



Durham Middle School

8th Grade Band

Acworth, Georgia

Michelle Rickard, Director of Bands

Matthew Segars, Associate Director of Bands

Ivy Pirl, Piano Soloist

Jack Walker, Saxophone Soloist

Ben Rickard, Bass Guitar Soloist

Chris Rickard, Drumset Soloist

The 2018 University of Georgia Middle School Band Festival

Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall
Athens, Georgia

Friday December 7, 2018
7:30 PM

December 7, 2018

Dear Parents and Friends:

The Cobb County School District is proud to be represented by the Durham Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Symphonic Band at the 2018 University of Georgia MidFest. Our community is pleased and excited that these fine young musicians have been invited to participate in such a prestigious event.

At a time when many music departments in public school systems across the country are fighting for their existence, we in the Cobb County School District recognize the importance that music plays in our students' lives. As our students move on into the world, their involvement with music will bring creativity and imagination to their work. Their experience will help them move on with many of the skills they will need to be successful in their future careers.

Under the direction of Michelle Rickard and Matt Segars, Durham Middle School students show commitment and dedication to musical excellence. The program at Durham is recognized as one of the finest in the Southeast and continues to reach new levels of excellence.

On behalf of the Board of Education, staff, students, parents, and community of the Cobb County School District, I congratulate you and thank the University of Georgia for this opportunity.

Best regards,



Chris Ragsdale
Superintendent



Chris Ragsdale
Superintendent
Cobb County School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION Brad Wheeler, Chair • David Chastain, Vice Chair
David Banks • David Morgan • Randy Scammon • Scott Swenney • Susan Thayer
SUPERINTENDENT Chris Ragsdale



Christopher Ferrell
Supervisor of Music
Cobb County School District

Dear Parents and Friends,

The Cobb County School District is fortunate and proud to have such an outstanding Fine Arts program at Durham Middle School. It is indeed a wonderful honor to be selected to perform at the University of Georgia MidFest. This performance will be an event to remember for parents, students, friends, and faculty. The band program at Durham Middle School has had a long-standing tradition of musical excellence. The dedication of students, faculty, administrators, and parents to go beyond the "status quo" which will be demonstrated by the performance today.

A commitment to music making is almost a way of life at Durham. Under the leadership of Michelle Rickard and Matt Segars, the band continues to be a model program for Cobb County and the State of Georgia. We are extremely proud of the quality and professionalism displayed by these young musicians.

We hope that you all enjoy this musical experience. We also thank University of Georgia for their tremendous support of fine music programs across the state.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Ferrell
Supervisor of Instrumental Music



Durham Middle School
Cobb County School District
"One Team, One Goal: Student Success"

Dr. Patricia Alford
Principal

Dear MidFest Attendees, Parents, Families, and Friends,

The Durham Middle School community is incredibly proud of our band students who have been selected to perform at the University of Georgia MidFest. Our school has an outstanding reputation for excellence in both academics and the arts. We are honored that our band program, under the direction of Michelle Rickard and Matt Segars, has the opportunity to perform for you today.

Durham Middle School's vision is to be a school where *all students succeed in academics, arts, and character*. The dedication that our students demonstrate each day in their practice and preparation will have a life-long impact as they continue in their musical and educational pursuits. As a proud UGA alumna and a former member of both the University of Georgia Symphonic and Redcoat Bands, I know first-hand the commitment required for our young musicians to perform to this caliber, as well as the prestigious reputation of this event. I am incredibly proud of our outstanding students and teachers and of the quality of the Durham Middle School band program. Our students will benefit greatly from this opportunity to perform for an audience of peers, parents, and some of the very best musicians and educators in our state.

On behalf of the students, staff, and families of the Durham Middle School community, thank you for your support of these fine musicians, and thank you to the University of Georgia and the Hugh Hodgson School of Music for providing this performance experience. Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,



Dr. Patricia Alford
Principal



Dr. Patricia Alford
Principal
Durham Middle School

Cobb County School District

The Cobb County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in Georgia and the 23rd largest in the nation. It serves nearly 113,000 students with 112 schools, including 67 elementary schools, 25 middle schools, 16 high schools, one charter school, one special education center, one adult education center and one performance learning center.

