

Welcome to New Horizons Band Fox Valley Winter 2024 Session

Introductions

- **Jenny Leist**, NHBV Band Director, 2nd year with our band, current band director at Hortonville Middle School and an alto sax musician.
- **An Gehrman**, NHBV wood winds section leader and retired band director (at this school).
- **Ron Olson**, Brass section leader and retired U.S. Army band commander, retired middle and high school band director.
- **Michael Ratsch**, Percussion section leader and retired band director at Little Chute schools.

We are welcoming 13 new musicians to band this winter:

Sheri F.	flute	Kristi L.	clarinet
Demitri S.	flute	Rose K.	bass clarinet
Yolonda D.	oboe	Riley M.	alto sax
Meghan C.	clarinet	Mike P.	alto sax
Rachel P.	clarinet	Grace J.	tenor sax
Brittany S.	clarinet	Michael L.	percussion
Vicki V.	clarinet		

We are also welcoming back the following 3 new musicians from last fall:

Tiffany B.	flute
Jo Ann S.	clarinet
Bruce J.	bass clarinet

Session Payments

Band Registrar: Michelle Leiden

Checks can be given to Michele or electronic debit/credit card payments can be made at rehearsal.

Have old music stuffed into your folder?

Please turn in any music from previous sessions to your section leader. Also, please only mark up your music with a pencil. No ink or markers of any kind on original sheet music please.

Save the date!!

Our free, spring New Horizons Music Fox Valley joint concert is May 18, 2023 at 2:00pm – held at Xavier Middle School (where we rehearsal each week).

Knowing and keeping tabs on each other

- **Name Tags; Please wear them. A request form for new name tags and music stand name signs is on the front table.** See Deb A. (clarinet) if you need a name tag and/or music stand name sign.
- **Missing rehearsal?** Please let someone know, perhaps your section leader or band mate and let them know your status. We tend to look out for each other.

Sometimes unfortunate things happen

Medical Emergency forms and envelopes

Emergency medical forms are totally voluntary... If you want one, let us know – see Tom Franklin (tenor sax). Fill out as much of the Medical Emergency Information form as you desire, seal it, add your name to the outside of the envelope and keep it in your music folder. It will only be opened in an emergency where you are NOT able to respond. We will give first responders your envelope, on your behalf, when they arrive on scene.

Let's have snacks during rehearsal breaks

If you like having snacks, there is a snack sign-up sheet. Please sign-up solo or with a partner. As a COVID/Flu precaution, for loose, non-wrapped treats, please bring a serving utensil such as a tong, spatula or spoon as needed. Please see Kathy F. with any questions regarding snacks.

Help the band!

Many little things done well make for a fun and productive band. Volunteer for something. It's your band – involve yourself. Volunteers who do many things for a fun and productive band. Our current volunteers are:

Name tags and music stand name signs	Deb A. (clarinet)
Snacks coordinator	Kathy F. (flute)
Embroidered logo shirts/hats/jackets	Joyce D. (clarinet)
Co-music librarians	Joyce D. (clarinet) and Paula B. (flute)
Directional signage	Grant S. (trumpet)
Medical Emergency Forms	Tom F. (tenor sax)
Welcoming announcements	Doug M. (trumpet)

Typical weekly rehearsal sequence

- Rehearsals start at 6:30pm in the band room with a conductor-led warm-up.
- Move to sectional rooms for group lessons and dedicated practice.
- 10-minute snack/social break back in the band room.
- Full-band rehearsal until 8:30.

We're finished with COVID, but is COVID finished with us?

Xavier Middle School currently does not require any mandated COVID precautions for its students or NHBFV. Precautions can be immediately re-activated as COVID/Flu conditions necessitate.

Here are our current COVID-driven precautions:

- **Vaccinations, face masks and bell covers are not required, but always welcome.**
- **Puppy pads (provided) are required on the floor for any instruments with spit valves and/or leave puddles on the floor.**

Two great COVID/Flu/RVS contagion precautions that you learned in elementary school:

- **Wash your hands frequently and/or use hand sanitizer (provided).**
- **If you're feeling sick, do not come to rehearsal, and let someone know your status.**

Organization of New Horizons Music Fox Valley (NHMFV)

NHMFV is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation comprising the New Horizons Band Fox Valley, smaller New Horizons Band Ensemble and New Horizons (strings only) Orchestra Fox Valley. Our NHMFV board of directors includes three band representatives, three orchestra representatives, our band director and orchestra conductor, and three board members from the wider community. For more information about our NHMFV organization and music programs please visit www.nhmfv.com.

The band and orchestra have their own respective leadership teams to oversee the day-to-day affairs of their respective musical entity.

New Horizons Band Fox Valley

Executive Committee

Doug Marsh, Chair
Jenny Leist, Conductor
An Gehrman, Woodwinds Section Leader
Ron Olson, Brass Section leader
Mike Ratsch, Percussion Section Leader
Brad Eggert (trumpet)
Tom Franklin (tenor sax)
Jonna Higgins (alto sax)
Michelle Leiden (cornet/horn)
Judith Roemer (percussion)
Grant Strebe (trumpet)

New Horizons Orchestra Fox Valley

Steering Committee

Jennifer Salm, Chair
Rachel Richards, Orchestra Director
Linda Wirtz, Contact Person/Music Librarian
Lynn Kolbe, Registrar/Enrollment statistics
Lynn Heidemann, Financial Secretary
Rachel Schulz, Financial Secretary
Debbie Berg, NHMFV Board Treasurer