

TUMB

Notes

Newsletter of the Tulane University Marching Band

Vol 5 Summer 2013



TUMB performs as the "house band" for Fox & Friends broadcast, live from the Morial Convention Center for Super Bowl XLVII.

"Only in New Orleans, Only at Tulane" is a reality: members of the TUMB have experienced an incredible Spring 2013 semester, one that no other college band can claim. As New Orleans hosted a record 10th NFL grand finale - Super Bowl XLVII - the city filled with media from around the world. The TUMB was ready for its close-up with an audience of more than 100 million television viewers and tens of thousands more at live events.

The band was also featured in the opening night gala of the Women's Basketball Final Four weekend in the "NCAA Salute" at Mardi Gras World. Through these appearances the TUMB furthered its reputation as Tulane's preeminent ambassadors, and the band kept marching right on through Mardi Gras and into April for an amazing Spring semester. **ROLL WAVE!**

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SEASON IN REVIEW



On February 3 the TUMB paraded through Mardi Gras World for the official **NFL Tailgate Party** (right), then performed the same day at **DirecTV's Celebrity Beach Bowl** (left, **Laura Sosa**).

Band members stayed to enjoy the festivities featuring Pit Bull, and our seniors were invited to a private party at which Justin Timberlake debuted his new album.



PHOTO: Zack Smith

Immediately after Super Bowl weekend, the TUMB jumped into **Mardi Gras**, marching in Krewe d'Etat, Bacchus and Rex. As one of the most energetic and entertaining bands on parade, the TUMB got the audiences clapping and dancing along with them. They sang along too as the band continued its unique tradition performing "Happy Birthday" to those celebrating their special day on the parade route. This year, Ruby Barrios was serenaded (right) for her 93rd birthday!



The TUMB reached another milestone - outgrowing the stage of Dixon Hall - so March 13 saw the inaugural **TUMBarama** showcase at the Devlin Fieldhouse (right).

With the full court and expansive acoustics, all elements had ample space to strut their stuff. Our dance team, Winterguard, baton twirler, Green Wave Brass Band, and the marching band kicked off this new tradition in grand style.





National attention returned to NOLA with the **NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four**. The TUMB was featured **(left)** at the **NCAA Salute** on April 5 to welcome the four participating universities. Our Green Wave Brass Band **(above right)** kicked off the event, and performed throughout Tourney Town at the New Orleans Arena.



TUMB drumline instructor & operations manager Mendel Lee **(at left, conducting)** presented his third annual **nienteForte** concert series which brings the music of contemporary composers to Tulane and features our students, faculty, staff and guest artists on stage together in performance. Guest composer Jeni Brandon was on hand to witness a performance of her 2013 creation "Cumulonimbus: The King of Clouds".

Our Tulane Concert Band presented a dynamic **Spring Concert** on April 24 **(below)**. The program honored the spirit of liberty on this 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Address. It also featured contemporary compositions for concert band. Audience members joined the musicians for a reception and celebration of our graduating seniors.





SPOTLIGHT



PHOTO: Zack Smith



PHOTO: Zack Smith

Student Leaders

Every spring, the TUMB staff and students select drum majors and section leaders for the year ahead. Through a rigorous process that showcases each candidate's conducting technique, leadership potential and philosophies, our student leaders for 2013-2014 were chosen. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Drum Majors Alex Tir and Chris Willuhn. **ABOVE LEFT:** Section leaders Caitlyn Schroeder (flutes), Brittany Carnes (clarinets), Olivia Broslawsky (saxophones), Amy Lipman (trumpets), Christopher Collins (mellophones), Alex Cammack (trombones/baritones), Ari Levine (Sousaphones), Kyle Percy (percussion), Angela Servello (color guard), Annie Cuccia (dance team).

Winterguard Another new element has been added to the growing stable of performing groups under the TUMB umbrella. Making its debut this spring, the Tulane Winterguard is an extension of our color guard unit that performs with the TUMB during football and Mardi Gras seasons. Winterguard trains and performs during the winter through the month of March at regional festivals and competitions. This inaugural season proved very successful in building skills and artistic range for our students. It was also effective as a recruitment vehicle for attracting new members to the program. Leora Pearl Madden is the instructor for our color guard & Winterguard units. Caroline Davidson (**right**) tosses a sabre while her colleagues spin flags.

