



# Take Note

Newsletter of the Hersey Instrumental Association

June 2010  
Volume 3, Issue 10

## Hersey Instrumental Association

*an affiliate of:*

The John Hersey High School Bands  
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### 2009-2010 HIA Board

President: Jill Birschbach

Vice President: Sheri Hess

Project Chair: Jorgia Connor

Treasurer: Cathy Busse

Recording Secretary: Laura DiVietro

Corresponding Secretary: Linda Takei

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## Another "Congrats" and "Thank You"

Message from Mr. C

I will extend another "congratulations" and "thank you" to our graduating seniors for four great years in our program. It was a privilege to teach you. Thank you very much for ALL that you have contributed to our program! Keep playing your instruments and enjoying music! Thank you, also, to all of our families that contributed in some way, big or small to our program.

A big thank you to Christine Johnson and all of the parents who contributed to our end of the year banquet. The banquet was a great evening in many, many ways. Thanks, again, to all of our parents who helped promote our band program and the arts this year. A list of students receiving awards at the banquet is included in this newsletter.

## Volunteer--It Makes a Difference

Jill Birschbach •President's Message

It's been four years since I first volunteered as a "hydration specialist" at band camp and became involved with the HIA. I have loved every minute of it! I've met so many wonderful and talented students and parents, developed friendships and had some wonderful experiences. I would encourage all parents to get involved in the HIA, you will be glad you did. By volunteering we set a great example for our children and really make a difference! Thank you to all of you who helped the band in some way this year! A special note of thanks to the board members for their contributions this year. I really appreciated your support and willingness to help.

I wish all of our seniors congratulations on all that they have accomplished while at Hersey. Good luck as you begin your new journey. I hope they leave with many fond memories of their years in the band program.

As the school year winds down, we look forward to summer and all the activities. If you would like to help chaperone and walk with the band at the 4th of July parade, please contact Sheri Hess. I look forward to seeing everyone again at band camp in August. Think about signing up to help--it's fun and a great way to meet people.

It's been quite a year! Thanks for the memories and I hope you have a fantastic summer.

## UPCOMING JAZZ EVENTS

Jazz Ensemble I: Plan to attend the last Jazz Ensemble I concert on Tuesday June 1

Jazz Combo: Dine and Share at Photo's in Mt. Prospect on June 2 from 6 to 8 pm. A portion of the proceeds from the evening will donated to the Hersey band program.

## VP JUNE NEWSLETTER

Vice President's Message • Sheri Hess • HIA Vice President

**Spring Jazz Concert:** Once again, Genie Menzia and Jan Nocita were outstanding hostesses for our guests at the Spring Jazz Concert. Thank you for the special treats and beverages while everyone sat back and enjoyed the amazing talents being shared by our Jazz ensembles. Thanks to those parents who brought baked goods to enjoy. Your hospitality is appreciated more than you know. Thanks also to Jill Birschbach and Cathy Busse for manning the ticket table and greeting our guests!

**Wine Tasting Party:** Linda Takei and Danny and Laura DiVietro have outdone themselves again! They organized and ran the entire event, gathered many prizes for the raffle, and provided a multitude of wines for the tasting! Thank you to Cathy Busse and her mom for providing the place, and to Laura DiVietro's mom for her delicious meatballs, pasta and unbelievable chocolate cake! If you have not been able to attend a wine tasting event, there will be an opportunity for you to do so in the Fall. It was a fun, relaxing evening, spent getting to know other band parents, their friends and families even better. (And my husband and I don't drink wine!)

**Superstate:** What an unforgettable performance! Our Symphonic students were there to play better than their best and each of them did just that! Jill and Gary Birschbach, Noreen and Bryan Coussens chaperoned this talented group while Denis Jones and Greg Holz digitally captured the performance so it can be shared on this year's DVD and at the band banquet.

**Spring Concert:** Thanks to Juanita Kamp and Christine Johnson for providing our guests with a special treat and beverage after the concert. This last concert of the season is always bitter-sweet for our senior parents and students. A special treat encourages conversation and reminiscing. Thanks to the chaperones for the evening: Randy Hess, Grace Aiello, Denise Dawson and Jorgia Connor.

