

Happy Holidays!



OFMA Crescendo Newsletter - Fall 08



OFMA Mission - to support, encourage, advance, and cultivate through fundraising and volunteer service, the musical education for the students in the Olmsted Falls School System.



OFMA Presidency

Presidency's Message

OFMA officers:

President - Susan Lewis
slewis@sprynet.com
(440) 891-9060

Vice President - Karen Sokol
ksokol@leeca.org

Secretary - Beverly McMahon
blmsing@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer - Amy Schneider
schneider97@sbcglobal.net

OFMA
P O Box 38023
Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138

Crescendo newsletter compiled by
Beverly McMahon Send any
email changes to
ofmablms@sbcglobal.net

Congratulations to the Olmsted Falls Bulldog Marching Band for yet another wonderful season of half-time entertainment! It is truly amazing to see the enthusiasm of the Friday Night football crowd as the Marching Bulldogs take the field for their 6 minute show each Friday night. A "job well done" to Mr. Ed Berry and his staff for turning in another memorable season.

Concert season is here! Keep your eyes (and ears!) open for the upcoming schools' Choir and Band Concerts and help support our schools through your attendance. Did you know that the proceeds from each concert go directly to support that school's Student Activity Fund in band or choir? Your support is an important means of providing our music faculty with the resources to bring an outstanding music program to your son or daughter. Remember, Olmsted Falls was named BEST 100 COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC EDUCATION IN AMERICA, for the second year in a row!

Olmsted Falls Music Association's membership is growing by leaps and bounds...be sure to look for our Patron listing in the upcoming concert programs. If you have not already become a member, you can do so TODAY by downloading a form from the school's website and clicking on the Olmsted Falls Music Association link under News.

Volunteers are needed for the upcoming concerts, at all school level, in the coming months. If you have an interest in serving your child's school's music program, please contact the Music Association. Volunteers sell and collect tickets at music events - the only requirement is that you can arrive early to the scheduled concerts.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, November 5th - Olmsted Falls Middle School Media Center (note location change).

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Important OFMA Dates



- 11/3 - PIZZA Sale begins
- 11/5 - OFMA meeting 7 p.m. - meeting changed to the Middle School Media Center
- 12/3 - OFMA meeting 7 p.m. HS Choir room
- 12/8 - PIZZA Sale ends
- 1/7 - OFMA meeting 7 p.m. HS Choir room
- 1/17 - PIZZA Sale pickup at the high school

Be sure to visit the OFMA website page as part of the city school district website. Go to www.ofcs.k12.oh.us, then click on Olmsted Falls Music Association. Meeting dates, current news, and downloads (membership, fundraisers, etc.) are available. Have you sent in your OFMA membership yet?

Happy Holidays!



Meet the Faculty - part 2



Timothy Strelau performs in and has appeared as soloist with The Ohio Chamber Orchestra, Cleveland Ballet, Lyric Opera Cleveland and is Principal Percussionist/Timpanist for Cleveland Opera. He has performed with diverse groups such as The Three Tenors, Dennis DeYoung (Styx), Drumplay, Kurt Masur, Anton Coppola, and The Ghana National Dance Company.

In 2005 Mr. Strelau became the first ever director of the Middle School Honors Band Percussion Ensemble. Later that summer he became one of the first 50 people to be certified to teach *The Roots of Rhythm* curriculum.

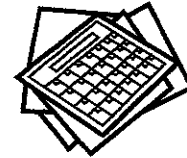
Within the Olmsted Falls School district Mr. Strelau has given assemblies in Music for the Pre-School through 8th grade classes as well as Middle School Band and Social Studies students. In 2005 Mr. Strelau formed the Olmsted Falls Middle School Percussion Ensemble. He has collaborated with the Physical Education Department (*The Muscle Rap* 2004), the Elementary Music program (Danielle Greenway 2006) and presented teambuilding activities via his *The Village Drums* workshops (2004, 2006).

Mr. Strelau is a member of the Ohio Teacher's Association, Olmsted Falls Music Association, Ohio Music Educator's Association and the Percussive Arts Society. His program, "*The Dance Music of Lou Harrison*" was presented at Cleveland State University, Youngstown State University and at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky in November of 2003. His Percussion and Flutes Duo, ECHOWOOD, has performed for the Artist's Day of the Ohio Arts Council *Arts in Education* Conference and at the National Flute Convention. In 2000, Mr. Strelau studied drumming and dance in Ghana, Africa.. Recently, he has been leading teambuilding activities for schools and businesses with the use of *The Village Drums* workshop that he has developed.

