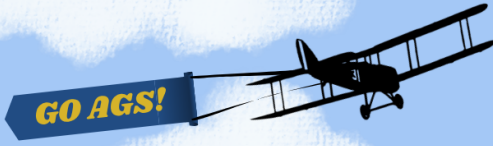
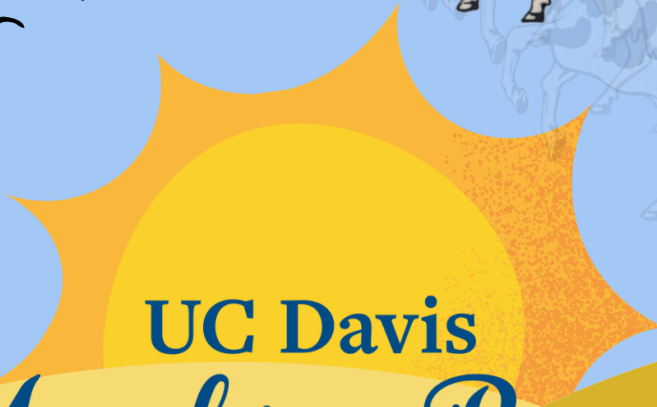


MMXIX



2026-2027

The Joy of Marching



UC Davis
Marching Band

The Joy of Marching

**UC Davis Marching Band Member
Handbook**

2026 - 2027

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Welcome!

Far and wide, many have tried, but none have done it better!

Welcome and thank you for joining the University of California, Davis Marching Band for the 2026 - 2027 season! We are so glad that you have decided to join our organization. ***The Joy of Marching**** serves as our official handbook, providing information on many facets of the Aggie Band including policies, traditions, schedules, and resources. Please take the time necessary to familiarize yourself with this handbook. Once again, welcome to the Aggie Family! March high, yo loud, and *brace yourselves* for an awesome year! Go Ags!

About

The **University of California, Davis Marching Band** is the official marching band on the UC Davis campus. Known as the "*Pride of the Regents of the University of California*" and the "*Spirit of the Davis Campus*," the UC Davis Marching Band performs at a number of events throughout the year. The band currently boasts a membership of roughly 200 students and marches using the traditional high-step form. Our instrumentation includes piccolos, flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones, tenor saxophones, baritone saxophones, trumpets, mellophones, trombones, baritones, sousaphones, snare drums, tenor drums (quads), bass drums, cymbals, and glockenspiels. We also have feature twirlers in the band.

The Aggie Band is a show-style band, presenting a traditional pregame and halftime show for each home football game. We also perform at men's and women's basketball games, additional athletic events, events on campus, as well as events out in the community. Major performances include the annual UC Davis Picnic Day Parade and Battle of the Bands, as well as the San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade.

*A special "Thank You" to Justine Kadota (2025 - 2026 *HPM*) for creating and designing the 2026 -2027 ***Joy of Marching*** Covers!

A Word from the Student Manager

Hey band! I am the Student Manager of the UC Davis Marching Band, and on behalf of the whole officer team, we are SO excited to have you new and returning members join us this year. The Aggie Band has a legacy of bringing the spirit to the UC Davis Campus, and that energy starts with you as bandsmen. Our leadership team has been working hard to make our coming year exciting and engaging for everyone, and we can't wait to ring in another Marching Band season.

Here is a basic rundown of the year: Fall Quarter will primarily focus on halftime performances for our home Football games. Here, we will practice a few times during the week and then perform for our fellow Ags at the UC Davis Health Stadium. Winter Quarter will mainly consist of playing pep-style for home Basketball games and we will have the opportunity to travel to San Francisco and Las Vegas. And lastly, Spring Quarter will be centered around Picnic Day and Commencement Band. Throughout the year there will be various community events we will rally for, and those can happen any day of the week. As you can see, there are lots of opportunities to participate in the Aggie Band. So if Football isn't your thing, go to a gig! Or if you are swamped with school work, come to Monday Night Rehearsal to jam and then take the week off!

