



ISU ALUMNI BAND

Fall 2023 Newsletter

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hey Band!

The best time of the annual marching band calendar is here again! Nothing beats the nostalgic feeling that can only be captured during a homecoming reunion, and I'd like to invite you back to Ames for another great band event. We will celebrate our Alumni Band reunion on homecoming weekend the first weekend of November this year, and it's an event that will take everyone participating on a real Journey.

Speaking of nostalgia, I'm excited to see that the Big XII Conference has brought back the Colorado Buffalo. My favorite Jack Trice gameday experience as varsity member was an Iowa State victory over Colorado that featured a delayed kickoff due to an Iowa State Cyclone live mascot appearance. The band retreated to Hilton and played some stand tunes for the tailgaters while a tornado rolled over Ames. It was one of the most electric gameday environments I have ever seen and one of my favorite game days as a band member.

The board has another great reunion in the works, and we hope to see you there! The festivities will once again include our Friday Evening Social and a Saturday that features the opportunity to perform with the Varsity band on the field at Jack Trice Stadium. It's always a great day to be alive and be a Cyclone, but some days are a little bit greater than others.

Come be a part of making our reunion this year a little bit greater than all the others. I can't wait to see you there.

Go Cyclones!

Kevin Beichley
ISUAB President

Save the Date:

August 19 | Band Camp
Tailgate

September 30 |
Homecoming
Registration Deadline

November 4 |
HOMECOMING

November 11 | Band
Extravaganza

Click [Here](#) for ISU
Concert Information

From the Desk of Dr. Golemo...

Dear “Cyclone” Marching Band Alum –

You are cordially invited to attend Homecoming 2023 and participate in the activities of the Alumni Band. This event is always a highlight of our season, and we enjoy having you back.

Please make your plans to be with us on November 3-4. Although the game will be played against a “traditional” Big XII opponent, Kansas, there are rumors on campus that the conference will continue to change. The inside scoop is that NEXT year’s game could be played against Utah, Harvard, Alabama, the Canton Bulldogs, or AFC Richmond (hope you’re a Ted Lasso fan). Change is the only constant, right?

But I digress.

As always, there will be a fun reunion party on Friday evening, November 3 at Music Hall and our traditional “pre-game brunch” prior to the game on Saturday.

What’s that? You haven’t played your instrument since you left ISU? No problem! As long as you remember how to open your instrument case and assemble your instrument, you’ll be fine.

Homecoming is all about renewing old friendships, creating new ones, and celebrating everything that is Cardinal and Gold – including the Cyclone Marching Band. It also provides you the special opportunity to perform on the field just one more time!

We are indebted to the Alumni Band for their continual support of our program. Their generosity exists in numerous ways, including scholarships, band banquet tickets for our graduating students, musical instruments, travel perks for the band... and reminding our current band members that there IS a way to still enjoy, support and re-live the Marching Band experience after you graduate.

The enclosed schedule and registration information should provide you with the details. Please make every effort to join us for this year’s Homecoming. We look forward to having you back on campus.

Go Cyclones!!!

Michael Golemo, D.M.A.
Director of Bands

Updates from Mr. Carichner:

Ahhh...the humidity Central Iowa has been missing all summer has come in full force the last two weeks and that can only mean one thing - another marching band season is right around the corner!

We have a VERY exciting year planned for the CMB and can't wait to share it with you all season. A few highlights you'll want to check out for sure:

The launch of our BRAND NEW MERCH STORE! We have partnered with the ISU Bookstore to offer a full line of gear for parents, alums, members, and fans! There's shirts, hats, hoodies, stickers, and so much more. Shopping at the ISU Bookstore is always tax free, the store will be open year round (as opposed to the short window ordering process of the past) with continuously updated offerings (and some seasonal offerings!) AND there's free pick up on campus! They'll also be selling our merch out at our step show performances (look for the ISU Bookstore Truck near the alumni center!). A very nice chunk of the purchases goes directly to the band - so open the wallets generously 😊. Best part? Be on the lookout for our very first OFFICIAL vintage band Cy! The soft launch date is right around the first game of the year so check out our social media for updates!

Our show on September 23rd this year is the music of METALLICA! We have entered a national competition sponsored by the band themselves - our live performance will be at halftime on the 23rd and we'll enter into the competition from there. If we advance, it'll be up to fan vote so Cyclone Nation - do your thing!