Pizza Sale Fundraiser



OFMA is again selling pizza to help with scholarships for graduating seniors and summer camps for those in middle school and high school. Band and choir students from the middle school and high school will be selling pepperoni, sausage, cheese, supreme, and breakfast pizza at 6 for \$12.50, or a case for \$47.00. Orders must be in increments of 6, 12, 18 or cases of the same type. Please make checks payable to OFMA. The sale is from November 3rd through December 8th, and pizza will be ready for pickup on January 17th. See your favorite band or choir member, or contact ofmablmsbcglobal.net for more information.



Important Music Dates

- 11/18 - 7th & 8th Grade band concert 7:30 - MS Cafetorium
- 12/4 - Falls-Lenox Holiday concerts 6:30 & 7:30 H.S. Auditorium
- 12/8 - Falls-Lenox Holiday concerts 6:30 & 7:30 H.S. Auditorium
- 12/9 - 6th Grade Choir & Singers concert 7:00 - MS Cafetorium
- 12/10 - 7th & 8th Grade Choir & Singers concert 6:45 p.m. MS Cafetorium
- 12/11 - Falls-Lenox Holiday concerts 6:30 & 7:30 H.S. Auditorium
- 12/15 - HS Holiday Band & Choir Concert 7:30 p.m. H.S. Auditorium
- 12/18 - HS Holiday Band & Choir Concert 7:30 p.m. HS Auditorium
- 12/19 - payment deadline for HS Solo & Ensemble Contest
- 1/24 - HS Solo & Ensemble Contest

Happy Holidays!



Marching Band Spirit Wear



"We Rock The Field"

You still have time to order your 2008-2009 Juke box Tour t-shirts!! This year's navy blue shirt is designed with "We Rock The Field" and songs from the Marching Band season on the front. Printed on the back of the shirt is "The Pride of Olmsted Falls" and the Tour dates. The shirt comes in S, M, L, XL sizes and cost \$15.00. An XXL size is \$17.00. All checks should be made out to OFMA.

Profits from these shirts will help fund the Marching Band Uniform Fund!

Order forms can be picked up at school or contact Karen Sokol at ksokol@lecca.org. Please turn your order in to Mr. Berry at school. OFMA will also be selling shirts at the last home football game on October 24!



Notable Music Students



The following students participated in a summer music camp: Conner Arendec, Bailey Klimchak, Kate Edgehouse, Jared Maly, Evan Moyse, Julie Wu, Seth McMillion, Stuart Englehart, Dan Gluvna

Congratulations to Hallie Fetterman for being placed in the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony I performing the flute. Derrick Hamilton, Tim Ochmann and Connor Gluvna are members of Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony II.

DID YOU KNOW? CLEVELAND BROWNS DRUMLINE

Big news! Two of our drum line members, along with Drum line instructor James Gray, are part of a new program with the Cleveland Browns! Mr. Gray, senior Aaron Kresiak, and junior Pat Laycock, are part of the "Dawg Pounders", a group of students and alumni brought together as part of the pre-game festivities at all of the Cleveland Browns home games! The group was set up with the help of Mr. Fudale, the Berea High School Band Director, and includes an elite group of past and present Berea Drummers, along with a few of our own. The "Dawg Pounders" perform along with a video during pregame, and form the tunnel through which the players are introduced onto the field. They play various cadences around the stadium throughout the games. Make sure to watch for them! What an amazing opportunity for our students! Congratulations!

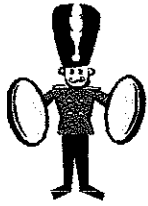
College News - OFHS Band & Choir Alumnus

Congratulations to Samantha Baker for auditioning and becoming a member of the Ohio University Marching 110 performing the Alto Saxophone. Samantha Baker is an OFHS 2007 graduate who performed the flute in wind ensemble and was also a member of chorale.

Congratulations to Mike Vasil who auditioned on trumpet and became a member of The Ohio State University Marching Band. Over 200 hundred students auditioned on trumpet which only 96 became members of the band.

Congratulations to Allison Pinter who is a member of the University of Findlay's marching band on trumpet. She also made the concert band program at Findlay performing the Oboe.

Congratulations to Corrinne Abbiss who is a member of the Malone University Concert band performing her clarinet.



