

BAND BOOSTER E-BLAST! OCTOBER 20, 2009

...go to miracostabands.com calendar for the latest information...

THIS IS A BIG WEEK FOR US! READ CAREFULLY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 22nd 7:00 PM: MCHS PRISM CONCERT with our **Wind Ensemble**, Symphony Orchestra, and Choir Ensemble all participating. **Call time: 6:30 PM.** This concert is top notch for the early time of school year, and is absolutely worth inviting family and friends! You will want to come and get a keepsake program for your scrapbook. Joel Carlson says that the Wind Ensemble has picked right up from last year so be ready for a standing ovation. Yes, that's right—no hesitation—just jump up!

CDs of the musical performances will be available for sale at the concert. CDs will cost \$10.00. Thanks to Laurie Draper for recording the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra & Vocal Ensemble in advance!

Traditionally, all families involved bring refreshments to share after the concert. If you're a Wind Ensemble family and your last name starts with A-M bring drinks, and if your last name is N-Z bring snacks. The choir and orchestra families are also bringing refreshments.

Sally Bickel (VP of Concerts) always does a fine job with the concerts and has volunteers doing the necessary tasks: decorations, set-up, refreshment tables, beverage tables, and CD sales prior to the concert. If you would like to help, contact Sally at momunit@verizon.net.

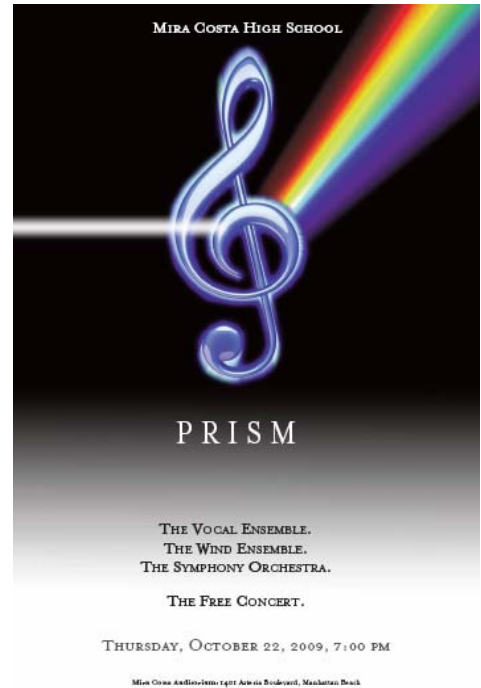
Friday, October 23rd 7:00 PM: HOME GAME VERSUS PALOS VERDES HIGH and SENIOR RECOGNITION NIGHT for Marching Band and Colorguard.

NO REHEARSAL FRIDAY AFTERNOON FOR MARCHING BAND AND COLOR GUARD. Friday call time is 5:30 PM. Step Off is 6:00 PM. Marching Band and Color Guard need to be in the stands by 6:15 PM

One of the "perks" of being an MCHS senior in marching band or color guard is Senior Recognition Night. This year's event is scheduled for the home game on Friday, October 23rd. For Seniors Only--During the traditional pre-game ceremony, you will be escorted by your parents, siblings or whomever you choose.

- 6:00: Senior parents arrive at snack stand; ordered alphabetically
- 6:10-6:15: Parent are lead parents down to field; seniors are plucked from the stands and lined up in a-z order
- 6:30: Ceremony starts
- 7:00: Ceremony concludes and the game begins!

For more info...Erica LeBlanc at 310.376.1252 (home); cell 310.420.0107 (cell); or leblanc_eric@smc.edu. Thanks to Erica LeBlanc for taking this on!



Saturday, October 24th SIMI VALLEY 41ST ANNUAL FIELD TOURNAMENT . The marching band and Colorguard will seek more honors to the North.

Saturday Morning Rehearsal at MCHS: 10:30 AM; ACT students may arrive late!

Lunch break for students; pitsters loading commences: 12:30 PM

Board buses: 2:00 PM for Simi Valley High School

Performance: 5:30 PM

Awards: 7:00 PM

Returning to campus: 9:00 PM approximately

Let's get a good turnout from the boosters! More details later when the schedule is posted on the Simi Valley High School Web Site. Watch for info on our website.

Sunday, October 24th 8:30 AM-10:00 **NEW!**

**DRUM LINE AND JAZZ BAND PERFORM AT SKETCHERS
PIER TO PIER FRIENDSHIP WALK.**

<http://www.pier2pierwalk.com> Drum Line performs at 10 AM;
Jazz Band at 11:00 AM. Don't miss it!

Elise Johnson is heading up Jazz Band effort. Do we have a drum line parent to help coordinate the Drum Line effort? Please call Jim VZ at 310.466.1004.



We are participating here as the MBEF is a sponsor and recipient of funds for this valuable effort benefiting many fine non-profits, including many educational foundations. Contact Elise at ejo63@email.com or (310) 760-1215.

Saturday, November 7th CANCELLED THE CHINO FIELD TOURNAMENT IS **CANCELLED**

MCHS BAND NOW ON FACEBOOK

Go to "Mira Costa High School Marching Band" and become a "fan." Mukesh Bhakta (Zeena's Dad) is helping us keep some current pictures available!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM A FORMER MIRA COSTA PARENT

My family has been going to Mira Costa Football games for almost a decade. Our son played varsity football during the 2002-2004 seasons so we were at all the games. I also was on the Manhattan Beach Education Foundation grant committee from the years 1992 through 1999. During this time, we changed the way we raised dollars for the schools and targeted the high school long term for improvement in extracurricular programs. To make the high school as outstanding as the elementary schools our committee convinced the community to take a long view in terms of funding projects. A personal crusade of mine was creating the feeder groups necessary to create a best in class music program in choral, orchestra and band. Funding the middle school and elementary schools better was critical as well as improving the resources to pay the right music leaders. It is expensive to have instruments etc available. Anyway, this past year, the quality of the band is so outstanding that it almost brings tears to my eyes every time I hear them play.

As the music started to improve, what was lacking was the school spirit and spark that music should supply to the environment of the school. We convinced people over a decade ago that having a strong music program benefits the entire school since it creates a great environment that all can enjoy and benefit from. The cultural IQ of the school body will go up if there is strong arts presence at the school. Coming from a science geek, we made a good case and got people behind the long term vision.

.... This season seeing the band totally into the game and playing like a professional USC band is really heartwarming. The way the football players come and look to the band to play the alma mater with big smiles on their faces is just so cool...I really think the football team has a chance to win the CIF since the band is really providing that extra "boost" needed to keep the motivation going..... *Mary Ann (former MCHS parent)*

PS My son benefitted from the improvement in music although he graduated in 2005. He played jazz band even though he did football and took music lessons all through college and playing classical guitar is still a big avocation of his.

Note: Edited for length...We credit the new band director Joel Carlson with enabling this change. He is dedicated and energetic and makes a real difference in the bands and the community...the editor.

LOOKING BACK...



Friday, October 16th: HOME GAME VERSUS WEST HIGH. At the last hour, the marching band and color guard dropped their pregame performance---usually there are very few in the audience at this time. This cancellation took the pressure off of the students and they all seemed to enjoy the night off except for the pep band show. The game was outstanding, the Mustangs won, and the team came to the stands for the playing of the alma mater. Finally, the crowd left happy with the strains of Mirada wafting over the campus. All in all, a fantastic high school adventure.