

SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS AN EPIC PERCUSSION CONCERT



The Schaumburg High School Music Department will present its Epic Percussion Concert. The program takes place May 6 in the Weimer Auditorium at Schaumburg High School and begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

The Wind Symphony Percussion Ensemble, Symphonic Percussion Ensemble, Concert Percussion Group, Cadet Percussion Choir and SaxonSTOMP will perform. In addition, solos will be performed by senior Robert Bach, junior Griffin Lober, senior Ryan Petritis, junior Ethan Garratt, junior Katie Amidon, and sophomore Alexis Reddy. The evening's program will have something for everyone from pop music to standard percussion repertoire.

For more information, contact Kevin Miller in the Music Office at (847) 755.4802.

SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOL BANDS PREPARE FOR HOLIDAY CONCERT SERIES AND OUTBACK BOWL



The Schaumburg High School Music Department is gearing up for its series of holiday concerts to celebrate the season.

The music department will proudly present its annual series of Holiday Band Concerts on Dec. 16 and 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Schaumburg High School auditorium. Tickets are \$2 and are open to the public.

The first night will feature the Concert and Symphonic Bands, and the Cadet Band and Wind Symphony will perform the second night. Both nights will also include a performance by Tuba Christmas.

The concerts will feature a variety of great composers such as Frank Ticheli and John Zdechlik, along with some holiday favorites.

Additionally, the Schaumburg High School Band will be traveling to Tampa, Fla., on Dec. 26 to be part of the Outback Bowl festivities, which culminate in the half-time show of the New Year's Day bowl game at Raymond James Stadium. During the holiday concerts, the Wind Symphony will debut their set for the Outback Bowl.



The half-time performance will be telecast nationally on ESPN on New Year's Day. The band is scheduled to return home late Jan 2.

Please visit the D211 Post in 2014 to read about the trip. For more information about the upcoming band concerts or performances, please contact Kevin Miller in the SHS Band Office at (847) 755-4801.

SHS MARCHING BAND PERFORMS AT SOLD

OUT NIU FOOTBALL GAME



The SHS Marching Band performed at an NIU football game with nine other area high schools, as well as the NIU Huskie Marching Band.

Students in the marching band at Schaumburg High School had an opportunity to perform in front of a sold-out, Northern Illinois University football game.

The SHS Marching Band performed on Sept. 21 at the Northern Illinois University vs. Eastern Illinois University football game for NIU Band Days. SHS joined nine other area high school bands, as well as the NIU Huskie Marching Band, for the halftime show in front of 35,000 game attendees.

“The students had a great time,” said Kevin Miller, band director at SHS. “The crowd was electric that night, and we performed under the lights, which is always wonderful. You could just see the band step a little taller and there definitely was a sense of pride because of this.”

Miller said SHS has attended NIU Band Days every year since he started teaching, except for one. The opportunity to perform with a collegiate band during a Huskies football game is an experience he believes is important for his students.

“We also take the students to NIU to try and let them get a sense of what is at the next level,” Miller said. “We rehearse with the Huskie band and perform next to them, then we sit in the stands next to the NIU band so they get to watch that experience. We hope some of our students will make a decision to play in college.”



The SHS Marching Band performed at an NIU football game with nine other area high schools, as well as the NIU Huskie Marching Band.

Currently, there are two former Saxons who are playing in the NIU band, and one of them served as a tour guide to the current SHS students during their visit. Between practices, the SHS Marching Band was able to explore campus and get a feel for what college life is all about.

“They get a chance to see what college is all about, and to feel the vibe of a college campus,” Miller said. “Plus, this event is a great day of camaraderie, and spending this time together is great for our cohesion, getting to know each other, and seeing the fun social side of band and our work.”

UPCOMING SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOL PERCUSSION SHOW HAS MUSIC GENRES FOR ALL



Students from SHS perform during a

*percussion show at DePaul
University.*

Music students at Schaumburg High School are preparing for a concert that will showcase just how well they keep a beat in any genre.

The Schaumburg High School Music Department presents Maximum Impact, a Night of Percussion concert. The program will take place on April 30 in the Weimer Auditorium at SHS. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and is free to the public.

“The evening’s program will have something for everyone from pop music to standard percussion repertoire,” said Kevin Miller, SHS band director.

The Wind Symphony Percussion Quintet, Symphonic Percussion Quintet, Concert Percussion Quintet, and Cadet Percussion Choir will perform along with solos by senior Christian Moreno, and sophomores Griffin Lober and Tyler Teele.

For more information, contact Kevin Miller in the Music Office at (847) 755-4802.

SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOL PERCUSSION STUDENTS PERFORM ON PROFESSIONAL STAGE



*The Schaumburg High School
Percussion Quintet. From left to
right: Griffin Lober, Christian
Moreno, Robert Bach, and Tyler
Teele.*

Five percussion students at Schaumburg High School had an opportunity to showcase

their talents outside of their own community and on a professional stage.

The Schaumburg High School Percussion Quintet performed at the Raue Center for the Arts in Crystal Lake on Feb. 23. The concert, entitled "An Evening of Percussion," featured a diverse program of percussion music, from steel band and Taiko drummers to drumline.



The students performed at the Raue Center for the Arts in Crystal Lake.

"This was such a great opportunity for our percussionists to perform on a pro stage," said Kevin Miller, music department chair and band director at Schaumburg High School. "The concert was completely sold out and the crowd was electric. Our kids felt like rock stars."

