

Golden Eagle Marching Band Newsletter

For Members of the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagle Marching Band – July 2021

WELCOME

Hello Everyone! I hope your summer is going well and that you are getting some much deserved rest and relaxation. I know that many of you will be working band camps across the state and others will be touring with various drum corps. Even with your busy schedules I do hope that you have had some time to visit with your family and friends.

Plans for the upcoming season are well underway. I know you are excited to return to a more normal season—so am I! If you are not familiar with the university's "Full Flight" plan which provides information about the upcoming semester, you are encouraged to learn more by clicking this [link](#). Rest assured, the Golden Eagle Marching Band will remain an organization that prioritizes student safety. We will continue to follow the most recent guidance as it relates to Covid safety for our activity. As a policy, the university is not requiring students at this time to be vaccinated; however, students are encouraged to take advantage of vaccination opportunities on campus.

Contained in this newsletter, you will find important information about the upcoming season, band camp, and much more. ***Some of the information is time-sensitive, so please, do not delay in responding as directed.*** If I can be of assistance to you prior to band camp, please don't hesitate to ask. I look forward to welcoming you to campus in the near future!

Very Sincerely,



Jeffrey L. Miller, Ph.D.

Director of Bands

Assistant Professor of Music

(931) 372-6559

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INTRODUCING

I'm excited to announce that we will be adding a full-time front ensemble instructor this year—Mr. Jordan Robinson! In addition to his responsibilities with the front ensemble, Jordan will be also be serving as the instructor of the Afro-Caribbean Ensemble and directing the Golden Eagle Brass pep band.

Jordan is an alum of Tennessee Tech, receiving a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus in Music Education in 2019. Jordan is a Cookeville-based music educator who teaches classical & marching percussion, drum set, and piano. He has enjoyed several musical opportunities as a solo performer, orchestral player, arranger, and teacher. As a performer, he has been a part of several premieres and commissions of new works for both chamber percussion and wind band. He has performed at such venues as the Percussive Arts Society International Convention and at the Chicago Symphony Center.

Jordan has worked with the award-winning Cookeville High School Drumline and Front Ensemble, as well as the percussion programs at Livingston Academy and Deland High School.

Welcome, Jordan!



2021 GEMB Performance Schedule

(This schedule may be subject to change – add dates to your calendar now and read the notes below)

Date	Event/Opponent	Kick-off Time	Special Information
Saturday, Sept. 11	Furman	1:30 p.m.	Family Weekend
Saturday, Sept. 25	Eastern Illinois	1:30 p.m.	
Saturday, Oct. 2	Southeast Missouri	1:30 p.m.	
Saturday, Oct. 23	Virginia-Lynchburg	1:30 p.m.	
Saturday, Nov. 13	UT Martin	1:30 p.m.	Homecoming & Senior Day
TBA	Lighting of the Quad	TBA	

- Note:** Kick-off times may change (for many reasons). Reserve the *entire* game day on your calendar.
- Note:** Rehearsals *may* be held on Saturday mornings before any home football game. Call times TBA.
- Note:** Homecoming will be an *all-day* event (including the annual parade).
- Note:** In the event that the football team qualifies for post-season play (i.e., playoff/championship/bowl game), members *are expected to be available*. This means November 13 *may not* be your last required football performance.

2021 Student Leadership Staff

We have selected an excellent team of student leaders for the 2021 season. These dedicated young women and men will work hard to ensure that everyone has a safe, productive and enjoyable season.

Paul Bischoff	Drum Major
Skylar McGee	Drum Major
Kim Phillips	Drum Major
Zakary Sells	Black Jacket
Eian Brown	Manager
Hannah Griffin	Manager
Dorion Pamplin	Manager
Kyla McDermott	Librarian
Joanna Humbert	Librarian
Joylene Wolugboms	Librarian
Allison Harris	Co-Section Leader – Flute/Piccolo
Autum Winston	Co-Section Leader – Flute/Piccolo
Abigail Lane	Section Leader – Clarinet
Braiden Messerschmidt	Section Leader – Saxophones
Jonathan Jones	Section Leader – Mellophone
James Ownby	Co-Section Leader – Trumpet
Jacob Miller	Co-Section Leader – Trumpet
Joylene Wolugboms	Section Leader – Trombone
Jonah Hammontree	Co-Section Leader – Tuba/Euphonium
Daniel Rehberg	Co-Section Leader – Tuba/Euphonium
Michael Simek	Section Leader – Drumline
TBA	Section Leader – Front Ensemble

Super-Important Reminders

- Every member of The Golden Eagle Marching Band (new and returning) is responsible for **submitting the online Drill Spot Reservation Form**. This is a student information form we use, in addition to your class registration, to assign drill spots to each member of the marching band.
 - To complete the online form, click this link: [Drill Spot Reservation Form](#); carefully enter the requested information and click “submit.” What you type goes directly into our database, so please type carefully. **We must have this information to prepare for camp and our fall season.**

Submission must be completed no later than Thursday, July 29, 2021.

