



Desert Vista Band Program - Information and Details School Closure for COVID-19 Virus

As of April 16, 2020:

Dear DV Thunder Band, Percussion & Guard family.

We hope you are doing well, and staying healthy. We also pray that your elderly family is safe and avoiding the spread of this illness. This is such a unique time for us as a world and as a community. As we type this, we probably share similar feelings with you... and it is definitely a time of more questions than answers...

WE WILL BE USING AND UPDATING THIS GOOGLE DOC AS WE PROCEED THROUGH THE SCHOOL CLOSURE. THIS WILL BE A SOURCE OF CURRENT (*as possible*) INFORMATION, AS IT PERTAINS TO THE DV BAND PROGRAM.

The source for the most current information from Tempe Union HSD can be found here:

- <https://www.tempeunion.org/Page/4239>

And, a helpful FAQ page:

- <https://www.tempeunion.org/Page/4242>

The following Band events have been CANCELED, so far:

- AMEA All-State Auditions and Festival Concert;
- ASU School of Music Band Invitational (WE);
- WGAZ Championships, WGI Championships
- Music Under the Stars Concert (WE, SB and Steel Bands);
- Highland Jazz Festival (all Jazz Bands);
- ABODA State Concert Festival (WE);
- Ahwatukee Easter Parade (2019 MB);
- Percussion Concert
- Pops Concert
- Band Banquet/ Awards Ceremony*
- Graduation Ceremony

(*The Band Awards Ceremony will still take place on Sat, May 9th - via live streaming online. More info to come!)

As always - we will be trying to keep the Google Calendar live and current. Found here: <http://thunderband.org/calendar/>

For our Classroom students -

At this time, we would like to share some 'resources' with you to keep your learning of music alive and well. (At this time, there are no required assignments for Band/Perc classes, just enrichment learning options for you!)

Mr. Thye's "Office Hours": 10am-12n*, Mon-Fri.

- jthye@tempeunion.org
- Remind app
- Google Hangouts Meet

(*But, feel free to contact Mr Thye & Mr Lopez any time via Remind!)

Music Resources & Activities during our School Closure:

❖ Music Consumption

- *I believe one of the most important acts we can do as humans, is to 'consume' high-level, quality musical art. I love every genre of music. Find the 'greats' in every genre.*
- For the sake of our curriculum:
 - Listen to a major, multi-movement **classical work**. (*I dare you to listen all the way through!*)
 - Some of Mr. Thye's favorites:
 - ◆ Dvorak: 'Symphony No. 9' (From the New World)
 - ◆ Holst: 'The Planets'
 - ◆ Beethoven: 'Symphony No. 5', and 'Symphony No. 9'
 - ◆ Bach: 'Brandenburg Concertos', and 'Unaccompanied Cello Suites'
 - ◆ Shostakovich: 'Symphony No. 5', and 'Symphony No. 7'
 - Listen to a historically significant **jazz album/artist**.
 - Some of Mr Thye's favorites:
 - ◆ Miles Davis ('Kind of Blue' is my all-time favorite!)
 - ◆ Duke Ellington
 - ◆ Ella Fitzgerald
 - ◆ Louie Armstrong
 - ◆ Charlie Parker
 - What is your favorite piece of music? What music has inspired you most in your life? What is your favorite album in at least 5 different genres? (*I love a well-rounded music listener!*)

- Berlin Philharmonic - Digital Concert series (get your voucher by March 31!)
 - *Gramophone* has frequently rated this the #1 Orchestra in the World.
 - <https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home>

❖ **Sight-Reading - new music reading**

- *As a musician, it is so important to learn how to read music on first glance. The better you get at reading music, the more fun and rewarding music is as a musician.*
 - Sight-Reading Factory (<https://www.sightreadingfactory.com/>)
 - This is a great tool! (For preparing for an audition, or just keeping your skills up during a worldwide pandemic...!) as