We'll have some VERY exciting updates to share with you at Homecoming this year so be sure to sign up early to secure your spot. Can't join us then? Maybe we'll see you at the Alumni Band Golf Tournament....or Band Extravaganza....or another game....or a pep rally....or a practice --- or maybe all of them! Let's make this a great year of alumni connection with the 2023 CMB!

Go Cyclones!
-Christian

Join us for the Friday Night Reunion!



Where: Simon Estes Music Hall – Iowa State University Campus

Parking: Campus parking lots (read the lot signs!) and the Memorial Union Parking Ramp (\$)

When: Friday, November 3rd from 7:00pm-10:00pm

Cost: Included in price of full event registration, \$20 for Friday only when purchased in advance

Didn't register in advance? No problem! Friday tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25/each

What should you expect?

- Snacks and appetizers from favorite local spots, including a cash bar!
- A raffle and silent auction for Iowa State and ISUCF'V'MB merchandise
- Additional alumni band and varsity band merchandise for sale
- A great evening filled with laughter, memories, and music!



We hope to see you there!

HOMECOMING FAQs

Uniform

The Alumni Band official uniform:

- The Alumni Band fleece jacket (See below for more information)
- Red shirt
- Black pants/ Black jeans
- Black socks and black shoes

We encourage Cyclone colors with all accessories! If you do not have a jacket, you will need to purchase one with your registration. Recent graduates (2021 – 2023) and current students receive a discounted price. All jackets are men's sizes (S-4XL). To order your jacket and guarantee your size, register by **October 1st**. All specific jacket questions should be directed to [Erin Kalkwarf](#).

Instruments

The Iowa State University Band Department will supply the following items to those who will need them:

- Mellophones
- Baritones
- Sousaphones
- Percussion
- Flags
- Tenor Sax

If you need any of these items, please indicate in the appropriate spot on your registration form. Due to limited availability, all horns are on a first come, first served basis. Those using borrowed instruments will still need to supply their own lyres and reeds, and will be responsible for returning their instrument to the proper place after the game. Those in need of other instruments not listed should try to locate them through other local sources, such as local schools, music stores, or other ISU band alumni. Music flip folders will be provided at rehearsal Saturday. All other items (reeds, valve oil, etc.) are your responsibility.

Marching Options

Did you know that there are several options for participating in the halftime show? The three options can be chosen during registration:

- Marching On-Field: *March the halftime drill on the field*
- Stationary On-Field: *Stationary position on the field*
- Not participating at halftime: *Enjoy the show from the sideline*

The stationary on-field position is being offered as a less strenuous way to participate in Alumni Band. You'll still be on the field with the rest of the alumni band, but instead of marching the drill you will march on the field, stand and play, and then march off the field. How simple is that?! A limited number of these positions are available and they will be filled on a first come, first served basis so please register

early if you are interested. Hopefully everyone can find a participation level that will work for them in order to return to Alumni Band, or join us for the first time. Trust us, you can do it!

Saturday Meal At Scheman

A Saturday meal is included with your full registration, or may be ordered separately if you do not intend on joining the band at the game. Saturday meals can also be ordered for guests through the registration form. Guest meal tickets are \$30 a ticket. All diners will need a meal ticket, which will be included in your registration packet. Packets can be picked up Friday night or prior to Saturday morning rehearsal.

Where can I park?

Parking is now in Lot 12, out by the Marching Band Practice Field near the Communications Building. Click [here](#) for a map!

Alumni Shuttle

There will be a shuttle that will run from Parking Lot 12 to Bergstrom Indoor Practice Facility in the morning in time for rehearsal and back to Lot 12 after the game has ended.

The Golden Alumni Shuttle is still available for use. The Golden Alumni Shuttle will run from Bergstrom Indoor Practice Facility to Lunch in Scheman and back to the stadium for kick off!

See Who's Coming

You can see who is coming to Homecoming in advance! Our online list of people who have registered for the reunion is updated continuously so keep checking. This is a great way to follow up with that friend of yours who needs reminding... you know...the one you always called on Saturday morning to make sure they were up on time! Find a link on our [website](#).

Help a Senior Attend Band Banquet

With your help, the Alumni Band provides tickets for every senior Varsity Band member to the annual Band Banquet. The year-end banquet is always a highly anticipated event for Varsity Band members, and for many is one of their last official activities with the band. By adding this ticket to your Alumni Band registration you are able to thank a senior band member for their years of dedication to the ISU Bands. A wonderful way to welcome graduating seniors to the Alumni Band. Please consider gifting this opportunity to a Varsity member.