2. In addition to submitting the Drill Spot Reservation Form, **ALL** members must register for the marching band class. Most students typically enroll for 1 credit (MUS1033-001; CRN: 83867), but there is also a zero-credit section (MUS1033-002; CRN: 83868), and a 2 credit section (MUS1033-003; CRN: 84262). Freshmen and transfer students can register during your SOAR session.
3. Weekly marching band practice is scheduled on M/W/F from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Attendance is required of all members.
4. All band members will need one (1) pair of black, matte finish (not glossy) marching shoes, and two (2) pairs of black long wrist marching gloves. If you already own black marching shoes and gloves (that are in good condition) you do not need to order.
 - We have worked with the DeMoulin Band Uniform company to create an online store where you can purchase these items directly: <https://tntechbandaccessories2021.itemorder.com/sale>
 - All purchases must be paid for with a credit or debit card at the time of the order.
 - Your order will ship directly to the university and will be distributed during camp.
 - **Orders may be placed now until August 5 (11:59 p.m.).** Orders received after this time cannot be guaranteed to arrive on time and will not qualify for the group shipping rate.
 - **You will need these items for our first performance on Tuesday, August 17. Place your orders now!**

Residence Hall & Meal Plan Information

All band members who will be living in residence halls during the 2021-2022 academic year will be allowed to move into their rooms when they report for band camp. **Specific details will be sent later this summer, but in the meantime, please plan as follows:**

- Monday, August 9 between 5-7 p.m. – All Percussion (Drumline and Front Ensemble) and Student Leadership Staff
- Tuesday, August 10 between 5-7 p.m. – All other band members

The University Band Office will provide Residential Life with the names of band members for early move-in.

Important Notice: students living on campus must have all required immunizations completed and documented with [Health Services](#) prior to their arrival. Students not in compliance with this request will not be allowed to stay in campus housing until this is resolved.

Additionally, regarding the move-in process, individuals who are fully vaccinated will not be required to wear a mask, all others will be required to do so.

Students who have purchased meal plans may begin using them starting at dinner on **Monday, August 16**. Members will be responsible for all meals before this time. During camp, the cafeteria will be open with limited hours and services. For more information about campus dining: <https://www.tntech.edu/aux/dining/index.php>

What New Members Can Expect

New members are sometimes apprehensive about what to expect from the university marching band experience. Here's a few things you can expect!

- The biggest difference between high school and university marching bands is the absence of a competition circuit. University bands work very hard to produce superior shows, but the overall focus is contributing to and enhancing the game-day experience. This includes performances in parades, at tailgate events, and the pregame and halftime shows.
- University band rehearsals are often shorter and fewer in number. Older students can learn new

concepts and skills more quickly, so rehearsals are fast-paced, efficient, and highly productive.

- The Golden Eagle Marching Band performs one halftime show for the season. This allows us to focus on performing drill and music that is high-quality and fun!
- Your student leaders (aka “Student Leadership Staff”) and returning members are wonderful people. They have worked hard to make The Golden Eagle Marching Band a great success. Follow their example and listen to their instructions and you’ll have a great experience.

Band Camp Essentials

Members should have the following items for the band camp and the upcoming season.

1. Hand sanitizer
2. A mask if you are not fully vaccinated.
3. Personal water cooler or hydration backpack (i.e. [Coleman Cooler](#) or [Camelbak](#))
4. Athletic shoes (no sandals)
5. Sunglasses
6. Ball cap or wide-brimmed hat
7. Khakis shorts (in good condition—no tears or rips)
8. Sunscreen and bug repellent
9. Comfortable clothes for outdoor rehearsals
10. Alarm clock
11. Any medication you may need

Bands at Tech

In addition to The Golden Eagle Marching Band, the School of Music at Tennessee Tech offers a robust selection of ensembles in which all Tech students may participate. Most require an audition or permission from the instructor. Please contact the ensemble director and visit our [website](#) for more details.

Dr. Jeffrey L. Miller	Golden Eagle Marching Band Golden Eagle Brass (Pep Band) Symphony Band	(931) 372-6559	jlmiller@tntech.edu
Dr. Eric L. Harris	Wind Ensemble Concert Band	(931) 372-3728	eharris@tntech.edu
Dr. Chris McCormick	Jazz Ensembles	(931) 372-6182	cmccormick@tntech.edu

COVID-19 Information

To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff, all plans for the Golden Eagle Marching Band will be informed by decisions made by university officials, the state of Tennessee and the CDC. Specific guidelines and rules will be provided and discussed at band camp. In the meantime, if you have questions, you may contact Dr. Miller by email at jlmiller@tntech.edu.

Stay Informed and Social

Your Tech email address will be the primary way information is communicated to you throughout the season. However, we also encourage you to join the TTU Golden Eagle Marching Band Facebook [group](#) (a private group for members only) and the Tennessee Tech University Bands Facebook page [@TennesseeTechBands](#) (a page where you, your family and friends can engage with all bands at Tech).



