



TUMB Notes

The Newsletter of the Tulane University Marching Band

Vol. 14 - Winter 2018



Another milestone was crossed as TUMB membership crashed through the magical century mark for the first time ever, showcasing 106 students in fall 2017. Recruitment has blossomed through a growing reputation and collaboration with our Admissions Office colleagues on new initiatives and strategies.

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New Orleans, LA 70118
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2018 MARDI GRAS PARADES:

February 3 - Krewe of Olympia
February 9 - Krewe de E'tat
February 11 - Bacchus
February 13 - REX
plus Soundwave Pep Band rolls on Feb. 4 with Krewe of King Arthur

KKPsi RHOCital:

April 8 - TUMB students produce/present/perform

Tulane Concert Band:

April 25 - Spring Concert: Celebrating NOLA's 300th!
7:30pm in Dixon Hall – FREE ADMISSION & RECEPTION FOLLOWING

ENCORE
SPRING
2018
EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE for our annual **FRIENDS OF THE BAND DINNER**

on **APRIL 25** at 5:30pm, followed by the
Tulane Concert Band **SPRING CONCERT** at 7:30pm.
For reservations, contact Patricia
at patmcwbr@tulane.edu or call 504.314.BAND.



SAVE PAPER: Receive "TUMB Notes" electronically!
Send your email address to patmcwbr@tulane.edu

Visit us online at tulaneband.org and follow us @TulaneUBand      

TUMB official photography provided by BRUCE FRANCE.

SEASON IN REVIEW

GAME DAY MOMENTS

Before marching onto Benson Field in Yulman Stadium on game day, the TUMB goes through a rigorous routine of rehearsals and preparations. Following a morning rehearsal to fine tune the upcoming performance, the band members get a few hours to relax, have lunch, get into their uniforms and get themselves ready for what lies ahead. Meeting behind Newcomb Hall 90 minutes before kick-off, the band warms up, stretches and gets final instructions from the staff and drum majors. It's a

time for reflection and focus, team building, making memories and getting "hyped" for the crowds awaiting the band. At 60 minutes until kick-off, the TUMB emerges from the south side of Newcomb Hall, parades past Newcomb Quad to the unique rhythms of the drumline cadences, and pours onto the LBC quad through the tailgating tents, as fans shift their focus to the band. The TUMB pep rally on the LBC Quad always includes the traditional Tulane school songs, but also features popular and contemporary classics from our current halftime shows. After finishing the pep rally with the **Hullabaloo Cheer** and **Fight Song**,

the TUMB proceeds up McAlister Drive, led by "Sophie" the 1961 VW Transporter. Proceeding along Willow Street, the ensemble turns left onto Ben Weiner Drive playing the **Fight Song** to fans gathered at the Bea Field Alumni House. Continuing up to Yulman Stadium, the band has gathered a following of Green Wave faithful accompanying them to the Yulman Plaza, where the band, dance team, color guard and cheer leaders all present another pep rally, for fans just arriving to enter the stadium. Following this 30 minutes of non-stop performing, the TUMB takes a quick water break behind the Hertz Center, before charging onto Benson Field for their unique pregame show. Then it's up into the stands to support the team during the first half of the game, before getting ready to take the field again at halftime. The final stretch of game day includes our Green Wave Brass Band strolling and performing through the Glazer Family Club and the Westfeldt Terrace during the third quarter, the Shockwave Dance Team keeping the spirit up on the sideline and featured at timeouts, and the rest of the TUMB standing, cheering, stomping and playing music to maintain the non-stop flow of energy from the crowd to the players on the field - the home field advantage!



MORE GAME DAY MOMENTS

Each game day presents challenges and opportunities. It might be cheering for the team or questioning the referees calls (*at right*), working with colleagues in athletics and game day operations on the headphones (*below*), or striking that final pose at the end of a performance (*below, right*). One of our favorite moments comes during the final home football game each fall season: the opportunity to say thank you to our graduating seniors, as they line up and each is introduced just before the last halftime performance of their collegiate career (*bottom*). All of these moments contribute to building character and grace under pressure, and make for indelible memories for our student performers.



ROAD TRIP: BETTER THAN JUST OK

One of the great highlights of the fall season is the annual TUMB road trip. Supporting the football team in another city is an honor, and a great way to unite with Tulane alumni and friends across the region. Although usually scheduled for a rival within the American Athletic Conference, the TUMB had the opportunity in 2017 to perform on one of the nation's biggest collegiate stages - at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK. The trip started at 4:30am and included a stop in Shreveport, LA to perform in front of hundreds of high school students at a special assembly in the gymnasium at C.E. Byrd High School (*photo at top*). In addition to a wonderful recruitment opportunity, the event was also attended by some local Tulane alumni. (See *more about alumni in story below*.) Then it was back on the road north to Oklahoma, arriving at the hotel at 9:00pm. After a restful evening, Saturday morning began with a visit to the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum (*above right*), which honors the victims and educates visitors about the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995. It was a moving experience for all. Back on the buses, band members shared a good meal and then changed into uniforms upon arriving at the OU campus. Performing for 83,000 fans was a thrill, and the TUMB presented its field show (*at right*) with poise and energy, gaining a positive response from the Sooner fans. And the Sooner Band Program was very hospitable and supportive with logistics, water, and professional & friendly interactions all around: the Sooner community is one of the most welcoming in the country. The Green Wave football team played with great energy and big hearts, surging ahead twice early in the game. Alas, the Sooners, ranked number one in the country at that time, took control in the second half of the game.