**Night of Percussion:** Thanks to the Salt Family for running ticket sales for The Night of Percussion. It is always a sold out event!

**Band Banquet:** Christine Johnson and Juanita Kamp planned a beautiful evening with fabulous food, great atmosphere and terrific company! Many thanks to you, Ladies! In addition, Bonnie Kovacik shared her talents and made ALL the wrist corsages and boutonnieres for our graduating seniors! The Kovacik Family donated the flowers as well! A SPECIAL thank you to Rolling Thunder for providing the music for this special event. What memories were created that night! Juanita and Christine's helpers for the evening were: Cindy Jones, Amy Stomper, Debbie Duffy, Bonnie Kovacik and Cathy Busse.

## 2011 NY PERFORMANCE PLANS

Mr. Casagrande • Director

Hopefully, you have heard of our plans to travel to New York City next February or March to perform in either Carnegie Hall or the Lincoln Center and tour NYC. We have been solicited by a New York promoter to share a concert with Mason High School, OH, that he will bill as "Best of the Midwest" (!!). Mason has a comparable program to our own with similar accomplishments and achievements.

In addition to the performance, my hope is that we will also attend a Broadway show and tour the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Ground Zero and the Empire State Building. I am determined to keep the trip affordable so that EVERYONE can attend. This will be for all students and we will also organize a parent trip to attend the concerts, too.

## SUPERSTATE: A THRILLING PERFORMANCE

Mr. Casagrande • Director

The subjectivity of judging music can be a frustrating aspect of our activity, as it was at Superstate this year. I would rank our performance of Music for Prague, 1968 as one of the top two performances of any band that I have ever conducted in my 22 year career. The ARTISTRY of the band and conviction which with they executed Music for Prague was just absolutely a thrill and it is a performance that I will remember for a very, very long time.

CONGRATULATIONS to the band on all their work and that outstanding performance. You always take that which you give, and the Symphonic Band is a testament to that this year. You have left a great legacy for next year's band.

## UNIFORM CLEANING

Mr. Casagrande • Director

SENIORS AND THOSE QUITTING BAND should be returning uniforms cleaned in their dry cleaning bag with the receipt attached ON MEMORIAL DAY, per the class handout from Mrs. Ellison.

## MAY PERFORMANCES

Mr. Casagrande • Director

Congratulations on the excellent May performances! The success of the last two concerts by our Symphonic and Concert Band is obvious – CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL! We look forward to the Night of Percussion and the Memorial Day Parade (report at 8 AM) and the Jazz performances coming up in June.

## CANEVA COMMISSION

Mr. Casagrande • Director

Hersey's contribution to the Caneva project is done. Thanks to a generous donation of \$10,000 from one family and many other generous donations, the Hersey contribution toward the commission of a piece of music to honor Ernie and Don Caneva is now complete. Thanks to all that contributed to this worthwhile endeavor!

## BAND CAMP 10-11! READ CAREFULLY

Mr. Casagrande • Director

Next Fall, the marching band will be competing in two or three competitions, to be determined. In August, particularly 8/9 to 8/13, we will be learning 75 percent of what is performed throughout the Fall season. A small portion of the June rehearsal time will be spent preparing for the July 4 parade. A majority of the June rehearsal time will be spent preparing Fall season material and fundamentals. Therefore, **regardless** of attendance at the July 4 parade, June/July rehearsals are EXTREMELY important.

