunities, *participation in band fulfills a New York State Graduation requirement in Art or Music and is a prerequisite to other ensembles* such as Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, and NYSSMA Solo and Honor festivals.

Please make sure that you discuss this important decision with your son or daughter and feel free to contact either Mr. Keech or Mr. R zodkiewicz with questions. If you are interested in having your student in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade bands, they simply need to register for:

**Course #6600 – Ninth Grade Band (1 unit = 1 full year).**

On the back of this sheet you will find information on the two largest extra-curricular ensembles offered to 9<sup>th</sup> grade band students. Remember, extracurricular ensembles such as Marching Band (winds and percussion sections) and Jazz II & III are only open to students registered for Course #6600!!

We look forward to meeting each of you and hope that you and your student make the decision to be a part of this great opportunity. If you or your child has any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at the High School.

Sincerely,

*Darrell Keech*

*Evan R zodkiewicz*



The **Arlington High School Marching Band (AHSMB)** is open to 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students at the High School. Each year over 40 new members join the Marching Band. The Marching Band Season starts in the spring with a few sessions. Over the summer we have a two-week band camp for all students. The entire season wraps up by the first weekend in November.

There are many great reasons to encourage your child to participate.

- Jump start the high school experience surrounded by 140 great student role models
- Develop team work, self esteem, self confidence, and time management skills
- Develop musical skills through expert instruction. (The Marching Band has members from every band on campus including many of the best players)
- Become a Varsity Letterman!!
- Create memories and friendships that will last you a lifetime!
- Travel and Perform as part one of the elite musical groups in the State of New York
- Build a support network and friendships that can help your transition to the High School and last a lifetime!
- Perform at exciting venues such as the Carrier Dome @ SU and MetLife Stadium
- Be part of a three-time defending State Champion marching program!!
- There is much more information on the Marching Band's website: [www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com)

If you are interested in marching band, there are a few *required* events this spring and summer, so stay tuned to the website [www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com) for the latest.

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After the Marching Band Season comes to an end in October it is time for the Arlington Jazz Bands to swing!!

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Arlington High School offers three jazz ensembles for students to perform with: **The Arlington HS Jazz Machine, Arlington HS Jazz II, and Arlington HS Jazz III.** These extra-curricular groups perform at district events, festivals, and the annual Jazz Cabaret & Arlington District Jazz Festival.

Ninth graders that are interested in jazz are encouraged to audition for **Jazz II & III.** These groups are for younger, less experienced jazz players. They serve as a training ground to teach younger players about jazz styles and techniques as well as to prepare them for potential membership in Jazz Machine. These groups perform at local festivals and concerts.

**Jazz Machine** is the most advanced of the three jazz groups. Through an audition process, this group is made up of the most advanced jazz students in grades 10 – 12. The Jazz Machine has garnered many awards and accolades, including regular first place finishes at the prestigious Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival, held annually in Boston. This group performs locally and regionally in various festivals and concerts.

## **Arlington Marching Band Website**

<https://www.arlingtonband.com>

## **Arlington Marching Band Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ArlingtonAdmirals/>

## **Arlington Jazz Machine Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonJazzMachine/>

## **Arlington Band Boosters, INC Website**

<http://www.arlingtonbandboosters.com/>

## **Arlington Band Boosters, INC Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonBandBoosters/>

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### **Why be in Band?**

Band is a path to life-long learning and knowledge of self and culture. It supports healthy social development and the quality of a young person's life, and it prepares young people for success in the 21st century workplace.

### **Band facilitates student academic achievement:**

- Improves recall and retention of verbal information
- Advances math achievement
- Boosts reading and English language arts (ELA) skills
- Increases average SAT scores