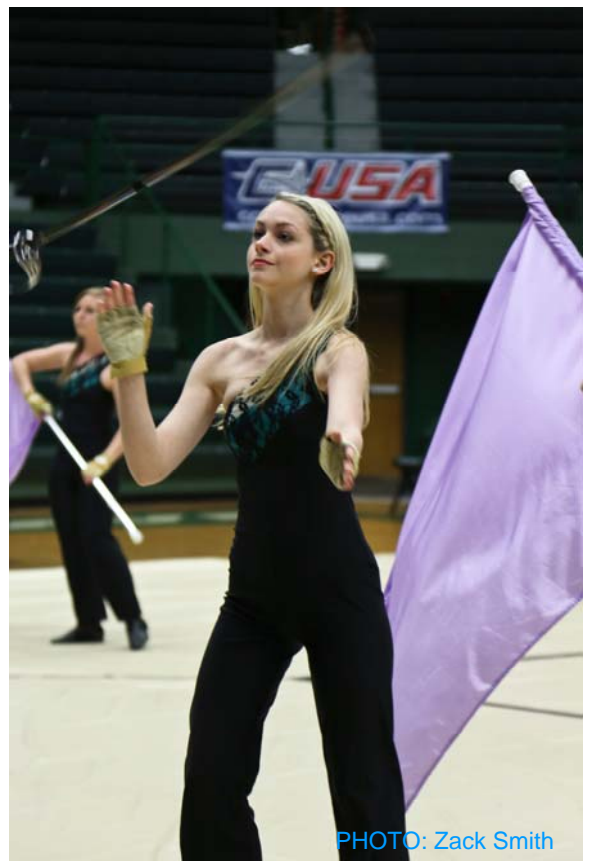


PHOTO: Zack Smith

RECRUITMENT

A talented freshman class is set to join for fall 2013. Added to our returning members, our total is poised to climb to 85+, another new high for the TUMB!



THEM BONES, THEM BONES, THEM TROMBONES!

In 1938, poised to graduate from high school, **Milton Hilbert** approached his father with a radical decision. The New Orleans native -- "We always lived in the Calhoun Street area" -- was raised a Catholic, attended Catholic schools, and had even won a scholarship to Loyola University. But he had other ideas. "Dad," he said, "I want to give up my scholarship. I want to study chemical engineering, and Loyola does not offer that but Tulane does." "Are you crazy?" his father replied. "We're in the Depression, and I've got six kids to feed! If you go to Tulane you'll have to do it on your own!" Determined to pursue engineering, Milton persisted and entered Tulane that fall.

That same week a man only a few years older than Hilbert arrived at Tulane to become director of bands, a position he would hold for 30 years. He was John Morrissey, newly graduated with a Ph.D. from Columbia, a man destined to have a considerable impact on Hilbert, who was not only a future engineer but also an accomplished trombonist. "I was lucky enough to arrive at the same time he did," Hilbert said in a recent conversation with current director of bands Barry Spanier. "We became fast friends, and as it turned

"...we all rented tuxedos and went down to the Roosevelt Hotel to play with that band. We were on cloud nine!"

out I became a kind of *de facto* captain of the band. Morrissey was a composer, and he was really more interested in concert band than marching band. So I helped him with some of the mechanics of organizing the marching band. I always felt that he was too good to simply supervise Sousa marches!"

According to Hilbert, many members of the marching band preferred the concert band experience, but gladly stayed in the marching band for the opportunity to perform Morrissey originals. "But we had the most awful uniforms!" Hilbert says, shaking his head and laughing. "We had these plastic stovepipe hats that we had to wear, and nobody liked to march in them." But march they did. Hilbert and his 40-odd band-mates marched at all home football games and continued the Tulane band tradition of marching in Mardi Gras parades. In addition, some band members occasionally played in other bands, including the Police Band during Sunday concerts in City Park. Hilbert even had a Loyola band uniform, and was called once in a while to fill in for a sick trombonist.



Milton Hilbert from 1940 Jambalaya

Perhaps the highlight of Hilbert's band experience came in 1940. The Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans regularly featured top bands in its Blue Room. On one occasion the leader of a swing band performing there contacted John Morrissey. "Somehow this band leader had learned that the Tulane band featured a section of four trombones, so he invited our 'bone section to sit in with his big band," Hilbert recalls. "So the Blue Room staged a Tulane Night, and we all rented tuxedos and went down to the Roosevelt Hotel to play with that band. We were on cloud nine! I had a lot of enjoyable experiences at Tulane, but that one was truly memorable!"

Story by Craig Smith, a freelance writer and Friend of the Band.

HOME COMING 2013 is October 5th - Join the Alumni Band!
See details on page 8



DEVELOPMENT



PHOTO: Zack Smith

Endowment Launch On April 24 the TUMB hosted our second annual spring dinner. Band alumni, parents and donors filled Dixon Hall 118 (*left*), enjoying a wonderful meal and the opportunity to visit with new and old friends and colleagues. Director of Bands Barry Spanier brought everyone up to date on recent progress and future goals, and the launch of our new endowment effort, **Now and Forever**. This fund will provide for student awards, band instruments and uniforms, and travel expenses to keep the TUMB in the public eye throughout the southern region and Tulane's athletic conference. A very special thanks goes to Kelly Gripshover, Office of Donor Relations, for coordinating this terrific event!