### Absences from Summer dates:

In the event of family vacations that conflict with June rehearsals, an explanation of conflict should be directed to Mr. C from the parents. Any summer camps are also excused; notify Mr. C immediately. Students should make sure that job schedules, etc. are adjusted. **August band camp rehearsals are mandatory for all. Freshmen are STRONGLY encouraged not to miss June rehearsals.**

Please adjust calendars and avoid conflicts with the following dates, **particularly in August:**

June (Students excused from these June/July dates in the event of family vacation)		
3	6 to 9 pm	<b>All incoming Freshmen only</b> and available section leaders
10	5:30 to 9	Section Leaders
	6 to 9 pm	Freshmen
28	5 to 8 pm	Section Leader Session/Dinner
29	5:30 to 9 pm	Section Leaders
	6 to 9 pm	Freshmen
30	6 to 9 pm	Battery percussion only
	5:30 to 9 pm	Section Leaders
	6 to 9 pm	ALL MEMBERS
July		
1	5:30 to 9 pm	Section Leaders
	6 to 9 pm	ALL MEMBERS
5	9:30 am	Report Parade
August		
5	3 to 4:30 pm	New section leaders
6	8 am to 5 pm	ALL section leaders
	12:30 to 5 pm	ALL Freshmen
9 to 13	12 pm to 9 pm	ALL
17	5 to 9 pm	Band section Olympics
18 & 19	5 to 9 pm	ALL
	9 to 11 pm	Band section Olympic
20	5:30 pm	Picnic/Parent Fall Preview
25	First day of school	

## MANNA GIFT CARDS FUNDRAISER

Laura Hynes • Manna Program Co-chair ♦♦♦ Kelly O'Neil • Manna Program Co-chair

Manna sales for May were over \$15,000. Thanks to all the families that participated. Our final Manna order for this school year will be due on June 2. Take out your calendar and plan for the summer! Don't forget graduation gifts, vacations, school supplies, Father's Day, etc... If you are the parent of an incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grader, you can start building your student account now.

To place your first order, please contact Laura Hynes via [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com) to receive your password and instructions. Once you have placed your order, submit a check payable to HIA in the Manna mailbox. The next ordering/check deadline is **Wednesday, June 2 at 3 p.m.** Pick up will be on Wednesday, June 9. If you have any questions about the Manna program, please contact one of the co-chairs.

## AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

Congratulations to the following students for their dedication, perseverance and hard work which earned them the following honors presented at the Spring Awards Banquet:

### Outstanding Class Members:

**Freshman:** Grace Cusick, Claire Hynes, Justin Kamp

**Sophomore:** Arne Anderson, Eric Chung, Mariel Fechik, Scott Jones, Thomas Martin

**Junior:** Megan Duffy, Rachel Lundstrom, Melissa Neff, Michael Plankey, Erin Wells

### Most Improved Class Members:

**Freshmen:** Paul Fredrick, Matt Lebherz, Fredrick Lingner, Anna Mullen-Muhr, Tad Murase, Will Schwarzkopf, Ben Scott

**Sophomores:** Allison DeFrancesco, Joey Fiorito, John Grischow, Jacob Harper, Austin Menzia, Christian Murphy, Tyler Nocita, Mike Price, Jack Santry, Joe Sessions, Peter Siepiora, Matt Straub

**Juniors:** Annie Bruce, Andy Hess, Natalie Hojjer, Michael Johnson, Tyler Kamp, Megan Kearns, Thomas Klingner, Kendra Lindholm, Colin Marusek, Justin Mazzarella, Mike Obstoj

**Seniors:** Erol Atac, Jerry Busse, Maria DiVietro, Marilyn Gaske, Kevin Kerr, Andrew Kovacik, Mark Swanson

### Solo/Ensemble Superior Rating Recipients (120 entries/77 Superior Ratings)

#### School District 214 Honors Band and Orchestra

Andrew Birschbach (1<sup>st</sup>), Andy Hess (1<sup>st</sup>), Michael Plankey, Mark Swanson (1<sup>st</sup>), Michael Ozga, Melissa Neff (1<sup>st</sup>), Eric Chung (1<sup>st</sup>), Andrew Kovacik (1<sup>st</sup>), Colin Marusek, Ryan Witzke, Nicholas Jarosz, Natalie Hojjer, Angela Yang, Michal Obstoj, Tyler Kamp, Claire Hynes, Austin Menzia, Ilona Widomska (1<sup>st</sup>), Catherine O'Donnell, Erin Wells (1<sup>st</sup>), Megan Duffy, Kristen Holz, Kevin Kerr (1<sup>st</sup>), Kelly Nyquist (1<sup>st</sup>), Rachel Lundstrom, Arne Anderson, Maria DiVietro