FUNDRAISERS AND UNIFORM UPDATE



Many people have inquired in recent weeks as to the status of our uniform fund. Here are the most recent figures available. As of June, Mr. Berry had \$13,000 collected. Since that date, OFMA has put several projects together to continue to raise funds.

In the summer we received two full uniform donations from band families past and present. Thanks again to the Cook and Hamilton families for those! Debbie Franklin wrote and was awarded a grant from her employer, Henkel Corporation for \$4,422 to be put toward our fund. Wow! Thanks again, Debbie!

OFMA officers and members were present at the Heritage Days Parade, all of the Middle and High School open houses this fall, and Falls Day in the Park in an attempt to raise awareness of the desperate need for the uniform replacement. These appearances, combined with other private donations, have brought in another \$1,153.

In September, OFMA hosted a Dine to Donate day at the Great Northern Applebee's. Customers who turned in our flyer when they ordered helped out, since 15% of their bill came back to OFMA. This event generated \$443.48 more toward our goal. (That is one full uniform!) Another event was held at Max & Erma's Restaurant in Middleburg Hts. on October 13th. Again, customers who turned in our flyer when they ordered contributed 20% of their bill back to OFMA. This event raised \$336.78, for a combined dine to donate total of \$780.26!

Band and Choir Spiritwear continues to be available. Orders can be placed through Gayle Boesken. This is an ongoing fundraiser, and profits from it are marked for the uniform fund.

Finally, we have a new and ongoing fundraiser underway with GFS. Shoppers can fill out a form and receive a membership card to be part of the Fun Funds Program on behalf of the Olmsted Falls Music Association. Items purchased qualify for rebates that come directly back to OFMA on a quarterly basis. Forms are available through the OFMA officers, via email, or on our link at the Olmsted Falls School website. Please consider signing up and doing some of your holiday food shopping at GFS!

So, what does all of this mean? OFMA has accumulated a total of \$6,355.26 since August! Add that to Mr. Berry's \$13,000 from last school year, and we have \$19,355.26.

(Our goal is somewhere between \$84,000 and \$95,000, depending on the exact number of uniforms that Mr. Berry needs to order.) Keep the donations coming in! Watch for other upcoming fundraisers! We continue to need the help and support of our families to replace these 36 year old uniforms! Thanks for all that you have done so far!

Donations for new marching band uniforms can be submitted at any time. These are tax deductible. The price per uniform is:

Bib Trousers	\$100
Uniform Jacket	\$240
Hat with case	\$ 50
Plume	\$ 15
Cords	\$ 15
Total	\$420

Make checks payable to OFMA, and be sure to put "uniform fund" on your memo line. Mail to: OFMA
P.O. Box 38023 Olmsted Falls, Ohio



Some employers will match donations to non-profit organizations.

Full uniform donations will have the donor's name sewn inside the jacket.



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR KINDNESS

Kudos Corner



Let's take a minute to thank all who have helped so far. There are so many of you, and we appreciate it.

THANKS FOR HELPING WITH:

- Band Uniform fitting nights - fitting students, taking wearable orders, sewing
- Band camp lunch program - during band camp
- Heritage Day Parade - booth workers, parade walkers, car drivers, old and new uniform models.
- Meet the Teams night - OFMA members who helped feed the band and athletes before this event
- Middle School & High School Open houses - passing out flyers, selling clings, showing off the "old" and "new uniforms"
- Home Football Games - 3rd quarter snacks, passing out dine to donate flyers, tshirt booth workers, band parent assistance
- Away Football Games and Band Festivals - band parent assistance
- Falls Day in the Park - booth volunteers
- Concerts - door volunteers and OFMA booth volunteers
- Participating in Dine to Donate nights - at Applebee's and Max & Erma's
- Applying for your GFS - OFMA Fun Funds card

And any other help that is probably going on behind the scenes!

We can always use more help, as more concerts and events are coming. Please consider volunteering.



Band and Choir Spirit Wear



Did you know that there is both band and choir spirit wear? These can be ordered for the student or parent. Orders will be taken year round. Sizes are adult small through XXL. Add \$5 for name on back, add \$2 for XXL. Prices are:



- T-shirt - \$15
- Golf Shirt - \$20
- Sweatshirt - \$25
- Hoodie - \$30

Make checks payable to OFMA, and mail to Gail Boesken
9608 East River Rd. Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138