

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY BANDS

July 16, 2021

Dear Band Parent:

I am corresponding with you to let you know that I feel it is a privilege to have your young person in the marching band. I feel that your student is a part of God's answer to our petition for quality band members. I pray that your son or daughter senses the excitement of the Liberty University Marching Band and discovers how it can be an intrinsic part of his or her college career. To assist with your son or daughter's success at Liberty University, the Student Accounts Office is able to address many student account issues, including your son or daughter's marching band scholarship. You can contact that office by email at StudentAccounts@liberty.edu as you have need. Also, for academic/course scheduling needs, Angela Cage is our School of Music Advisor. You may reach her at arcage@liberty.edu as you have need.

I feel your student's participation in the marching band will enhance his or her life as a student and bring many memorable experiences. Along with the band instructors, officers and section leaders, I am going to do all that I can to help each member have a profitable semester at Liberty University in every way possible. Our band program is organized so that extra time is not required of its members. Unlike high school, we do not have extra rehearsals, and usually all band activities occur during regularly scheduled rehearsals on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 3:20 – 5:20 p.m. In addition, only one sectional per week will be chosen by each section at a time that will work for each section. Membership in the Liberty University Marching Band provides an important social and musical component in a student's university life. The marching band is an excellent avenue for creating lasting friendships, providing university identity, and maybe even finding a future spouse (it happens frequently!).

God has certainly blessed our marching band program over the years with many successful ventures, and we certainly give Him all the credit. In previous years, we had an exciting program that we performed in our own stadium at football games, traveled and performed exhibition at marching band competitions, performed exhibition for the VA State Cooperative Marching Band State Championship on in our own Williams Stadium, and travelled to support our football team. Again this year, we look to our Lord for continued success. Our plans include performing here at Liberty University in Williams Stadium, and performing exhibition and hosting the annual State of Virginia Marching Band State Championship in Williams Stadium.

The purpose of our band program is actually two-fold: (1) to present ourselves as "living sacrifices" for Christ as we seek to present quality entertainment at football half-time shows, and (2) help each individual grow spiritually through Christian camaraderie. Music performance is a life-long experience—it does not end when a student completes high school! I would like to solicit your support for our program by encouraging your son or daughter to remain in the marching band during his/her tenure as a student at Liberty University; the considered experiences can be extremely valuable. I am so impressed by this realization that not long ago our Marching Band Spiritual Theme was "Life Lessons I Learned In Marching Band." This fall, our spiritual theme is "*Fully Engaged*." I am excited to see what spiritual growth, awareness and change will occur as we explore this Biblical theme. I would also like to invite you to attend one of our rehearsals or half-time shows if you have the opportunity.

A means of attending a Liberty University Marching Band performance is by participating in **Band Parents' Day**. Our thirty-third annual Band Parents' Day is scheduled this year on **Saturday, October 2, 2021**, and I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend. Like last year, this is a non-football game day. This is always one of the highlights of the marching season, and I am inviting all band members' parents and their families to participate. Your day will be filled with various activities.

We will begin with check-in at 3:00 p.m., followed by Banquet in the new Montview Alumni Ballroom at 4:00 p.m. Following dinner, you will move to Williams Stadium, where we have the stadium all to ourselves! You will be positioned on the East Side of the stadium seating area to watch the band practice, and then we will perform just for you our Pregame Show and our “Sunny With A Chance” Show. Our day will conclude at the end of the full performance run through. For those who attended last year, the sequence of events in the stadium will be similar. In addition to our Saturday Band Parents’ Day, the Liberty University Wind Symphony will be holding their first major concert of the academic year in the School of Music Concert Hall on Friday, October 1 at 7:30 p.m. Many of the marching band members perform in this outstanding ensemble, and the concert entitled “*Tapestry of Nations*” will be a very memorable event! (Tickets will be available soon.)

The cost for the entire day’s activities on Saturday is \$36.00 for each adult, \$26.00 for youth ages 6-18, and free for children to age 5. Band members who are planning to attend the banquet will be charged \$26.00. Please know that the cost is based on group pricing discounts, and we are not able to offer portions of the weekend “a la cart.” We usually have 500+ persons in attendance for the day, so don’t miss out! Please order your tickets by **August 31, 2021** on our website at www.liberty.edu/bandparents.

VERY IMPORTANT this year: Band Parents’ Day and Fall Family Weekend are the same weekend. Please make your hotel reservations now. Hotel rooms will fill up soon! You can find current information for local hotels at the following link on our website: [Visitors Guide](#).

I hope your schedule will allow you to attend this exciting event. Our past Band Parents’ Days have been a time of renewed fellowship among family members. Read thoroughly the information on our www.liberty.edu/bandparents website, and if you have any further questions, call me at the number indicated below. Feel free to dress in casual attire for all the events of the day.

Please allow me the opportunity to be of assistance to you as you may have need throughout the semester. And, if you have any questions concerning our band program, feel free to contact the band office at (434)582-2363, or email at som@liberty.edu or spkerr@liberty.edu.

Sincerely,



Dr. Stephen Kerr
Director of Bands

THANKSGIVING and BOWL TRAVEL: The final two regular season football games will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2021 and Saturday November 27, 2021. These are the two days Saturdays before and after Thanksgiving Day! **All band members are required to participate.** Also, if/when the football team is then selected for a post-season bowl game event, all band members are required to participate. Band members have been informed about this on our website, but I wanted to be sure you had advance notice, too. Again, all members are required to perform at this event as a part of our regular schedule. So, will you please keep this in mind when making travel arrangements for your son or daughter? You may view our fall calendar at www.liberty.edu/band, and navigate to Marching Band and Schedule.