



MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS

VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL CLINICS - WINTER 2021

www.marineband.marines.mil/About/Music-in-the-Schools

ABOUT

Registration is now open for high school music programs to sign up for a virtual clinic with a member of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band.

The deadline to register is Feb. 12, 2021.

Clinics will be offered between Feb. 16 and March 12, 2021, and can be used in both virtual and in-person classroom settings. A minimum of five students must be in attendance for a clinic (harp excluded). A complete list of offered clinics and descriptions can be found in the following pages.

Please note that the first request made by an educator will be given priority. Subsequent requests will be filled based upon availability. **Registration Link: bit.ly/virtualclinics21**

CLINICS

WOODWIND:

1. Meet a Woodwind Player
2. Fundamentals for Flute
3. Vibrato Exercises for Flutists
4. Fundamentals for Clarinet
5. Clarinet & Single Reed Adjustment
6. High & Low Auxiliary Clarinets
7. The Versatile E-flat Clarinet
8. Fundamentals for Saxophone
9. Fundamentals for Double Reeds
10. How to Tweak a Store-Bought Bassoon Reed

BRASS:

11. Meet a Brass Player
12. Fundamentals for High Brass
13. Fundamentals for Low Brass
14. Fundamentals for Trumpet
15. Efficiency & Range for Trumpet Players
16. Fundamentals for Horn
17. Fundamentals for Euphonium
18. Fundamentals for Trombone
19. Trombone Section Playing

PERCUSSION:

20. Meet a Percussionist
21. Fundamentals for Percussion
22. Four Mallet Technique 101
23. Percussive Storytelling
24. Tips & Tricks for Today's Timpanist

STRING:

25. Meet a String Player
26. Fundamentals for Upper Strings
27. Fundamentals for Strings 2.0
28. Three Easy Steps to a Wonderful String Sound
29. Engaged Practice, Inspired Musician - Practice Tools for Strings
30. Performance Prep for Strings
31. Bach Breakdown - Introducing & Reimagining a Favorite Prelude
32. Chat With a Harpist

VOICE:

33. Perform, Prepare, & Persevere

JAZZ:

34. Developing Musical Vocabulary Through Listening
35. Understanding Harmony - A Gateway to Improvisation
36. Concepts for Rhythmic & Melodic Development While Improvising
37. Beyond the Blues

OTHER:

38. Technology-Based Careers in Entertainment

PRACTICE SKILLS:

39. Practice Skills for High School Musicians
40. Advanced Practice Techniques for Aspiring Professional Musicians
41. Technical Mastery Through Creative Scale Practice
42. Becoming a Better Musician During a Pandemic
43. It's Never Too Late - Focus, Determination, Mental Mindset, & Practice Ideas from a Late Bloomer

PERFORMANCE SKILLS:

44. Audition Prep for Instrumentalists
45. Before You Play - Setting Up for Success
46. Conquering Nerves

MUSICAL LITERACY:

47. Developing the Mind's Ear - Fundamentals for Reading & Sight Reading Music
48. Learn Music Like an Engineer

LEADERSHIP & LIFE SKILLS:

49. Meet a Conductor
50. Meet the Marine Band Leadership
51. You Can Do It - Achieving Goals in Music & Life
52. Self-Compassion & Resilience - Focusing on Your Own Growth & Journey
53. Preventing Musical Burnout
54. The Dynamics of Leading Peers



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CLINIC DESCRIPTIONS

WOODWIND

- 1. Meet a Woodwind Player:** This session allows students to connect with a woodwind musician in the Marine Band. The musician will share their unique journey from beginning music student to playing in “The President’s Own,” give insight into the experience of being part of the Marine Band, and answer questions from students. Available instruments include flute and clarinet.
- 2. Fundamentals for Flute:** A member of “The President’s Own” flute section will tailor this clinic to cover topics such as tone warm-ups, scale practice, vibrato exercises, breathing tips, and practice strategies for your flutists. Please have all students bring their instruments.
- 3. Vibrato Exercises for Flutists:** Only after developing a strong and flexible tone can flutists begin to add the dimension of vibrato into their playing. This discussion will focus on defining vibrato and working through a broad sequence of exercises to help develop a rich and balanced vibrato that can be added to solo repertoire or ensemble textures.
- 4. Fundamentals for Clarinet:** This clinic aims to resolve some of the most common problems clarinetists of all levels encounter. Students will investigate areas such as tone, technique, embouchure, tongue position, and air support. Please have all students bring their instruments.
- 5. Clarinet & Single Reed Adjustment:** Learn the basics behind how a reed is made. This clinic will focus on how to curate and adjust your reeds to help keep you ready for top performance all year round.
- 6. High & Low Auxiliary Clarinets:** Topics covered in this clinic will include intonation and blending, equipment, practice techniques, the role of auxiliary clarinets in concert band, switching between soprano clarinet and low clarinets, and auxiliary literature and methods. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have about auxiliary clarinets.
- 7. The Versatile E-flat Clarinet:** Topics covered in this clinic will include intonation and blending, equipment, practice techniques, the role of the E-flat clarinet in concert band, Marine Band Sousa march performance practice, major excerpts in the concert band literature, and E-flat clarinet resources.
- 8. Fundamentals for Saxophone:** This clinic will focus on improving one’s sound through proper warm-ups. Topics include proper air, embouchure, reeds and critical listening. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have about saxophone.