Where do I pick up my jacket that I ordered when I registered?

You can pick up jackets at check in on Friday night or Saturday morning. If you are unable to attend we can make arrangements to get your jacket to you.

Do I still need to know how to play my horn well anymore?

No. We gather to have fun with friends, network, and enjoy being on the field together.

Do we memorize music?

No need to memorize the music ahead of time. We will have a rehearsal on Saturday morning. **We ask that you print off your own music prior to Saturday morning, as the alumni band will not be provided printed music!**

If available, we will notify you where to find the music in advance if you would like to practice and/or memorize.

Do I need to provide my own lyre?

A limited number of lyres are available for checkout on Saturday morning. If you prefer a bell mount lyre, you are responsible for providing your own. Music and lyre return is something we keep refining each year. We will have containers to collect them near the trucks for borrowed horns parked outside the indoor practice facility.

Why do we wear black pants and shoes?

Black pants and shoes, along with the jacket, help provide a uniform look for the group and looks snazzy on the field!

Is there a full dinner on Friday night?

There will be plenty of pizza from Jeff's and ice cream from the ISU creamery, but if you're a full-pizza-to-yourself kind of person, don't come too hungry, we still have to share (looking at you, sousas)! Pre-Registered it is \$25.00 at the door.

What if it rains/snows?

You are encouraged to layer up under or over your jacket to stay dry and warm. Hats and gloves are also welcome! Check the forecast and plan accordingly.

I already have a season ticket, why are we buying one with the Saturday package?

You aren't buying a ticket for the game with your registration. Registration fees cover other aspects of the reunion, but the seats the Alumni Band sits in are donated by Athletics. Guest game tickets that you can purchase during registration will not be next to the band, but are located wherever there are available seats.

How much do we actually play or march?

It depends on the year. It is typically one short song on our own, a joint song with the Varsity Band and then Fights. Stands music is limited to basic ISU Cheers.

Is there child care?

There is no child care, please plan accordingly.

Do we stay for the whole game?

Yes. However, we know that for late games people may have to get home right after half time because of a long trip and/or children. We can work out individual cases as they arise.

Do I have to enter/sit with the band?

Yes. Since we don't pass out individual tickets for our group seating in the stands, we all need to enter together.

What should I bring?

Good memories, a good set of lungs, black pants, black shoes, and your jacket. Don't forget your instrument (unless you are borrowing one that is!). There will be opportunities to purchase raffle tickets Friday and Saturday, so feel free to bring some cash to help support the ISUCF'V'MB and enter for your chance to win some great prizes – including registration for Homecoming 2024!

Am I allowed to bring in alcohol?

Absolutely not! We are still representing the band and must follow the rules of Jack Trice Stadium.

What happens if I something happens suddenly and I can't attend?

We know plans can change on short notice. Contact President Kevin Beichley at jsualumniband@gmail.com as soon as you can. We don't typically allow refunds, but have provided partial refunds on a case by case basis.

I would like to get involved and help run this event, how do I do that?

Run for the Board of Directors! Contact the President-Elect Breanna Kixmiller at jsualumniband@gmail.com to add your name to ballot! See page 7 of this newsletter for more information on available positions.

I'm a new alumnus, how do I make friends?

Start saying hi to people! Encourage your friends to return with you – the more of you that return together each year, the more fun you will have!

ERIN'S CORNER

Band Camp Tailgate

As we did a few years ago, we will be providing some food and activities for the Varsity Band during Band Camp on Saturday, August 19 @7pm, (setup at 6pm). We'll be in the A3, A4, A5 parking lots near the Alumni Center.

If you are able to join us in person and can provide some desserts, tables for food, or tailgate games, please sign up by clicking [here!](#)

If you are unable to join us but would like to provide support, you can send a few dollars to help buy hot dogs, buns and sides.

Venmo - @Erin-Kalkwarf (last 4 phone: 4339)

PayPal - @erinkalkwarf

Zelle - erin.kalkwarf@gmail.com

CashApp - \$ErinKalkwarf

Please contact Erin Kalkwarf (erin.kalkwarf@gmail.com) with any questions.