#### District 214 Concerto Competition Finalists

Kristen Holz, Kelly Nyquist, Ilona Widomska

#### Illinois All-District VII Jazz Ensemble/Band/Orchestra

Andrew Birschbach (1<sup>st</sup> Band, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jazz), Eric Chung, Megan Duffy, Andrew Hess (2<sup>nd</sup>), Kristin Holz, Andrew Kovacik (1<sup>st</sup> Jazz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Concert), Colin Marusek, Melissa Neff (Jazz and Concert), Kelly Nyquist, Michael Plankey (Jazz and 2<sup>nd</sup> chair Concert), Mark Swanson (3<sup>rd</sup>), Erin Wells (2<sup>nd</sup>), Ilona Widomska, Michael Ozga, Arne Anderson, Jerry Busse, Liam Coussens, Alex Roznai, Maria DiVietro

**Illinois All-State Band Members:** Kristen Holz, Erin Wells (2<sup>nd</sup>), Michael Plankey (1<sup>st</sup>), Michael Ozga, Andrew Birschbach (1<sup>st</sup>), Andy Hess, Mark Swanson (3<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Most Spirited Band Member

Catherine O'Donnell

#### Outstanding Concert Band Member

Erol Atac, Mike Presto

#### Most Improved Concert Band Member

Grace Cusick, John Grischow

#### Most Improved Symphonic Band Member

Colin Marusek, Tyler Kamp

#### Donald Caneva Scholarship Winner

Claire Hynes, Angela Yang

#### Outstanding Service Award

Ilona Widomska, Kelly Nyquist

#### Louis Armstrong Jazz Award

Maria DiVietro, Michael Ozga

#### John Philip Sousa Award

Andrew Birschbach, Catherine O'Donnell

## GET IN SYNC WITH THE HERSEY BAND CALENDAR

Denis Jones • Band Parent

I recently learned that a parent was close to pulling her hair out just typing band events into her family's calendar. No need to do that! All the band events are on a public Google calendar available on the [Hersey Band website](#). This calendar is kept up-to-date throughout the school year, and currently has all known band events through June 2011. The easiest way to use this tool is to click on the events that your student will attend, and click on "copy to my calendar" to add the event to your own (free!) [Google calendar](#). Do keep in mind that calendar dates are subject to change, though.

If you use iCal or Outlook calendars, Google calendars synchronize easily, and can operate behind-the-scenes once you set your own calendar to sync. Better yet, you can sync calendars across all your devices, so calendar events (and reminders) are on your desktop, your phone, your spouse's and student's calendars etc.

Remember, you can use the Hersey Band Google calendar to:

- add entries to your own Google calendar
- add entries to Apple iCal
- add entries to Microsoft Outlook or Entourage
- add entries to your mobile device

There are many ways to perform one-time updates between calendars and formats, and many ways to maintain two-way synchronization between calendars and devices. Visit the [Google calendar support page](#) for more details.

*"And in the end it's not the years in your life that count.  
It's the life in your years."*

-Abraham Lincoln

### 2009-2010 Band Calendar

Subject to change. Watch for updates to calendar.

Unless otherwise indicated, dates/times apply to all members. Changes are highlighted.

<b>May</b>		
25	2010-2011 Jazz Auditions	After school, pm
28	Night of Percussion	7:30 pm
31	Memorial Day Parade	9 am
<b>June</b>		
1	Jazz Ensemble final concert – JHHS Black Box Theatre	7:30 pm
2	New! June Manna orders due!	
	Dine 'n Share at Photo's Hotdogs, Mt. Prospect w/ jazz combo	6 pm to 8 pm
6	Graduation	
9	Manna pick up day	11:30 to 12 or 6 to 6:30 pm
11	Last Day of School	
	Please see <a href="#">article above</a> for summer schedule	
<b>July</b>		
5	Parade	Report 9:30 am

## 2010-2011 Band Calendar

Subject to change. Watch for updates to calendar.  
Unless otherwise indicated, dates/times apply to all members.