We are committed to giving all our members the most complete welcoming, flexible, and inclusive environment in the Aggie Band. We would like to thank you for your excitement, dedication, and optimism as we go through the ups and downs of college life. Thank you for deciding to join our bold and blazing band, and never forget to March High, Yo Loud, and GO AGS.

~ Kayla Fernandes 2025-2026 Student Manager

Vision Statement

We are committed to providing an inclusive environment to support UC Davis and its community through performing arts entertainment and the embodiment of Aggie Pride.

Mission Statement

The band is a volunteer organization that exists to serve, promote, and represent the UC Davis community by striving for excellence in musical performance. Our mission is to cultivate a welcoming space for student well being, growth, and development while embracing diversity and individuality.

Values

Welcoming
Integrity
Passion

Individuality
Spirit
Voluntary
Unique

Student Centric
Musicality
Responsibility

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

The University of California, Davis Marching Band (UCDMB) actively works to increasingly foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in its organization in alignment with the University of California Diversity Statement and the University of California, Davis Principles of Community. The UCDMB is committed to sharing its love of playing music with all, as it continues to be the spirit of the UC Davis campus. In order to fulfill this commitment, it must create a welcoming environment for people of any race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, language, ability/disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, and geographic region, or other aspect of personal identity.

The UCDMB on behalf of itself, previous iterations of its organization, and the greater communities to which it belongs acknowledges the injustices it has knowingly and unknowingly participated in or perpetuated and accepts responsibility to influence change within itself and the communities to which it belongs in order to better serve people of all backgrounds.

In order to achieve these goals, the UCDMB is committed to the following: (1) removing barriers to participation (e.g. physical, financial, or social) (2) actively engaging with the work/media of creators with diverse identities (3) providing resources and training for our members to foster an environment of allyship, growth, and expression. (4) paying homage to the Indigenous people and land on which the Davis campus is located.

This diversity statement was created by a committee of UC Davis Marching Band students and staff and submitted for review and feedback to the band's membership. The UCDMB is committed to reviewing and revising this statement annually to ensure its pledge continues to meet the evolving needs of its members and the greater communities to which it belongs.

Land Acknowledgement

We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today,

there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

A Brief History

Founding

In August 1929, the University of California sent J. Price Gittinger to the University Farm in Davis, CA to establish a music program. His first accomplishment was the formation of a pep band to play for campus football games. This laid the foundation for what would become the California Aggie Marching Band.

The Band remained an in-the-stands pep band until 1938 when J.R. "Doc" King, a Pomology professor, taught them how to march. The Band was known for being led by a Drum Majorette rather than a Drum Major from 1939-1943. Then World War II suspended Band activities while the U.S. Army Signal Corps took over the campus. After the war, Drs. Gittinger and King reformed the Band as school started up again. The first year back, 1946, the Band was led by Drum Majorette Evelyne Rower. In the 1950s, the Band became student run. The positions of Student Director, Drum Major, Librarian and Stunts Committee Chair were elected from the Band by its members.

1960's--Early 2000's

Consistent with the national trend at the time, UCD's student body voted in 1961 to make the Cal Aggie Marching Band an all-male band. The Band would not be coed again until 1972. The band's alter ego was formed in 1963. Known as the Mav'rik Band, this looser version of the Band played at basketball games and many other informal events.

The University's transition to division one status caused adjustments in the way the band operated that continue to this day. Between 2003/4 and 2006/7 school years, as the football team competed against increasingly tougher opponents, the band found itself traveling longer distances to maintain the tradition of attending each away game. In 2006, the Band traveled over 13,000 total miles to support the UC Davis football team alone. In 2009, the general financial strain dictated that the Band miss its first game in decades.

