

March 2017

DID YOU KNOW?

In This Issue:

- Winter Ensembles
- 2017 Elementary School Tour
- Blue Steel Air Performance
- Purdue Jazz Fest
- Solo and Ensemble

Winter Is When We Heat Up!

Winter Percussion



DCHS Winter Percussion Ensemble is having another very good season with their show "First Draft". WPE attended the WGI Midwest percussion regional at Franklin Central HS on March 11 and advanced to the finals on March 12. This contest is so big that it takes two days to run it (with a Prelims /Finals format). The group will also take a trip to Ben Davis for an Indiana Percussion Association contest.

Indoor Winds



Indoor Winds is the next step in the marching arts. The musicians consist of wind instruments that compete against other schools in the same environment as an indoor color guard and percussion ensembles. 2017 is Decatur Central's 2nd year competing in this fairly new competition. Last year's theme revolved around a zombie apocalypse. This year's theme is about a mysterious cult known as "The Emerald Order".

Winter Guard



The DCHS Winter Guards, under the direction of Megan Brackett, are off to a great competition season. The DMS Guard has consistently placed in the top of their class and our Varsity Guard has won a few shows! They most recently placed FIRST at the Northview Show. Good Luck to the DMS Guard as they have advanced to the SEMI-STATE level in Regional A Class (A FIRST IN SCHOOL HISTORY) and the Varsity Guard will be at prelims with a chance to stay in the TOP THREE!



Decatur Tour 2017

DCHS Show Choir and Jazz Band I toured Decatur's 5 district elementary schools on February 10th. Aside from the fun performances, the tour is also meant to get 6th graders interested in the performing arts as they enter middle school.

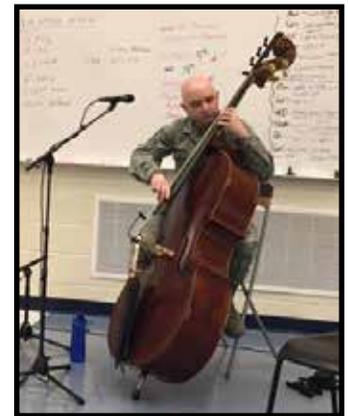
Mr. Cox directs Jazz Band I at the Blue & Gold Academy school.



Blue Steel Air

On Tuesday February 28th, DCHS was privileged to host Blue Steel, the commercial popular music ensemble of the United States Air Force Academy Band. These full time, active duty bandmen are committed to enhancing community relations, supporting the recruiting mission of the United States Air Force Academy and instilling the Air Force core values of Integrity, Service and Excellence in our nation's youth. The group performs high energy music from a variety of genres, and their versatility and dynamic stage presence enables them to tell the Air Force story to audience members of all ages.

Colin Trusedell, former DCHS band member, is the band manager and bass player for Blue Steel Air



Purdue Jazz Fest



DCHS Jazz Ensembles I and II attended the 27th Annual Purdue Jazz Festival on Saturday January 21, 2017. The big-band and combo competition consisted of 75 big bands and 20 combos in various categories, including Large High School Big Bands and Combos, Small High School Bands and Combos, and Middle School/Junior High School Big Bands and Combos. There was a number of clinics and concerts throughout the day by guest artists and adjudicators representing virtually every aspect of jazz performance.

Solo & Ensemble



The ISSMA solo and ensemble contest was held at the Perry Meridian 6th grade center last month. We had a lot of hard working students that attended this event this year (50 Events performed). Students that entered in Group I and received a Gold rating advanced to STATE FINALS. We had 4 percussion ensembles, 3 percussion soloists, 4 wind ensembles, and 3 wind soloists perform. In all, 50 Gold medals were earned. What an outstanding day of performances. Congrats to the students on working so hard to achieve at NEW LEVELS! We also want to highlight two members who received a PERFECT SCORE AT STATE – Carlee Merckling and David Blevins – both from the percussion section.