- 9. Fundamentals for Double Reeds:** It can be a very daunting task to overcome the quirks of the double reeds and produce vocal-like timbres. This clinic will focus on practice techniques and mental approaches that will give students a new understanding of their instruments and help them develop a full sound, expressive articulation and confident technique. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have about oboe or bassoon.
- 10. How to Tweak a Store-Bought Bassoon Reed:** This clinic will demonstrate tools, tips, and techniques for altering and improving the most commonly available commercial bassoon reeds. With a little know-how and practice, store-bought reeds can be turned into something students will enjoy using.

BRASS

- 11. Meet a Brass Player:** This session allows students to connect with a brass musician in the Marine Band. The musician will share their unique journey from beginning music student to playing in “The President’s Own,” give insight into the experience of being part of the Marine Band, and answer questions from students. Available instruments include trumpet, horn, and euphonium.
- 12. Fundamentals for High Brass:** The trumpet and horn are the high brass family of the concert band. This clinic will focus on practice and performance techniques that will enable each student to be an effective member of their section. Please have all students bring their instruments.
- 13. Fundamentals for Low Brass:** This clinic will address the physiological aspects of tone production and the human/machine hybrid that is a low brass instrument. Valve and slide instruments are both welcome.
- 14. Fundamentals for Trumpet:** This interactive clinic will focus on trumpet fundamentals, techniques, and helpful practice tips. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have about trumpet.
- 15. Efficiency & Range for Trumpet Players:** The trumpet is a very physical instrument which is too often approached through brute strength. Much of what it really takes to play the instrument relies on leverage and efficiency. A more thorough understanding of the embouchure, breathing, equipment, and how they all relate can profoundly affect how easy the trumpet is to play.
- 16. Fundamentals for Horn:** While playing the horn doesn’t come without challenges, its beautiful and heroic sound is mesmerizing. Students will receive advice on techniques that are particular to the horn, like developing accuracy and a supported tone. Please have all students bring their instruments.

17. **Fundamentals for Euphonium:** This clinic will include a breathing workshop, tips for improving technique, and plenty of time for Q&A between the students and clinician.
18. **Fundamentals for Trombone:** This clinic focuses on the foundations of healthy and high-quality trombone playing. Several basic but crucial concepts will be discussed, including breathing, tone production, articulation, slide technique, flexibility, and practical ways to practice and progress.
19. **Trombone Section Playing:** This clinic will explore basic and advanced concepts regarding playing in a trombone section. Strategies to be shared will help create a cohesive and high-quality section sound. Concepts for discussion will include fundamentals, the roles of each member of the section, pitch, balance, agreement on musical goals (articulation, phrasing, etc.), and other topics.

PERCUSSION

20. **Meet a Percussionist:** This session allows students to connect with a percussionist in the Marine Band. The musician will share their unique journey from beginning music student to playing in “The President’s Own,” give insight into the experience of being part of the Marine Band, and answer questions from students.
21. **Fundamentals for Percussion:** This clinic focuses on the fundamentals of both pitched and non-pitched percussion. Students will learn about both skill sets, how they complement each other, and why it is important to be a well-rounded percussionist.
22. **Four Mallet Technique 101:** This clinic will provide an introduction to four mallet technique - specifically the Burton Grip - with some advanced exercises for students who already have experience with four mallet grips.
23. **Percussive Storytelling:** Watch as Gunnery Sergeant Jonathan Bisesi performs classic poems and stories through the lens of a percussionist. These live demonstrations will feature unique setups and uncommon percussion instruments that will accompany recitations of each tale.
24. **Tips & Tricks for Today’s Timpanist:** The repertoire of today is becoming increasingly demanding on the concert timpanist. From mallet selection and playing technique to tuning and maintenance, there are many decisions to be made. This clinic will provide students with the tips, techniques, and concepts necessary to be a musical and confident timpanist.