BAND APP We recognize that email isn’t always the most efficient way to communicate, especially when last-minute changes arise. As such, we are asking all members to also download the Band app (good for Android and Apple devices). Open this invite link on your iPhone, Android, or desktop: <https://band.us/n/a1aa52b2VfhcW>. Please use your first and last name when registering.

Auditions

All members of the Golden Eagle Marching Band are required to perform an audition. These auditions are not used to exclude you from joining the band, but are necessary to help assign you to the part that best matches your abilities.

- **All Percussion** (Drumline & Front Ensemble) – If you have not received your audition materials yet, please contact Dr. Colin Hill at cjhill@tntech.edu.
- **Woodwinds & Brass** – Materials will be sent via email in mid-July.

Success Checklist

- ☐ Complete the [Drill Spot Reservation Form](#). Be sure to click the “submit” button once you’ve carefully entered your information. **This must be completed by Thursday, July 29.**
- ☐ Register for the marching band class.
- ☐ Be sure your instrument is in good working order and you have plenty of reeds, valve oil, etc. *Large instruments including, mellophone, euphonium/baritone, sousaphone, marching battery, and concert percussion will be provided, all others must be brought by the student.*
- ☐ Put all event dates on your calendar. Stay tuned for any changes.
- ☐ Bring all items on the Band Camp Essentials list.
- ☐ **Meal plans activate at dinner on Monday, August 16.**
- ☐ Bring extra cash so you can go have a donut (at Ralph’s) or a meal with some of your new friends—you’ll meet lots of them and they’re great people!
- ☐ Prepare your part-placement audition music.

Still Have Questions?

Feel free to contact Dr. Miller in his office at (931) 372-6559 or by email at jlmiller@tntech.edu.

2021 GEMB BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

Monday, August 9							
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Band Librarians Meet w/Dr. Miller						
2:00-TBD p.m.	Band Librarians & Drum Majors Work						
5:00-7:00 p.m.	Housing Check-in for Student Leadership Staff and All Percussion Living On Campus						
Tuesday, August 10							
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	All Percussion in Rehearsal						
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	All Student Leadership Staff Meet w/Dr. Miller						
1:30-TBD p.m.	All Student Leadership Staff Work						
5:00-7:00 p.m.	Housing Check-in for All Remaining Band Members Living On Campus						
Wednesday, August 11							
	Registration for all Golden Eagle Marching Band Members - Bryan Fine Arts Building Lobby (following check-in, members will be fit for uniforms and sign-out instruments)						
	4+ yr Members	3rd yr Members	2nd yr Members	1st yr Members			
Staggered Times	9:00-9:20 a.m.	9:20-9:40 a.m.	9:40-10:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.			
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Percussion in Rehearsal						
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break						
1:00-3:00 p.m.	GEMB Full-Band Orientation Meeting in Wattenbarger Auditorium						
3:00-5:00 p.m.	All Percussion in Rehearsal						
	Part-Placement Auditions for Winds (rooms in BFA)						
	Flute	Clarinet	Saxes	Mellophone	Trumpet	Trombone	Euphonium/Tuba
	209	212	210	216	215	305	218
5:00-6:30 p.m.	Dinner Break						
6:30-9:00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal						
Thursday, August 12							
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)						
11:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break						
1:00-2:30 p.m.	Winds and Percussion in Sectionals						
2:30-4:30 p.m.	Music Rehearsal						
4:30-6:00 p.m.	Dinner Break						
6:00-8:30 p.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)						

2021 GEMB BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

Friday, August 13	
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)
11:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00-2:30 p.m.	Winds and Percussion in Sectionals
2:30-4:30 p.m.	Music Rehearsal
4:30-6:00 p.m.	Dinner Break
6:00-8:30 p.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)
Saturday, August 14	
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)
11:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00-4:30 p.m.	Music Rehearsal
4:30-6:00 p.m.	Dinner Break
6:00-8:30 p.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)
Sunday, August 15	
9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Morning Off!
1:30-4:00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal (Full Band)
4:00-5:30 p.m.	Dinner Break
5:30-8:30 p.m.	Marching Rehearsal (Full Band w/Instruments)
Monday, August 16	
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Marching Fundamentals (Full Band w/Instruments)
11:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00-5:00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal (Full Band)
5:00-7:00 p.m.	Dinner Break
7:00-10:00 p.m.	Hooper Eblen Center (The Hoop) Rehearsal (Full Band w/instruments)
Tuesday, August 17	
	Morning Off! (buy books, Add/Drop Classes, Sleep)
TBA	Warm-up & Rehearsal: Wattenbarger Auditorium Stage (Full Band)
TBA	Convocation Performance: Full Uniform/Memorized Performance at The Hoop
TBA	Dinner Break
TBA	Music Rehearsal (Full Band)

2021 GEMB BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

Friday, August 20

Regular Rehearsals Begin