FOLLOW THE SHAKO TO SHREVEPORT

The TUMB was the catalyst for alumni outreach during the road trip. Director of bands Barry Spanier travelled to Shreveport, LA to speak with Tulane alumni. Thanks to the coordinating efforts of Jered Bocage of Alumni Relations, and Shreveport Alumni Club representative Brian Carberry, a nice gathering was hosted at *Rhino Coffee* in downtown Shreveport. Guests learned about the progress of the Tulane Band Program and general updates about the university. Also in attendance was a current TUMB parent and a prospective TUMB recruit. The tradition of donning a TUMB Shako was continued, as guests got a feel for what its like to wear the band's headgear.



NBA PREMIERE

For the first time in the history of the band program, the TUMB represented Tulane at a home game of the NBA Pelicans. The TUMB accepted the invitation to perform on November 29 as a great way to culminate the fall season, and exposed the band program to many in the audience who may have never seen the TUMB perform before.



A special feature of this performance at the Smoothie King Center included solo vocals by sophomore Dane Castillo on the song *BLUE*, by Eiffel 65, a reprise of his fan-favorite performances during the fall football season. Dane was also accompanied by the choreography of the TUMB Color Guard (*at left*). The appearance of the TUMB brought out lots of "Roll Wave" shouts from Tulane faithful in the crowd.





CENTERFOLD From rehearsals to game days, the TUMB enjoys world-class experiences. Tulane's Angry Wave in Yulman Stadium provides a friendly home field atmosphere for weekday TUMB rehearsals, as band members prepare under the beautiful fall skies of southeast Louisiana. Pictured above, band members go through a stretch & warm-up routine to start rehearsal, before learning new music and marching drills. Pictured below, the TUMB took their talents and grit to Norman, OK, where 83,000 passionate Oklahoma Sooner fans could not quell the Green Wave spirit.



ALUMNI

ALUMNI BAND

Fall 2017 Homecoming brought together our largest alumni band ever, with 70+ participants joining in the fun. In addition to reunion activities and events, our alumni get to blow the dust off their instruments and re-live their memories on the field with the TUMB. This year, the featured song performed was **Fortunate Son** by Credence Clearwater Revival, and of course an encore performance of the **Tulane Fight Song**. At the end of the game, band alumni perform the **Alma Mater** one last time...until next year.



TUMBAA CONNECTIONS

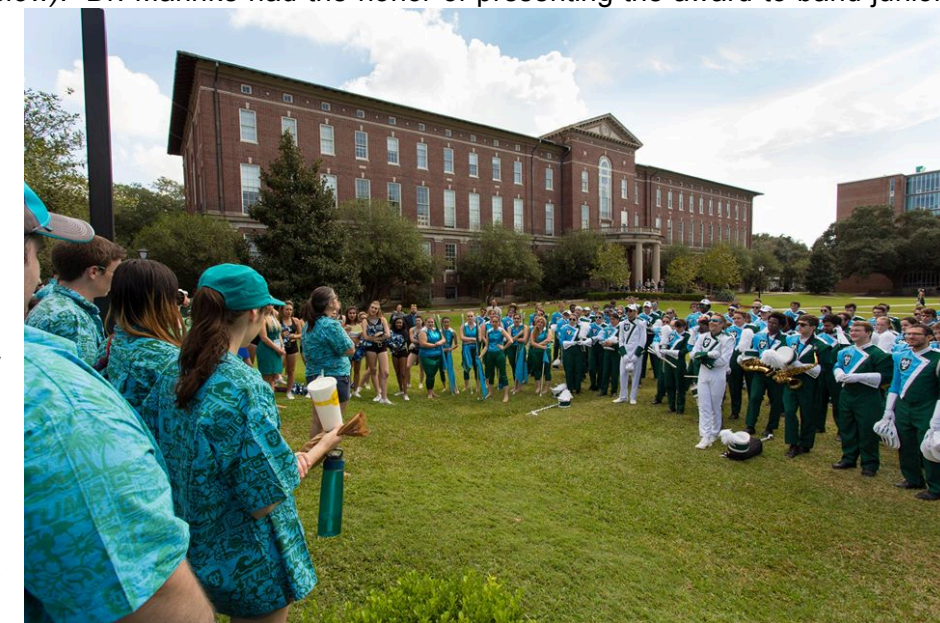
One of the main events of homecoming is the tailgating parties on the LBC Quad, which included a large contingent of band alumni. Pictured at right is a reunion of our drum majors and feature twirler from 2007: Eric Wilder, Erica Andrews and Nick Larberg. The Tulane University Marching Band Alumni Association (TUMBAA) provides continuity and connections for new band graduates, as they begin their lives after college and after band. TUMBAA coordinates Alumni Band activities for homecoming, and volunteers for Mardi Gras parades to help usher the TUMB through the enthusiastic mobs on St. Charles Avenue. To learn more about upcoming events and how to stay connected, contact TUMBAA at tulanealumniband@gmail.com. (See more about TUMBAA on page 9.)