Our **mission** is One Team, One Goal: Student Success.

Our **vision** is a school district of excellence where all students succeed.

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) has named the Cobb County School District as one of the “Best 100 Communities for Music in America” for twelve years.

Durham Middle School

Durham Middle School is located in Acworth, Georgia in the Cobb County School District, approximately 30 miles northwest of Atlanta. The school opened in 2000 and serves a current enrollment of 1102 students in grades 6 through 8. The land on which Durham is located was once the Durham family farm, a traditional row crop farm with cattle and a small dairy. The school is named in honor of the farm owners, Harvey and Bessie Durham, who were active and well-respected community members and parents to four children who they raised in Cobb County. Since the school opened, it has consistently been recognized for its outstanding achievement in academics, arts, and character education. Durham maintains a 5-Star Climate Rating from the Georgia Department of Education with achievement scores well above the state and district average. The culture of Durham is evident in its rigorous academic classes as well as through strong student participation in various voluntary activities such as Math Team, Academic Bowl, Durham Leadership Program, Sources of Strength, and Junior Beta Club. The majority of Durham students are active participants in a performance ensemble as members of the band, orchestra, or chorus. Students also have the opportunity to be part of small specialty music performance groups which include the Durham Winds, Fiddlers, Bel Canto, and even a trash can percussion ensemble. The success of Durham Middle School is due to the combined efforts on the part of all students, staff members, parents, and community members.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cobb County Board of Education

Brad Wheeler, *Chairman*
David Chastain, *Vice-Chairman*
Randy Scamihorn
Susan Thayer
David Morgan
David Banks
Scott Sweeney

Cobb County Administration

Chris Ragsdale, *Superintendent*
Chris Ferrell, *Supervisor of Music*

Durham Middle School Administration

Dr. Patricia Alford, *Principal*
Shannon Thorpe, *Assistant Principal*
Joshua Fowler, *Assistant Principal*
Kristina DeFrain, *Support Services Administrator*

High School Feeders

Allatoona High School Band: Cecilia Clark, Mark Gurnow, *Directors*
Harrison High School: Joshua Ray, Jonathan Grogan, Laura Tyson, *Directors*

Durham Middle School Music Faculty

Jennifer Aikey, *Orchestra Director*
Selena Sanchez, *General Music / 6th Grade Orchestra*
Susan Campbell, *Chorus Director*

Special Thanks

Lauren Segars, *Percussion Instructor*
Mark Gurnow, *Band Clinician*
Cecilia Clark, *Band Clinician*
Mark Drury, *Concert Program Photography*
Jennifer Aikey, *Concert Program Photography*
Courtney Coker, *Concert Program Photography*
Koji Mori, *Concert Program*



Durham Middle School Band Program

The 2018-2019 school year marks the 19th year of existence for Durham Middle School. Since the establishment of the school, the band program has continually served the musical interest of the students both individually and collectively. The program consists of two 6th grade bands, two 7th grade bands and one 8th grade band. The band program also fosters one jazz band, a percussion ensemble and Durham Winds (pep band). Approximately 340 students participate in the band program at Durham.

Durham bands maintain an active performance schedule across the southeast and within the metro-Atlanta community. Locally, seasonal concerts are presented throughout the year and each year the bands participate in Kennesaw Big Shanty Festival, elementary school performances, Taste of Acworth, Ford ES Evening in the Garden, Atlanta Braves Games and Atlanta Falcons Games. The band annually performs at the Covering the Bases Horizon Field Opening Ceremony and participates in workshops at Disney World and Universal.