The quintet's members are senior Christian Moreno, juniors Ryan Petritis and Robert Bach, and sophomores Tyler Teele and Griffin Lober. Schaumburg's quintet performed two drum pieces by James Tenney, entitled "Wake for Charles Ives" and "Hocket for Henry Cowell."

The Schaumburg High School group is performing again on March 9 with the DePaul University Percussion Ensembles during a concert at 12:30 p.m. The program will take place in the recital hall on the Lincoln Park campus.

ARTIFICIAL TURF ATHLETIC FIELDS

CONTINUE TO BENEFIT STUDENTS



Installing artificial turf has opened up numerous opportunities for students, such as playing on them during a physical education class.

When High School District 211 first installed new athletic fields with artificial turf, it was projected that the investment would open up numerous curricular opportunities at each school. After careful planning and execution, the fields were installed at all five high schools, two during the summer of 2008 and three during the summer of 2009.

The amount of opportunities the fields provided to D211 students continues to be the biggest advantage of making the switch to artificial turf. The obvious is that not only did football, soccer, and lacrosse teams benefit from the fields, but also physical education classes, marching band, and other spirit groups.

“The reason we advanced the idea was to open up space at each school,” said Dave Torres, associate superintendent for business. “When the District considered building additions for classroom space, we never looked at making a piece of our property a classroom space that not only accommodates physical education, but also expanded to performing groups.”

The original athletic fields were only used approximately 5 percent of the total usable or allowable time, Torres said. This is because the fields would be watered during the day and maintained in preparation for competitions and games. Additionally, when it rained or there was inclement weather, the grass would become unusable.

The new stadium turf consists of a complex drainage system that allows the field to be functional almost immediately after it storms. The top “grass” is essentially like a carpet that is laid down with infill consisting of recyclable and environmentally-safe synthetic rubber material.



Two physical education classes prepare to simultaneously play softball games on the field.

Physical education classes have an opportunity to utilize the fields as long as weather permits. At one time, there can be two different classes using the field to play various games, including such activities as softball or soccer games. Before, classes would be limited to the amount of time they could go outside because there was no adequate space to be on.

“In the warm weather months, if the weather is over 40 degrees, we’re out there using the field as a facility,” said Michael Donatucci, retiring physical education department chair at Fremd High School. “We have two classes on the turf every period of the day, first and fourth quarter primarily. We play soccer, lacrosse, Frisbee, softball, or any field game that we can play. The fields have been well worth the investment.”

School marching bands also have utilized the fields for practice instead of being on asphalt parking lots. It is cooler in the summer because of a lack of heat reflecting from the asphalt, and it is better on the feet and legs of the musicians. When they march, they have a cushioned field to step on repeatedly instead of asphalt, in addition to practicing where they’ll perform.

“It has been an outstanding thing for us,” said Kevin Miller, music department chair and band director at Schaumburg High School. “In years past, we were delegated to either using the parking lot to practice or one of the practice fields, which are always in terrible shape because that is where the teams practice rain or shine. It’s almost like we’ve added a whole other facility. The field is always beautiful, and now we never have to worry about the weather.”

When the District first considered the installation of new turf fields, the timing wasn’t right primarily because of finances. However, because of the opportunities created by the fields, the District never considered them a luxury item. In order to enhance curriculum and overall student experience, the fields became a necessity.

Torres added that spring sports have benefited from the artificial fields, as well. Spring sports, such as girls’ soccer, start in March. Because many of the fall sports go late into November, a natural grass field has no time to recover for spring because of rain and mud.

“The artificial turf can be used at the earliest weather permitting opportunity in

the spring,” Torres said. “We have had some interesting weather fronts this past year, and that has allowed some classes on the field as early as February.”

Maintenance has been very minimal. Groundskeepers at each school groom fields to make sure the artificial turf is cleaned and maintained in optimal functioning condition.

“One of the things we end up cleaning out of the fields the most are bobby pins from athletes that pin their hair up during competitions,” Torres said. “We have cleaning machines that have magnets, and it’s a great way to keep the fields clean and safe.”

All fields are GMax tested periodically, which measures the cushion of the fields to ensure that they meet appropriate standards. If there are certain areas that need more infill, it gets added. The fields haven’t needed a major maintenance update or replacement, however, it is anticipated that the lifespan will probably last eight to 10 years. At that point, most likely the turf or “carpet” will need to be replaced.

“Over time, we will continue to monitor the ‘carpet,’ and the infill on the top of it,” Torres said. “Our number one priority is to have a safe playing surface, for everyone to be able to be on there, and like anything else in District 211, we will try to maximize its useable life.”

UPCOMING EVENT: SHS NIGHT OF PERCUSSION



From left: Felicity Muldoon, Bryce Gilman, Matt Gerber, Christian Moreno, Corey Loft, Griffin Lober, Ethan Garrett, and River Tuason.

The percussion studio at Schaumburg High School will present “Take That,” their annual Night of Percussion on April 30 at 7 p.m. The concert will feature all four

percussion ensembles, SaxonSTOMP, the System Red Drumline, and several percussion soloists. Students will be performing on everything from drums to basketballs. "This concert is always fun because there are so many surprises," said Kevin Miller, SHS music department chair and band director. There will be a wide variety of styles performed including: traditional Mexican marimba music, avant-garde percussion, and indoor drumline. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the [event's listing](#) on D211 Post.