National Association of Alumni Bands

Check out the Summer 2023 newsletter for highlights on the NAOAB symposium in June. If you are interested in supporting Alumni Bands across the country, the NAOAB is still looking to fill a few regional positions. Our game at Cincinnati on October 14th happens to be their Homecoming game, and we have been invited to join their alumni band at some of their activities! If you are going to the game and are interested in this opportunity, [please let me know](#) and I will get you in contact with their president. They are really excited to be joining the Big 12!

Alumni Spotlight: Madame President

This Alumni Spotlight goes to Breanna Kixmiller, whose story is really an ode to Ames, a place that gave so many of us a home for four (or more) years. Looking at the incoming College of Design freshman auditioning on the piccolo all those years ago, one would be shocked to find that she has become not only an academic advisor to around 250 mechanical engineering students, but the sousaphone-playing incoming President of the Alumni Band. After taking a wide range of classes and ending up with an art degree and minors in political science and performing arts, Bree felt inspired to help future students have just as wonderful an experience as she had. With the guidance of her own academic advisor and multiple members of the ISUCF'V'MB who had gone into student affairs before her, she took a leap and landed about a block away from where she started - and, luckily for her, just down the street from the marching band practice field!

While Bree says her dream job would be to win the lottery and travel around forever (after helping to build the I.S.U.T.U.B.A.S. Official Rehearsal Complex, of course), she is a woman who is truly passionate about the students of Iowa State and the community she has been able to build here in Ames. This is part of the reason she decided to become our Alumni Band President: to give back to an organization that on more than one occasion gave her a reason to get out of the bed in the morning (a sentiment so many of us can relate to). As a natural planner, Bree is looking forward to finding new ways to keep our homecoming event amazing and connect with the Varsity band members, inspiring them to take her lead and join us after they graduate.

Like many of our alumni who we've spotlighted, Bree's favorite memory from her band days take us outside of Ames on her first band trip - this one to Historic Kinnick Stadium. Despite being a...less than superb team that year, the Cyclones managed to defeat the Hawkeyes with a field goal that sent the band into an absolute frenzy, playing the Fight Song on loop for what felt like hours. Hopefully we can bring that joy back this year with a win over Kansas!!

*Author's note: while your new President has been confused on several occasions for this Newsletter Editor (even by her own mother), it is important to state that we are, in fact, two separate people with two separate roles.



BREANNA KIXMILLER

Sousaphone | '18, '20

Upcoming Alumni Pep Band Season

We are certainly in demand! There are a lot of playing requests that have made their way to us this summer - festivals and parades and all sort of fun opportunities. While we try our best to accommodate, we unfortunately aren't able to play every gig if we don't get the right instrumentation. If you are ever available for any of our opportunities, please let us know. And if you aren't already on our Pep Band email list, let me know at jaygchapman@gmail.com and I will get you added. You can also follow our activities on Facebook at ISU Alumni Pep Band.

Basketball season will be upon us before you know it, and we'll soon be ready to rev up the Hilton Magic again this year. Schedules are not yet finalized for the season, but be on the lookout for our schedule in the coming months.

Plans are in the works now for us to move from paper music and books to electronic music and iPads this year! There may be some challenges during the transition, but we're looking forward to getting into the 21st century!

Hope to see you soon!
Jay Chapman

Join the Board!

Again this year you will be able to vote for the new board members online. A separate email will go out to those who register for Homecoming with a link to the voting webpage.

Ballot Positions for 2023-2024:

- President-Elect (*Note: this position progresses to President and Immediate Past President*)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Newsletter Editor
- Public Relations Chair
- Directors at Large (3)

If you are interested in running for a position on the board please contact President-Elect, [Breanna Kixmiller](#)

For a full list of duties of the various positions, please see the [Alumni Band Constitution](#).



2022-2023 ISU Alumni Band Board

President: Kevin Beichley, '08, '09

Past President: Kelli Huser, '09

President-Elect: Breanna (Bree) Kixmiller, '18, '20

Treasurer: Erin Kalkwarf, '05

Secretary: Karen Heldt-Chapman, '92

Public Relations: Gianni Giglio, '17

Newsletter Editor: Allison Lenselink, '17

Special Projects/Pep Band: Jay Chapman, '90

Directors At Large:

Zach Bennett, '17

Jenna Bonczyk, '17

Brian Carrier, '18

Emily Worthington, '11

Ken Sulma, '10

Marcus Cottrell, '15, '17

Director of Bands: Dr. Michael Golemo

Marching Band Director: Christian Carichner



Sign up for
Homecoming
2023!!

*Registration is on a first-come
first-serve basis, so sign up soon!*