Present Day

In September 2019, the Band transitioned from a student-run organization to a university-directed organization. The new organization is now known as the UC Davis Marching Band. This led to a wide range of changes for the Band, including the adoption of a new mission, vision, and set of values. With this transition, there has been a renewed focus on musical excellence, student well-being, and positive community-building.

Department of Campus Recreation

The Aggie Band is currently housed in the Department of Campus Recreation within the Division of Student Affairs. Campus Recreation enhances well-being and the educational experience in the UC Davis community through personal development and involvement in our dynamic programs, services and facilities. Our Department's motto is "Come As You Are" and we strive to embody this motto within the Aggie Band. All bandmen are encouraged to participate in all of Campus Recreation's offerings.

Campus Recreation Units

- UC Davis Marching Band
- Aquatics
- Cal Aggie Camp
- Craft Center
- Equestrian Center
- Living Well
- Outdoor Adventures
- Rec Sports
- Club Sports
- Youth Programs

Campus Recreation Leadership

Executive Director of Campus Recreation - Dr. Deb Johnson (dmjohnson@ucdavis.edu)

Director of Campus Recreation - Olivia Raxter (oraxter@ucdavis.edu)*

*Olivia is Garrett's direct supervisor.

Vision

Cultivate inclusive and engaging communities to foster lifelong wellbeing.

Mission

Campus Recreation empowers learning, sustains wellbeing, and promotes a sense of belonging for UC Davis communities through collaboration and dynamic experiences.

Directors & Professional Staff



Director - Dr. Garrett Rigsby (garigsby@ucdavis.edu)

Dr. Garrett Rigsby has served as the Director of the UC Davis Marching Band since 2019. He also directs the University Campus Band in the Music Department during Winter and Spring Quarters. Garrett has been fortunate to have held an eclectic career as an educator and conductor, leading bands, orchestras, operas, choirs, and cutting-edge new music ensembles, among others. In 2019 Garrett

completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from the UMKC Conservatory in Kansas City. Prior to his time in the Midwest, Garrett held the Barbara K. Jackson fellowship in conducting on the UC Davis Campus where he received his Master's degree in 2016. He completed his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of the Pacific in 2013. Garrett is an experienced tubist, having played in numerous symphonic and athletic bands, orchestras, chamber ensembles, and solo performances. Outside of music, his favorite recreation activities include cooking, reading fantasy/sci-fi, and visiting California's wonderful zoos. Garrett currently lives across the causeway in Sacramento with his wife, Genevieve, and two sons, Rowan and Jasper.



Assistant Director - Matthew Okumoto

(mokumoto@ucdavis.edu)

Matthew Okumoto is the Assistant Director of the UC Davis Marching Band. Prior to that, he was a Sales Associate at Gottschalk Music Center in Clovis. He has also served as Director of Bands at Jefferson Charter Academy in Hanford and Director of Bands at Fresno High School. Matthew completed his B.A in Music Education from CSU, Fresno in 2009, studying horn with Tom Hiebert, Jennie Bloomster, James Winter, and David Krehbiel. He completed his

Master's degree from Fresno Pacific University in 2024, studying conducting under Dr. Erik Leung. Matthew also works with the Blue Devils "B" Drum and Bugle Corps, primarily working with the hornline.

Student Leadership

Officers

General Officer Information

Officer positions are paid, student-staff positions at the rank of STDT-3 and are held by active band members who are degree-seeking. Officers serve 15 month terms, with an “IT” period (“in training”) in Fall quarter.* Officer Applications open mid-Spring Quarter and are followed by an audition and interview process. Officers for the following academic year are announced before spring quarter instruction ends. All officers are responsible for regular “office hours” during the quarter to complete work related to their position and support band members. Office hour schedules are posted on the whiteboard in the hallway of the band suite.

*The “Big Three” positions (Student Manager, Drum Major, and Student Director) serve two-year terms as a cohort. After the spring hiring process, they serve as “assistants” for the first year before moving into the lead roles in their second year. The assistant period serves as the “IT” period.