STRING

25. **Meet a String Player:** This session allows students to connect with a string player in the Marine Chamber Orchestra. The musician will share their unique journey from beginning music student to playing in “The President’s Own,” give insight into the experience of being part of the Marine Chamber Orchestra, and answer questions from students. Available instruments include violin and viola.
26. **Fundamentals for Upper Strings:** Targeted for the beginning string player, this clinic will address basic concepts in violin and viola pedagogy to include posture, bow control, scales in one position, and early vibrato. Students are encouraged to bring their instruments and any questions they have about their instrument.
27. **Fundamentals for Strings 2.0:** Geared for intermediate to advanced string players, this clinic will include an exploration of etudes, a crash course in preparing for performances or auditions, tips for sight reading, and ideas for managing time efficiently.
28. **Three Easy Steps to a Wonderful String Sound:** This clinic will present three simple concepts for sound projection, resonance, and control with the bow. Applicable to beginning and advanced players alike, these techniques will allow string students to easily isolate, define, and correct tone issues while practicing and performing.
29. **Engaged Practice, Inspired Musician - Practice Tools for Strings:** Individual practice can sometimes feel like a chore, and bad habits can feel impossible to change. This clinic will explore ways to approach practice that foster learning and growth. The discussion will focus on scales and other exercises that address common roadblocks, drawing on teachings from the Alexander Technique Method and basic mindfulness techniques.
30. **Performance Prep for Strings:** This class is for all string orchestra instruments. This clinic will cover tips for coping with nerves and creating a system to help put you in the right mindset ahead of a performance. Students will have a mock audition opportunity to try out concerto, orchestral, and/or chamber music excerpts for feedback.
31. **Bach Breakdown - Introducing & Reimagining a Favorite Prelude:** Not just for cellists, this session will help students of all string instruments gain an appreciation of Bach’s famous Prelude to the Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major. Students will learn practice tools such as breaking down and chunking, explore relevant music history, and begin thinking about interpretative choices. The session will culminate in the class collaborating on their own 2021 take of this classic to challenge Gunnery Sergeant Sarah Hart to perform.

32. **Chat With a Harpist:** Appropriate for harpists and music directors, this conversation with Master Gunnery Sergeant Karen Grimsey is a personalized opportunity to learn about the harp's role in an ensemble, what it takes to play professionally, and any challenges relevant to those attending. ***This clinic has no minimum attendance requirement.***

VOICE

33. **Prepare, Perform, & Persevere:** This interactive discussion and masterclass answers the timeless questions of “Why, What, Where, Who, and How” to approach our singing. This clinic includes exercises to facilitate basic fundamentals of vocal technique, tips on preparation and handling nerves, and practical tools to develop and strengthen a healthy mindset for auditions and performances.

JAZZ

34. **Developing Musical Vocabulary Through Listening:** Everybody knows that practice is important, but developing a healthy listening routine is just as crucial. This clinic will delve into a few essential jazz recordings from yesteryear, as well as some of the most groundbreaking recordings that are being made right now. This clinic will spark a curiosity among students to continue studying and learning from the endless supply of recorded music that is available online.
35. **Understanding Harmony - A Gateway to Improvisation:** One of the most daunting aspects of improvising is understanding harmony. This clinic lays out a simple, sequential approach to understanding the most common modes and chord types that make up the music we listen to. Students will better understand what these modes and chord types actually sound like, as opposed to what they look like on paper.
36. **Concepts for Rhythmic & Melodic Development While Improvising:** This session will address the use of techniques such as sequencing, repetition, side-slipping, and augmentation to assist in creating an improvised solo that has depth, pacing, direction, and substance.
37. **Beyond the Blues:** Many of us were first introduced to jazz improvisation with the blues scale, but where do we go from there? This clinic is designed to supplement the curriculums of educators who may not have a strong improvisation background, by introducing strategies and techniques to both teachers and students, which can then be incorporated into full band, small group, or sectional rehearsals. These techniques can help guide students to the next level of jazz improvisation by focusing on ear training and exploration.

OTHER

38. **Technology-Based Careers in Entertainment:** Production and technology in the live entertainment industry is growing, and there are endless career paths to follow. See how you can be involved, from stage crew to advanced sound design, lighting and audio to electrical engineering.