The Durham 8th Grade Band was chosen as guest band at the University of 2003 Georgia Middle School Band Festival, the 2005 Georgia Music Educators' State Convention, the 2010 National Concert Band Festival, and the 2016 and 2017 Southeastern Concert Band Festival. The Durham 8th Grade Symphonic Band has been chosen to perform as a guest band at the 2018 University of Georgia Middle School Band Festival and the Cobb Wind Symphony 2019 Young People's Concert. The 8th Grade Band received a superior rating and two awards of excellence at the 2006 Smoky Mountain Music Festival in Gatlinburg Tennessee. The 8th Grade Band received the Judges' Award for receiving a score of 95 or above at the 2007 Heritage Music Festival in Williamsburg, VA. Durham concert bands receive overwhelming positive comments from festival adjudicators and consistently earn superior ratings at LGPE.

The Durham small ensembles are active in the community and have performed for many community events. They also provide music for school events such as academic pep rallies, physical education events, Durham Parent Nights, and Cobb Wind Symphony Concerts. A highlight for the jazz program occurred in 2001 when Durham Jazz I performed in Orlando for Disney's Magic Music Days.

Durham students extend their talents beyond the daily band class. Students from Durham audition successfully for District 12 Honor, Georgia All State and UGA Middle School Festival bands. Many students participate in GYSO, Atlanta Youth Concert Band and other community organizations. Many former Durham students are now band directors and professional musicians.

The Durham band program feeds two award winning high school band programs, Allatoona and Harrison High Schools. These high schools have performed at many prestigious events, including Midwest, UGA Janfest, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Georgia Music Educators' Conference, National Concert Band Festival, and Bands of America Regional/Grand National marching band contests.

The successes of Durham band students and Durham bands reflect the desire of the local community to support music education endeavors. Likewise, it is the desire of the Durham band directors to see such success developed for optimum student experience.

~Program~

Captain America March

Alan Silvestri / arr. Paul Murtha

This piece is a powerful and memorable march based on the main theme of the 2011 blockbuster film, “Captain America: The First Avenger.”

The Last Battle

Ralph Ford

“The Last Battle” is a musical depiction of the final siege of the Civil War at Fort Blakely and Spanish Fort, Alabama. It has long been accepted by the news media and general public that the war ended on April 9, 1865 with General Lee’s surrender to General Grant. This battle occurred six hours after Lee surrendered at Appomattox. The piece employs the use of dissonant harmonies as well as random compositional techniques in addition to conventional melodic and harmonic content.

Seal Lullaby

Eric Whitacre

Ivy Pirl, Piano Soloist (Lost Mountain Class of 1996)

“The White Seal” from Kipling’s “The Jungle Book” is the story of the albino seal who saves his kind from slaughtering fur traders by finding a beach for them to live completely inaccessible to man. The poem has an affectionate, dreamlike quality particularly suited to a lullaby. Eric Whitacre composed both a choral and band version of this lullaby.

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us,
And Black are the waters that sparkled so green.
The moon, o’er the combers, looks downward to find us,
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.

Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow,
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease!
The storm shall not wake thee, no shark overtake thee,
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!

The Incredibles

Michael Giacchino / arr. Paul Murtha

*Jack Walker, Saxophone (Durham Class of 2003),
Chris Rickard, Drumset (Durham Class of 2004), Ben Rickard, Bass Guitar (Durham Class of 2001)*

From the movie experts at Pixar comes an animated adventure destined for greatness. An all-American family attempt to live a normal life while hiding the fact that Mom and Dad were once crime-fighting superheroes. But when a dastardly villain forces them out of retirement, can they save their family and the world? To go along with the retro feel of the world of The Incredibles, Michael Giacchino wrote an incredible score. As a superhero movie score, it is reminiscent of such music as James Bond movie scores, as well as the old Batman television series. The music easily sets the mood for the film, allowing viewers to ease into the world they are seeing on the screen.

Impact

Randall Standridge

This piece was written in honor of Jane Botkin, an energetic band director in the Austin, Texas school system. Impact is a fast, bombastic work for concert band that is intended to create a real “wow” moment in a concert. The driving percussion, 7/8 meter, and pops-inspired melodies work together to create something that sounds very “now”.

DURHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

FLUTE

Zoie Gunter
Will Kent
Mia Rodriguez
Eliza Sengele
Mady Speligene
Lydia Trivett

CLARINET

Darshan Addepalli
Natalie Anderson
Alexandra Chavez
Alyssa Cox
Reagan Holmes
Audry Knighton
Gabby Lopez
Paige Mazur
Paris McDonald
Dawson McGregor
Amber Newton
Zoe Seaver
Alana Smallwood
Sophia Stallings
Sydney Thompson
Kami Westbrook

BASS CLARINET

Brenna Barney
Gabi White

CONTRA-ALTO CLARINET

Josie Mayse

BASSOON

David Sanchez

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Adrian Cadenas
Kate Curtis
Mason Gilbert
Aaron Huynh
Josh Portnoy
Alex Rasbach
Ainsleigh Wyman

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Owen Pendley

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Grayson Foxworth

TRUMPET

Mark Benvenuto
Grey Coker
Karl Doleys
Maggie Forester
Luke Gibson
Randa Gullion
Christian Huynh
Eli Landeche
Trey Logan
Noah Moore
Josie Tolsma
Bella Vargas

FRENCH HORN

Camryn Brinkmann
Maika Dubuc
Jasmine Dubuc
David Pintozzi
Ryan Welborn

TROMBONE

AJ Abshire
Alex Auld
Finn Callahan
Jay Clemensen
Pierce Terens

EUPHONIUM

Gianni Carbonara
Sean Cauffiel
Sahil Makadia

TUBA

Austin Barrer
Connor Brennan
Dalton Davis
Ben Fernandez

PERCUSSION

Autumn Bell
Abby Curtin
Drew Fields
Liam Gray
Brantley Kirk
Breanne Lavelle
Joshua Ratcliffe
Ryder Reinhardt



Michelle Rickard, Director of Bands



Michelle Rickard is a graduate of Presque Isle High School (Maine) and University of Nebraska at Omaha, where she received the Bachelor of Music, cum laude. Ms. Rickard also attended University of Nebraska, VanderCook College of Music and Kennesaw State University. She has studied clarinet with Allan Harris, Victor Zajec, John Ziegler and Ed Riley. She has studied conducting with the HE Nutt, Dr. James Saker, Peter Witte and Dr. John Culvahouse.

Ms. Rickard taught band with Music in the Catholic Schools in Omaha, Nebraska for one year before enlisting in the Air Force. Michelle Rickard served as clarinetist and bagpiper in the Strategic Air Command Band (Nebraska) and the Band of the Air Force Reserve (Warner Robins, GA) until 1988. While in the Air Force, she served as solo clarinetist and woodwind quintet specialist and performed for President Reagan, Pope John Paul and many other dignitaries. She was a distinguished graduate of

the NCO Preparatory School, received the Air Force Achievement Medal and was chosen Airman of the Quarter and Airman of the Year.

She has performed clarinet with the Macon Symphony, Georgia Winds, Nebraska Wind Symphony along with freelancing in the Chicago, Omaha, Macon, and Atlanta areas. She currently is the clarinet section leader with the Cobb Wind Symphony under the direction of Alfred Watkins. The Cobb Wind Symphony has performed numerous times at the College Band Directors National Convention, the Georgia Music Educators' State Convention, UGA JanFest and the Midwest Band Clinic. She is also a member of the North Georgia German Band, which performs throughout Georgia in the fall months. Michelle has taught private clarinet lessons since 1978, producing numerous all state and college musicians. During the 1992 fall semester, Ms. Rickard served as an interim Clarinet Instructor at Mercer University. Many of her former students are band directors, music therapists, music teachers and musicians.