Officer Positions

Student Manager (managerucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Serves as the general operations manager for the Band and chairs the Officer Meetings. Is responsible for managing logistical operations with the Directors. Maintains attendance records, prepares the band roster, provides administrative support as needed. Works with the Director to edit the *Joy of Marching*.

Student Director (studentdirectorucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Conducts the band during informal and many formal performances. Coordinates with the Director, Drum Major, and Stunts for rehearsals and performances. Leads the StuD Bud program. Serves on the “Red Binder” Committee. Aids in music arranging music along with the Directors and Arr-Comm..

Drum Major (drummajorucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Leads the band while in Full Dress and some select informal performances. Works with the Directors and the Student Director to plan and chart drill. Coordinates with the Director, Student Director, and Stunts for rehearsals and performances. Serves on the “Red Binder” Committee. Teaches and assesses marching technique along with the Directors. Leads and recruits the team of Marching TAs.

Instrument Manager (instrumentsucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Maintains the Band’s instrument inventory. Checks out instruments for eligible members. Ensures all band members have a working instrument.

Uniform Manager (uniformsucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Maintains the Band's uniforms. Checks out and fits uniforms to band members. Coordinates with Directors to develop uniform policies.

Librarian (librarianucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Coordinates the maintenance of the Music Library with the Directors and Student Director. Works with the Drum Major to print poop sheets. Creates music folders and issues new folders to incoming members. Checks out music and music related items. If available in winter and spring, supports University Campus Band with printing and distribution of music.

History and Publicity Manager (hpmucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Maintains a written and visual history of the Band. Takes photos and video at performances, and works with the Directors to present public video and photos. Plans band publicity including social media. Leads fundraising efforts through merchandise sales and fundraising events. Leads historian and fundraising committees.

Stunts Coordinator (stuntsucdmb@ucdavis.edu)

Organizes and directs roadies during performances. Serves as the safety officer for the Band, transports rehearsal materials, creates props as needed, and acts as a catch-all resource for the first years. Coordinates with the Director, Student Director, and Drum Major for rehearsals and performances. Serves on the "Red Binder" Committee.

2025-2026 Officers

Student Manager:

Kayla Fernandes

Student Director:

Jason Guggino

Drum Major:

Heema Pal

Uniform Manager:

Tien LeDuc

Instrument Manager:

Lily Lou

Librarian:

Joe Li

History and Publicity Manager:

Justine Kadota & Brendan Full

STUNTS Coordinator:

Meadow Grant & Ethan Negus

2026-2027 Officers

Student Manager:

Amelia O'Sullivan

Student Director:

Sarina Eaton

Drum Major:

Jacob Fashen

Uniform Manager:

Sarah Lazureanu

Instrument Manager:

Alexavier E. Carrillo

Librarian:

Anisa Bhechsonggram

History and Publicity Manager:

Kimana Harris & Madeline Kracht

STUNTS Coordinator:

Brian Hu & Xander Shih

Section Leaders

General Section Leader Information

Section Leaders (SLs) are volunteer leadership positions held by active band members and serve 12 month terms/one academic year. Each section has two section leaders. Elections take place at the end of the spring quarter via open nomination during MNR followed by an official ballot and are announced before spring quarter instruction ends.

Section Leaders are responsible for the following: Lead sectional rehearsals, inform members of upcoming events, take section sign-ups for space-limited performances, are responsible for their section's musical and overall well being. SLs may also plan social and bonding events with their sections. Like the officers, all section leaders are a good source of information about Band and school--don't be shy!

Section Leaders attend our annual Leadership Days, along with the officers, to prepare for the upcoming year. They also attend a bi-weekly section leader meetings on Monday evenings from **6:10PM - 7:00PM** before MNR. While not paid employees, SLs have membership dues and retreat meals paid for as part of their compensation.