DEVELOPMENT

BAND ALUMNI PRESENT NEW MAHNKE MENTORSHIP AWARD

Before the TUMB was established in 2004, Tulane students paved the way by forming a volunteer marching band in 2003, based on the experience and framework of the student-led SoundWave Pep Band. One of the central figures in this effort was science major, Amanda Mahnke. As the band program officially took its first steps, Amanda, then a junior, was literally at the forefront, serving as the first TUMB drum major. This fall, in recognition of Amanda's influence through her mentorship of fellow students, Dr. Amanda Mahnke was honored by her peers in the alumni band. TUMBAA (the Tulane University Marching Band Alumni Association) established the new Mahnke Mentorship Award, through donations from fellow band alumni. The inaugural presentation took place homecoming weekend, as the alumni band gathered with the TUMB behind Newcomb Hall just before the tailgate parade (*below*). Dr. Mahnke had the honor of presenting the award to band junior Tyler Hawk (*top right*), who received a framed certificate and an honorarium. Candidates for the award were nominated by current band members, and a TUMBAA committee made the final selections. A permanent plaque will be on display in the band office, with the names of future recipients added each year. Additional funds from this effort will go towards other annual band student leadership awards. Congratulations to Tyler, and many, many thanks to Dr. Mahnke, her friends and colleagues, and to TUMBAA. To contribute to this new band award fund, visit us online at www.tulaneband.org/support.



FRIENDS OF THE BAND

For the second year in a row, the TUMB Endowment provided for our band student awards, recognizing dedication, service and leadership among the membership. Thanks to all of our donors who are helping to build our permanent Endowment Fund. Donations may be made online, or by mail. Contact Barry Spanier at bspanier@tulane.edu or (504) 865-5139 to talk about how you can help support the band.

TUMB ENDOWMENT
 continues to build:
 now above
\$130,000

SUPPORT THE TUMB!

Visit tulaneband.org/support/ to make your tax-deductible donation!

COMMUNITY

BAND DAY

Our 9th Annual Band Day started with introductions, one-on-one instruction and sectional rehearsals. Thanks to our guest students, teachers and administrators for joining us and providing a wonderful performance of *You're a Grand Old Flag* by George M. Cohan, followed by a rousing rendition of the *Tulane Fight Song*. One of the most rewarding aspects of this experience is the opportunity to mentor and provide support and technical expertise to a future generation of college musicians. Thanks to the participating schools: St. Mary Dominican HS, Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy, R.K. Smith MS, Harry Hurst MS, Ursuline Academy of New Orleans, St. Ann Catholic School, Christian Brothers School, and Chalmette HS.



SPOTLIGHT

NINJAS: BEHIND THE SCENES

It takes a tremendous amount of organizing and effort behind the scenes to make the band program run smoothly. Support during band camp, football games, the road trip, Mardi Gras parades, and dozens of special events throughout the year are



critical for the success of the TUMB. Our krewe of student workers, who handle all of the logistics, are known as “band ninjas”. In recent years most of our experienced ninjas have graduated, but we are fortunate to have gained a large contingent of new ninjas who have stepped up, learned quickly, and become an effective team for the TUMB. Pictured at left, the ninjas took a moment during band camp to strike an historical pose (*can you name that famous pose?*) that embodies their can-do spirit, to overcome any challenge, under any conditions.

SIDELINE: PIT PERCUSSION

Fall 2017 brought the introduction of a new set of sounds to the TUMB, with pit percussionist Kelten Gonzales. Armed with vibraphone, bells, drums, cymbals and electronic drum synthesizer, Kelten’s sound is amplified by two speakers that are aimed toward the audience in Yulman Stadium, or any other performance environment. The gear is set up on the sideline, where Kelten can watch the drum majors as they conduct the music, and he can blend with the sound of the ensemble. Special musical arrangements are created by percussion instructor Andrew Szygula, and Kelten received individualized coaching from local percussionist and educator Alison Ely.