PRACTICE SKILLS

39. **Practice Skills for High School Musicians:** This clinic provides students with indispensable practice techniques for tricky technical passages, as well as guiding them through thoughtful ways to practice music-making in lyrical phrases. Students will leave the session understanding how to structure a home practice session from start to finish.
40. **Advanced Practice Techniques for Aspiring Professional Musicians:** This clinic covers effective practicing methods to prepare for high pressure situations such as auditions, performances, lessons, and masterclasses.
41. **Technical Mastery Through Creative Scale Practice:** This clinic is for any instrumentalist who wants to further refine their mastery of their instrument through scale studies. A thorough knowledge of scales, paired with the ability to execute them in every imaginable way on one's instrument, is the key to being able to play any style of music. Educators may choose from one of these three options: stepwise scales, scales in intervals, or triads.
42. **Becoming a Better Musician During a Pandemic:** Music is meant to be made in the presence of other people. The isolation, lockdowns, and virtual classes of the past year have been especially challenging for music students and performers alike. This clinic will focus on strategies for becoming a better musician during these unique conditions.
43. **It's Never Too Late: Focus, Determination, Mental Mindset, & Practice Ideas from a Late Bloomer:** Jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt suffered a tragic accident early in his promising career. Even though doctors told him he would never play guitar again, he was focused and determined to relearn his instrument. He is now regarded as one of the greatest guitarists of all time. Our thoughts and beliefs are incredibly powerful. They can be barriers that hold us back, or they can be the impetus to help us succeed. In this clinic, we will discuss how we can challenge, modify, and nurture certain thoughts and beliefs to help us fulfill our potential.

PERFORMANCE SKILLS

44. **Audition Prep for Instrumentalists:** The audition experience does not have to be stressful. Advice and strategies provided during this clinic will help prepare students for all the knowns and unknowns of an audition at any level. Students will learn ways to minimize and control nerves, build confidence, improve consistency, and grow from every audition experience.
45. **Before You Play - Setting Up for Success:** A fun and interactive clinic that revisits the importance of correct posture, breathing, instrument placement, and healthy coping mechanisms for nerves. The mastery of these fundamentals helps pave the way for better technique, musicality, and overall performance. This clinic is for all instrument types.

46. Conquering Nerves: Performing music should be full of joy and enthusiasm, but sometimes nerves can turn what should be a positive experience into a scary one. Actionable steps and techniques discussed in this clinic will help students challenge their fears and work towards a state of “flow,” so playing music is magical once again.

MUSICAL LITERACY

47. Developing the Mind’s Ear - Fundamentals for Reading & Sight Reading Music: One of the most important aspects of music education is the daily, mental training of a musician’s tonal and rhythmic recall using ear training and rhythm training exercises. This clinic explains how professional musicians use these skills in both reading and sight reading music and how students can develop their ability to mentally “hear” pitch and rhythm as they play to facilitate more effective, accurate, and musical practice and performances.

48. Learn Music Like an Engineer: Learning new music quickly and accurately is challenging. Percussionist Staff Sergeant Michael Hopkins’ training as an engineer helped him develop a system for learning the notes on the page in a significantly shorter amount of time. In this interactive clinic, students will learn melodies from a favorite Sousa March, “Fairest of the Fair,” by mastering the notes, rhythms, and technical challenges separately, then slowly integrating the three musical elements for a comprehensive, high-quality result.

LEADERSHIP & LIFE SKILLS

49. Meet a Conductor: This session allows students to connect with a director/assistant director in the Marine Band. It will highlight their unique journey from music student to presiding over “The President’s Own,” give insight into what conducting a professional music organization looks like, as well as answer questions from students.

50. Meet the Marine Band Leadership: This session allows students to connect with a member of the leadership team in the Marine Band. It will highlight their unique journey from beginning music student to joining “The President’s Own,” give insight into the experience of being a leader in the Marine Band, and answer questions from students.

51. You Can Do It - Achieving Goals in Music & Life: If this past year has taught us anything, it is that we don’t have control over every aspect of life. One thing we can choose is how we spend our time. Whether your students are interested in pursuing music professionally, love it right now, or just want to be able to do their homework AND have some free time, this interactive discussion will provide strategies for time management, setting goals, and achieving them.

52. Self-Compassion & Resilience - Focusing on Your Own Growth & Journey: As they are learning to walk, young children stumble and fall; yet, without the judgement of an inner critic, they forge forward with curiosity. We’ve all had setbacks with performances, competitions, and auditions, but the key is to work past our own inner critics and focus on growing from the experience. This clinic will explore the terms “flow” and “in the zone,” as well as discuss how “mistakes” can provide information and feedback that help us learn and grow.

53. Preventing Musical Burnout: This clinic will provide tools for preventing, managing, and recovering from the mental, emotional, and physical fatigue of playing an instrument.

54. The Dynamics of Leading Peers: This clinic focuses on managing interpersonal relationships between friends and peers as a student leader. Discussion will include how to provide guidance and leadership to those who are younger, the same age, or more senior to you. These leadership topics will include setting the example, servant leadership, and communication.