We have reached our initial goal to establish the new endowment, and are now working toward \$25,000 additional funds to generate spendable funds. If you would like to contribute to this historic effort, contact director of bands, Barry Spanier at bspanier@tulane.edu or call 504.865.5139.

Richard B. Graves Marching Band Student Awards

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, ninety-nine deserving TUMB students have received these service and loyalty awards over the past three years. Twenty-three of these were awarded this past spring.

IRA Charitable Rollover 2013 If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make tax-free gifts from your IRA to Tulane for the Band through 2013, donating up to \$100,000 per year. Contact Lizbeth Turner at lturner@tulane.edu or call 504.314.7377.

Gifts-in-Kind Please patronize our donors and thank them for supporting TUMB: a complete list with website links is on the TUMB website at www.tulaneband.org/support/

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 Fresco Café
 Greenie Gals
 Ted's Frostop
 Five Happiness

Ray Hester Chapter, Tulane Athletic Club
 Southern Hospitality Catering
 Canseco's Metairie Market

Friends of the Band Play a vital part in supporting this unique band program by joining **FRIENDS OF THE BAND** with a tax-deductible gift. Mail checks, payable to "Tulane University Marching Band," to: **Tulane University Marching Band, 102 Dixon Hall, New Orleans, LA 70118** OR make credit card donations online: tulaneband.org/support/

SUPPORT THE TUMB!



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



Watch for our **5th Annual Band Day** this fall on Saturday, September 7. School and community bands from across southeast Louisiana will join the TUMB for a mass band performance in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

Service Learning

The TUMB completed its fourth year of service learning. Band members worked with young musicians of community based *The Roots of Music*. Olivia Demkovitz, Jacob Cross and Connor Myers worked with the drumline (*right*). Roots marched in the world famous Tournament of Roses Parade on New Years Day, 2013, the first trip outside of New Orleans for most of the youngsters. Service learning benefits not only the children who receive the mentoring; our Tulane band members also get a lot out of the experience. Below are reflections from our members in their own words:



- ◆ *Service learning was a great experience that I could not replicate at any other university. Roots of Music was special because I got to help children through a cause that I believe in so deeply. Music education is extremely important to learn at a young age, both because of its effect on learning and academic success as a whole and because of the community it fosters. – **Tiana DiMasi***
- ◆ *Going to the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival with Roots of Music was a highlight of my service learning. The festival was an opportunity for the students to put into practice the skills and music they learned during rehearsal at the Cabildo. One of my students began not knowing how to play the mellophone, yet he marched in the parade at Jazz Fest with the others and contributed to the band. Giving young students a group to join and an instrument to care about develops not only their musical talents but also their character. – **Emily Lubin***
- ◆ *The children that were part of the program really helped to broaden my sense of the world around me and were an instrumental part of my freshman year at college. One of the great parts of the service learning was my opportunity to go to a drumline competition with the Roots drumline. We were able to really connect with the kids on a much more personal level and so were given insight on the lives of these children and their daily lives. – **Connor Myers***
- ◆ *One girl in particular kept struggling and giving me a hard time because she felt so frustrated. But once she got it, she was very grateful to me, and expressed her thanks. It was a really great feeling... they understood that I was trying to help. – **Olivia Demkovitz***
- ◆ *Personally, music has played a huge role in my life and is a big part of the reason that I am here at Tulane. I think Roots of Music is so important because I know some of these kids are in tough situations at home, and music can be their way out. This was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had all year, and I am so glad I got involved with this program! – **Rachel Hill***



Tulane University Marching Band
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ENCORE

Upcoming 2013
Special Events

September 7– 5th Annual Band Day

See page 7 for details

September 21 - Houma Marching Band Festival

October 4-5 – Alumni Band at Homecoming

See details below

November 8-9 – TUMB Road Trip - San Antonio, TX



HOMECOMING 2013 is October 5th!

To participate in **ALUMNI BAND**: call 504.314.BAND (2263) or email patmcwbr@tulane.edu.

Rehearsal: Friday, October 4, 3:30-6:30pm. **PERFORM at half-time with the TUMB!**

Large instruments available. **Free game tickets** for band alumni and their guests, plus Alumni Band polo shirt for participating musicians! Music available online.

GAME DAY TAILGATING TENT outside the 'Dome!

Updates at <http://www.tulaneband.org/about/ensembles/alumni-band/>

Visit tulaneband.org for the latest in TUMB-related news!

Follow us online for photos, videos, and live streaming broadcasts!



Or give us a call 504.314.BAND (2263)