❖ **Daily Warm-ups / Exercises:**

- *YouTube can be a very educational resource. Try searching for videos being posted by musicians of your instrument. Some sort of connection to our music community is so valuable. Please do what you can to keep playing!*
- Brass players:
 - (For Brass players - it is so important to keep the strength of your lips/embouchure. At the very least, please work exercises on just your mouthpiece. While this is not very much fun, it is very valuable from a strength building standpoint.)
 - Harry Watters - live daily warmups (for brass players) (<https://youtu.be/oSTHFadtrLM>)
 - Douglas Yeo (brass pedagogy):
 - <https://youtu.be/Gq5-AIEe3xA>
 - <https://youtu.be/KdFPYojkF8>
 - <https://youtu.be/m0yAVe2Sz5M>
 - <https://youtu.be/dAz0UDsNWzo>
 - <https://youtu.be/DT5Y2E73SPI>
 - <https://youtu.be/M8rJBH9yn3E>
 - <https://youtu.be/PgTL17d74UY>
 - <https://youtu.be/6AYD9G5vZ0E>
 - <https://youtu.be/IX2HUosq7k>
 - https://youtu.be/5_nkF8odAYs
 - <https://youtu.be/3ARr0SyfyDc>
 - Trumpets:
 - <https://youtu.be/BmNUI5dWTcY>
 - Emery Harrison (Phx Symphony) - Daily Warmups (9-10am) on Zoom (Login code: 4806951579)
- Woodwind players:
 - 53 video playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLReW5Mv77OKCZ86QFi7RyRD0rbnYpx9LT>
- Percussionists:

- Vic Firth - Education Library (all percussion styles):
<https://vicfirth.zildjian.com/education.html>
- <https://youtu.be/Rlvy6eUr7D8>

❖ **Playing your instrument!**

- **Brian Balmages** (composer, FJH publishing) has teamed up with SmartMusic to create a Virtual Conductor Platform! Now you can choose from a collection of pieces for band at all grade levels, and play under the baton of the composer himself! For this feature, no account is required! Follow the link below to get started!
 - LINK: www.smartmusic.com/brian-balmages
 - Note: the virtual conductor feature is not currently available within SmartMusic's subscription platform. Users must access it using the link below. Works with Chrome on a desktop computer. Other browsers and devices are not supported at this time.
- Smart Music (Source for band music, exercises, solos, etc)
 - <https://www.smartmusic.com/>
 - They are offering free subscriptions through June.
 - There are many pieces of music in their library, but I want to encourage you to find a Solo written for your instrument that you can practice (and listen to) using their software.
- IMSLP (Largest Online Library of Public Domain Sheet Music)
 - https://imslp.org/wiki/IMSLP:View_Genres/Featured_Instruments
 - You can search for public-domain music written for your instrument.

2020 Thunder Marching Band

- ❖ The New Member Help Sessions, and Auditions, for the 2020 Thunder Marching Band are TO BE DETERMINED at this time.
 - More information to come!
 - *Just remember... it will be okay. WE WILL BE OKAY.*
- ❖ All Members:
 - Keep your 'chops' up, one way or the other.
 - Physical strength - let's use this time to get stronger and increase our endurance (not the opposite please!) When we look back on this time... will we 'blame' it, or can we use it as a chance to get stronger (in more ways than one).
- ❖ Drum Major applicants:
 - Open to all current Freshmen - Juniors!
 - Audition process - via Zoom (Thurs, April 23)

- Help Sessions with Sarah Richardson (Tuesdays: April 7, 14, 21 - 3:30pm) via Zoom
- Contact Mr. Thye if interested!! - jthye@tempeunion.org
- <http://thunderband.org/marching-band/band-council/>
 - (In MB Members Area, password protected)
- ❖ Band Council Applicants:
 - This year, I will be asking every applicant to complete the “Leadership University” developed by Scott Lang Leadership.
 - FOUND HERE:
http://www.leaderoftheband.org/?inf_contact_key=136bd0c41425a0383dfbd43d9c171132680f8914173f9191b1c0223e68310bb1
 - Note: You will need to “Purchase” the Course (for \$0).
 - Courses 1 & 2 only
 - Council application:
<http://thunderband.org/thunderband/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-Band-Council-Application.pdf>

Musically yours,

- Mr Thye & Mr. Lopez