### June

3	All incoming freshmen and section leaders	6 to 9 pm
10	Section leaders Freshmen	5:30 to 9 pm 6 to 9 pm
28	Section leaders session/dinner	5 to 8 pm
29	Section leaders Freshmen	5:30 to 9 pm 6 to 9 pm
30	Battery percussion only Section leaders All members	6 to 9 pm 5:30 to 9 pm 6 to 9 pm

### July

1	Section leaders All members	5:30 to 9 pm 6 to 9 pm
5	Report parade	9:30 am

### August

5	New section leaders	3 to 4:30 pm
6	All section leaders Freshmen only	8 to 5 pm 12:30 to 5 pm
9-13	All members	12 pm to 9 pm
17	Band section Olympics	5 to 9 pm
18-19	All members Band section Olympics	5 to 9 pm 9 to 11 pm
20	Picnic/Parent Fall Preview	5:30 pm
25	First Day of School First Wednesday Night Rehearsal	6 to 8:30 pm
27	Tentative home football	
28	Rehearsal	1 to 6 pm

### September

3	Home football	
11	Lake Park Lancer Joust	10 am to 11 pm
16	Home football	

### October

2	Prospect Knight of Champions	3 to 11 pm
8	Homecoming football game	
11 (Columbus Day)	Rehearsal IMEA District 7 Band Auditions (select students)	1 to 6 pm
13	No Wednesday pm Rehearsal	
14	Thursday Rehearsal	6 to 8:30 pm
15	Home football	
16	U of I Marching Festival	All day to late evening
20	Marching party	
25	Auditions begin	

### November

9	HIA general meeting	7:30 pm
11 (Veteran's Day)	Symphonic Band Camp	11:30 am to 5 pm
13	IMEA District 7 Music Festival (select students)	All Day
14	Honors Orchestra concert (select students)	3 pm
17	First Wednesday night Symphonic rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
20	District 7 Jazz Festival (select students)	All day
23	Jazz Night Club Concert – Jazz I and II	7:30 pm

## 2010-2011 Band Calendar (continued)

Subject to change. Watch for updates to calendar.  
Unless otherwise indicated, dates/times apply to all members.

### December

3	Holiday Concert dress rehearsal	3 to 5 pm
5	Holiday Concert	1 pm and 3 pm
6	District Concerto Competition (select students)	
17	Holiday School Assembly	9 am

### January

3	Classes Resume	
11	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
21-22	Jazz I and II to Purdue	
26-29	IMEA All-State to Peoria (select students)	

### February

5	Jazz Ensemble II to New Trier Festival	All day
	Percussion to Vandercook	All day
16	Symphonic Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
26	Jazz I and II to Jazz in the Meadows	All day to early evening
28	Second semester auditions begin	

### March

2	District 214 Honors Music Festival at Forest View (select students)	7:30 pm
14	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
15	Concert Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
19	Spring Break begins	
28	Classes resume	

### April

8	Chicagoland Band Festival Set-up	pm
9	Chicagoland Concert Band Festival (will need lots of student and parent help)	All day

### May

7	Symphonic Band to Superstate (if selected)	All day to evening
9	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
18	Spring Band Concert	7:30 pm
20	Formal Band Awards Banquet	
27	Night of Percussion	
30	Memorial Day Parade	

### June

4	Graduation	
10	Last Day of School	

# DINE -n- SHARE II

WITH THE

# HERSEY



## AT PHOTO'S HOTDOGS

Wednesday, June 2

From 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.

1706 E. Kensington Road

Mt. Prospect, IL

***Make sure to mention that you are there to support the Hersey High School Band and a portion of your food bill will be donated to the HIA.*** Bring your family...and tell your friends and neighbors about this end-of-the-year event!

Photo's Hotdogs offers a variety of food and drinks – see their [HwebsiteH](#) or click [HhereH](#) to see their menu.

***We look forward to seeing you there!***

*If you have questions, please e-mail [Herseybandinfo@herseyband.com](mailto:Herseybandinfo@herseyband.com)*