Ms. Rickard was Director of Bands at Lost Mountain Middle School for 7 years and this is her 19th year as Director of Bands at Durham Middle School. The Durham Bands have consistently received superior ratings at GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation. The Durham 8th Grade Symphonic Band, under her direction, performed as a guest band at the 2003 University of Georgia Middle School Band Festival, 2005 Georgia Music Educators' State Convention, 2010 National Concert Band Festival and the 2016 and 2017 Music for All Southeastern Concert Festival. Ms. Rickard has received three Citations of Excellence from the National Band Association. She was the Durham Middle School 2010-2011 Teacher of the year. She has been a guest clarinet clinician/performer and conductor throughout the state of Georgia. She is on staff as clarinet instructor for the Athena Leadership Camp and the Cobb County Middle School Camp. In 2019, Michelle will join the Reinhardt University adjunct faculty, teaching woodwind methods to music education majors.

Ms. Rickard maintains membership affiliation with Georgia Music Educators Association, Music Educators National Conference, Professional Association of Georgia Educators, and the National Band Association.

Mrs. Rickard would like to dedicate this final special performance to her sons, Ben and Chris, David Paiva (middle school band director), Dr. James Saker (college band director) and former students. She looks forward to traveling, teaching/playing clarinet, riding her bike and hiking in her retirement.

Matt Segars, Associate Director of Bands



This is Matt Segars' fifth year at Durham Middle School. Durham Bands under his direction have consistently received superior ratings at LGPE and have performed at the Southeast Regional Concert Festival in 2016 and 2017. Matt received the NBA Citation of Excellence for these performances. Prior to accepting his position at Durham, he was an independent music contractor with schools in the Atlanta area from 2008-2014. He has worked as a marching band instructor for South Cobb and Brookwood High School Marching Bands. In 2009 he traveled with South Cobb to the Presidential Inauguration Parade in Washington D.C. He has worked as low brass instructor at McClure MS, Harrison HS, Simpson MS, Mabry MS, and Dickerson MS. Matt is currently on staff with the Pope High

School Marching Band. He is also currently a member of the Cobb Wind Symphony where he plays in the trombone section.

Mr. Segars currently serves in the U.S. Army National Guard where he is a member of the 116th Army National Guard Band based out of Clay National Guard Center on Dobbins Air Force Reserve Base. He is the announcer for the Concert Band, is a member of the Jazz Band, and performed with the 116th Brass Band at the Georgia Music Educators Conference. He received an Army Commendation Medal for his performance in the yearly Best Warrior Competition.

Matt is a product of the Cobb County School system as a graduate of Pope High School. He went on to major in Music Education at Georgia State University where he received his Bachelor's degree in 2011. He has studied trombone under Dr. Tom Gibson, Dr. Philip Brown, Dr. Darren Cash, and Dr. Cory Mixdorf. While at GSU he performed with the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and the Jazz I Band.

Guest Artists

It is a tradition at Durham Middle School to feature Durham band alumni in special concert appearances. The guest artists in this performance are former students of Mrs. Rickard either at Lost Mountain Middle School (1993-1997) or Durham Middle School (2000-2018).

Ivy Pirl is an active freelance accompanist in the Metro Atlanta area. She is also a staff accompanist for the William Baker Choral Foundation as well as the pianist for Acworth United Methodist Church. Ivy maintains a private piano studio and is Mom to 2 awesome kids.

Ben Rickard played trumpet in Durham Band. He is currently an audio/visual technician for LiveNation venues and performs bass guitar in the Band Soular.

Jack Walker is currently Associate Band Director at Pace Academy in Atlanta, GA where he teaches 6th-12th grade band, jazz band, and the steel drum ensemble. He performs in and around Atlanta on saxophone, clarinet, and flute and leads youth worship at Riverstone Church in Kennesaw, GA.

Chris Rickard is a 2015 graduate of the Southeast Minnesota Technical College at Red Wing with a diploma in band instrument repair. He currently is employed at Ponce de Leon Music in Cumming, GA as a woodwind repair technician. He performs concert percussion with the Cobb Wind Symphony and is a jazz/rock drum set player for several small groups.