

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

AM I ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND EVEN THOUGH I DO NOT LIVE CLOSE TO SAINT IGNATIUS?

Absolutely. We have students from all corners of the greater Cleveland area. Many of our Band students carpool with each other to and from events. Student and family information is provided by Mr. Hamlin to coordinate transportation.

AM I ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND EVEN IF I DO NOT OWN AN INSTRUMENT?

Yes! Saint Ignatius is very lucky to own a variety of school musical instruments. We have tenor saxophones, baritone saxophones, French horns, tubas, percussion, and many other instruments. Students can sign out these instruments, with the only potential fee being personal damage. Basic maintenance and minor damage as a result of use is covered by the school.

DO I HAVE TO TAKE SUMMER CLASSES IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND?

No. Students enrolling in Band or Chorus are able to complete their graduation requirements and enroll in a Fine Arts course for four full years without taking online or Summer classes. Summer classes do, however, greatly help with scheduling.

DO I NEED TO BE ABLE TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT PRIOR TO JOINING BAND?

No. However, this makes the rehearsal process significantly easier. Our ensemble has students who previously had not performed on anything. The desire to learn, and dedication to practice are the two tools for success. For students who do not have any prior experience, it is strongly encouraged to enroll in private lessons in addition to the class.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

AM I ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN BAND AND SPORTS OR OTHER EXTRACURRICULARS?

In most cases, yes. There are some sports, most of them in the fall, that are impossible to juggle with our given schedule of events in the summer and fall. Generally, these include Golf, Soccer, Cross Country and fall Crew. With proper planning there shouldn't be any significant overlap between Band and the various extracurriculars offered at Saint Ignatius.

IS PARTICIPATING IN BAND EXPENSIVE?

There are a variety of items that students will need to purchase upfront once they begin participating. A breakdown of all foreseeable costs is available through Mr. Hamlin. That being said, money should not be the deciding factor on whether or not to participate. A financial assistance form specific to the Band can be filled out and turned into Mr. Hamlin. This form will be reviewed through the Saint Ignatius Finance Office, and assistance will be granted based on need. The Band Boosters group holds fundraising opportunities throughout the year to assist in bringing the cost-per-student down for special events.

DO I NEED TO BE AN OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN TO BECOME A MEMBER?

No. The goal of this class is to educate our students to properly perform and continually get better on their instrument. All students play at various levels and continually strive to become better musicians. Our rehearsals and performances help the students focus on their ability and musicianship. The proper attitude is the most important thing for success in this class.



SAINT IGNATIUS HIGH SCHOOL

BAND

MUSIC PROGRAM

The most visible and loudest representative of Saint Ignatius High School is our band. With various opportunities to participate, students can take part in the band program regardless of years of experience or choice of instrument.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRICULAR COURSES

DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

BAND PROGRAM

The Band is the largest curricular course offered at Saint Ignatius.

The school year begins with the Wildcat Marching Band, which performs during the halftime of every home football game and a handful of away football games. The group also performs at various parades and band festivals including the Cleveland Saint Patrick’s Day Parade. The Band has the opportunity to travel together to various locations, most recently Disney’s Magic Kingdom.

All band members are required to participate in all summer rehearsals and Band Camp in August. During the school day, the group meets during 9th period.

The Symphonic Band begins to rehearse at the end of the Marching Band season. This ensemble focuses on the musicality, intonation, balance, and blend required to perform concert band literature at a high- level of musicianship. Performances include the OMEA Large Group Adjudication Event plus additional concerts, culminating with the Saint Ignatius Graduation Ceremony.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The Saint Ignatius Jazz Ensemble is a curricular ensemble that meets after school on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:05 – 4 p.m.

This audition-based ensemble focuses on the swing and big band performance styles. Auditions are held at the beginning of the school year.

Students who are involved in this ensemble receive a one-half Fine Arts course credit.



EXTRACURRICULARS

PEP BAND

Appearing at various sporting events around the school, this high-energy musical ensemble performs to pump up the crowd and Saint Ignatius athletic teams. Membership is open to all students who play an instrument. Pep Band has a limited number of members. Sign up sheets are posted in The Breen Center for events. The group is overseen by the Band Director, and rehearses immediately before the performance.

STEEL DRUM BAND

The Saint Ignatius Steel Drum Band started in 2016. The focus of the group is learning traditional pan technique in addition to extended repertoire of the steel pan world including calypso, salsa, bossa nova, and contemporary pieces. The group is a visible extracurricular of Saint Ignatius High School, with the goal of reaching out to a large audience beyond the classroom. The group is audition-only and meets weekly.

LITURGICAL MUSICIANS ENSEMBLES

Singers and instrumentalists join together in enhancing the worship of the school community through music. Rehearsals are Tuesday after school in the Band Room. In addition to all-school Liturgies, this ensemble also performs at specific Masses and other Liturgical Celebrations. Mr. Croglio, the Choral Director at Saint Ignatius, oversees this group.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

Geared towards student soloists and chamber musicians, Saint Ignatius High School regularly sends students to perform in solo and ensemble competitions. Here students perform repertoire for an outside judge and are adjudicated based on their performance. Students earn accolades for the level of proficiency at which they have their music. These festivals are held in the second semester, generally in January or February.

EXTRACURRICULARS

SMALL GROUPS

Participation in groups such as the Saint Ignatius Brass Quintet and Saint Ignatius Clarinet or Saxophone Choir are fantastic ways to add performance opportunities and learn unique and energetic repertoires. These student-run groups generally participate in the Greater Cleveland Solo and Ensemble, and boast great success.

SPRING MUSICAL PIT ORCHESTRA

Saint Ignatius High School produces a large-scale musical every spring. Most of these musicals require the inclusion of a pit orchestra. The Band Director will oversee the personnel for this group. Inclusion in this ensemble traditionally depends on the instrumentation needed, as well as how many spots are available. If needed, auditions will be used. Rehearsals will begin as soon as January, and conclude with the performance of the musical.

JAZZ COMOBS

Jazz Combos are comprised of students enrolled in Jazz Orchestra who want to further their musical participation through combos. These groups rehearse on their own time and are given various performance outlets throughout the year.

LEARN MORE:
IGNATIUS.EDU/BAND