2026-2027 Section Leaders

Flute/Piccolo:

Tiffany Turski & Weycene Yang

Clarinet:

Amber Pyron & Danny Bui

Alto Sax:

Kyle Johnson & Sarina Eaton

Tenor Sax:

Alex Ramos & Alexsa Esquivel

Baritax:

August Briggs & Jazzmine Stillson

Mellophone:

Zack Cantu & Emely Barrios

Trumpet:

Joey Beardsley & Nora Wells

Trombone:

Axel Ruiz Perez & Elise Enoch

Sousaphone:

Diego Tolliver & Walter Linares

Correa

Drums:

Garret Roth & Olivia Arnold

Officer Hiring Process

Officer Positions

Officers for the UC Davis Marching Band are part-time paid student employee positions hired by the Department of Campus Recreation. Officers are not elected by the entire band membership. However, there are opportunities for student input throughout the hiring process.

Officer positions include Student Manager, Student Director, Drum Major, Stunts Coordinator, Librarian, Instrument Manager, Uniform Manager, and History & Publicity Manager.

Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for an officer position, you must be a registered UC Davis student and an active bandsman through the entire term (Fall leadership days through the following football season a year later - about 14 months total). You must also be available to work the hours and meet all qualifications listed in the job description.

Term Limits: Officers are generally limited to serve in a single position for a period of one term*. Incumbent officers who meet the eligibility requirements listed above are welcome to apply for a different officer position following the completion of their term (i.e. a current Librarian could apply for Drum Major, etc.)

*Stunts is an exception to this policy as we often hire two Stunts coordinators (one who has a year experience and someone who is new). Stunts has an overall term limit of two terms.

*The Big Three (Student Manager, Student Director and Drum Major) also serve two terms as a cohort. The first year as assistants before moving into the lead role. This transition takes place at the end of the hiring process each spring.

In the event that there are no candidates for a position, the incumbent(s) will be offered the opportunity to continue with their position for another term without going through the rest of the hiring process. The term limit policy will not apply in this scenario.

Hiring Manager & Interview Panel

The Director is the direct supervisor for all band officers and will serve as the hiring manager during the selection process. As hiring manager, the Director will make the final decision on who is selected as officers.

The interview panel consists of five (5) nominated and elected student representatives and two (2) career staff members. The interview panel will interview final candidates and offer recommendations to the hiring manager.

Students will vote on five (5) interview panel candidates each. The five (5) candidates with the most votes will serve as the panelists for the interviews. The candidate with sixth most votes will serve as an alternate in case of scheduling conflicts.

Hiring Dates

The hiring process for new officers will take place during Spring Quarter. New officers will be announced after interviews. New officers will serve in an “In-Training” period between Leadership Days and the end of football season.* They will take over as full officers after this “In-Training” period.

*See Big Three exceptions above.

Hiring Process

Officer applications will open during week 1 of Spring Quarter and will close during week 5.

Applications will be reviewed by career staff and finalists will be announced during week 6. Audition instructions and materials will be provided at this time to Student Director and Drum Major candidates.

At the MNR of week 7, auditions for Student Director and Drum Major will also take place. Finalists will give stump speeches in front of the band. The time limit for speeches will be determined by the number of candidates. A question and answer period will be reserved for each candidate if time allows.

Nominations for the interview panel will be taken at the MNR of week 7 and the panel ballot and officer candidate feedback form will be distributed to the band. Any active bandsmen may submit feedback on any candidate.

The feedback form will close and final interviews will take place during week 8. Successful candidates will be announced to the band after interviews are completed.

Auditions & Additional Materials

Student Director candidates will rehearse a musical selection chosen from a list of options in front of the band at an MNR. Candidates are evaluated on baton technique, expressive gestures, and rehearsal skills. Auditions are usually 10-15 minutes per candidate.

Drum Major candidates will plan and lead the band through a “how to march” session at an MNR. Drum Major candidates will also present a brief baton twirling routine as part of the audition. Specific topics are chosen from a list of options. Candidates are evaluated on their knowledge and demonstration of basic marching fundamentals, teaching ability, and time management. Auditions are usually 10-15 minutes per candidate.

History & Publicity Manager candidates will submit a brief portfolio in addition to the standard officer application. The portfolio should be in one PDF document and include photos taken and social media post examples. Candidates are evaluated on their photography skills and social media savviness. The portfolio will be shared with the Band as part of the feedback form.

Section Leader Election Process

Election Dates

Each section will elect up to two section leaders in Spring Quarter. Nominations will be taken during the next MNR after Picnic Day. Voting will be open until the MNR of Week 8. New section leaders will be announced with the new Officer council after the hiring process is completed.

Eligibility and Requirements

All active bandsmen are eligible to run for a section leader position at the time of nominations. Section leaders must attend Leadership Days as well as Preseason Retreat. You must be registered as a UC Davis student for the entire term to be eligible. Section leaders will have their membership dues waived for their service to the Band.

Failure to meet the requirements outlined above will result in removal as section leader and a replacement will be found at the discretion of the Director.

Elections Process

Section leaders are elected by the entire section. These positions are not appointed or passed down by previous section leaders.

Nominations (w/self-nominations) will take place at the MNR immediately following Picnic Day in Spring Quarter.

As part of the election process, each section is permitted to vet their candidates in the manner they see fit after nominations have taken place. Suggested processes include town hall-style Q/A sessions, candidate speeches, mock sectionals, etc. The weeks between nominations and the ballot closing is an opportunity for members of the section to get a sense of the candidate’s leadership skills and

musicianship. This is also an opportunity to ask the candidates questions about their experience, interest in the position, etc.

The Directors are available to attend any events the section holds to vet their candidates as their schedules allow. Though not a voting body, the Directors are able to serve in an advisory capacity.

The entire section will vote to elect the new section leaders before the official section leader ballot closes at MNR of Week 8. The new section leaders will be announced with the new officer council and will begin their terms immediately.

Special Elections

In the case that a section leader is no longer willing and/or able to perform the duties and responsibilities of their position, a special election may be held to appoint a new section leader to fill the position at the discretion of the Director. These will operate the same as a normal section leader elections process.

Section leaders removed from their positions due to misconduct or other policy violations are not eligible for reelection. The new section leader will serve until the end of the term of the original section leader.

Committees and Leadership Opportunities

Marching Teaching Assistants

Experienced bandmen have the opportunity to work with the Drum Major to support marching instruction during rehearsals. Overseen by the Drum Major, TAs are responsible for helping teach at Retreat and continue to help throughout the football season, parades, Picnic Day season, and during the year as needed.

Roadies

Band members can sign up to “roadie” any event that they would like to be involved in but don’t necessarily want to march. Roadies are given tasks by the Directors, STUNTS, or other officers during events. Tasks are often logistical in nature and may include refilling and passing out water, setting up sound for rehearsals, and managing street traffic. Roadies help keep the band alive and well while also taking care of logistics. They’re like an extra 8 pairs of hands to help get everything done. Be sure to thank your roadies and STUNTS!

StuD Buds

StuD Buds are band members that work with the student director to help conduct the band (often at basketball games) and lead cheers. StuD buds meet with the StuD to go over conducting technique and folder tunes and have the opportunity to conduct the band once adequately prepared. Those interested in being a candidate for Student Director are strongly encouraged to join the StuD Buds.

Red Binder Committee

Show planning committee of student and professional staff. Collects suggestions from bandmen for football halftime performances and the annual Picnic Day Show. The members include the Director, Assistant Director, Student Manager, StuD, Drum Major, and STUNTS.

Arranging Committee (Arr-Comm)

Arr-Comm responsible for bringing new musical arrangements to the Aggie Band at the request of the Directors and Student Director. Any bandsman may apply to be a member of Arr-Comm, but those without experience may require additional instruction before presenting an arrangement to the Band.

Picnic Day Committees

Committees of current bandmen and staff that meet to plan and organize many facets of Picnic Day. Current committees include the Parade Committee, Battle Committee, and the Meal & Break Committee. Any active bandsman may serve on these committees.

Drum Major & Minors (DM&Ms)

Bandmen who join D M&Ms have the opportunity to learn how to be the drum major. Members will work with the current Drum Majors on the basics of twirling, drill writing, teaching the band how to march, leading parades/football games, and general leadership skills.

HPM Committee

Those who serve on the HPM Committee work with the History & Publicity managers to assist the band through taking pictures and videos during rehearsals and performances, helping with fundraising initiatives, designing merchandise, and more! This is a great opportunity for folks who may be interested in serving as an HPM.

Additional Musical Development Opportunities

Private Lessons

If you are learning a new instrument or want support in reaching your musical goals, you may meet with the Director or Assistant Director for free private lessons. Lessons typically take place on campus in the band suite, and are offered in conducting, woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Scheduling lessons depends on availability of career staff and the band member, and are typically once a week for about thirty minutes. Lessons are available to those with either personal or university-owned instruments.

Elective Courses

In addition to private lessons, there are a number of elective courses that can be taught by the Directors depending on interest and availability. These electives are non-credit courses and are not graded. Course options can include music theory, arranging for marching band, and drill writing. Please contact the Directors for more information.

University Campus Band

The University Campus Bands are large symphonic bands directed by Dr. Garrett Rigsby and Matthew Okumoto. Guest staff and student conductors may also lead portions of rehearsals and performances. Pete Nowlen is the instructor of record. Campus Band is offered only in Winter and Spring quarters, and is open to all students and community members without an audition. Independent study credit is sometimes available. **Rehearsals take place on Friday afternoons in Room 105 of the Music Building. Campus Band Gold rehearses 4:00pm - 5:30pm and Campus Band Blue rehearses 5:30pm - 7:00pm.** Performances take place each quarter in Jackson Hall of the Mondavi Center for the performing arts. Repertoire includes standard and contemporary works written for wind bands. The Aggie Band has a limited number of concert instruments, including oboes, bassoons, bass clarinets, French horns, euphoniums, and tubas, available to bandsmen for use in Campus Band.

Music Department Ensembles

Other musical ensembles on campus are housed in the Department of Music. These include the University Concert Band, University Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Ensembles, Chamber Music, Choruses, and many others. These ensembles often require an audition and can be taken for course credit. Please see <https://arts.ucdavis.edu/music> for more information.

Preseason Retreat

Each year in early to mid-September, the band convenes for a week of fun and rehearsals to prepare for the upcoming season at Preseason Retreat (basically our version of “band camp”). When you attend Retreat held on campus at UC Davis, you'll learn or improve our high-step marching technique, start learning the music and drill for the pregame and halftime shows, participate in leadership and team-building activities, and meet the friends you'll keep for the rest of your life—all before orientation! All bandsmen are *highly encouraged* to attend Retreat.

Typical Retreat Activities & Events

- Music Rehearsals
- Drill Rehearsals
- Sectional Rehearsals
- Section Bondings
- Marching Basics
- Marching Stations
- Officer Stations
- Band Meals
- Downtown “Welcome Back” Parade!
- IT Olympics
- Mandatory trainings, including Band Basics, CARE, HDAPP, and OSSJA

On-Campus Housing

On-Campus housing is available for Retreat for an additional fee (typically \$300-400). This housing fee covers double occupancy lodging, linens, and three meals per day (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) in the dining commons. Check-in will take place the first morning of retreat and check-out will be the morning after Retreat ends. More detailed information will be shared over the summer. If you have questions or concerns about securing housing for Retreat, please email marchingband@ucdavis.edu.

Interim Housing

Interim housing between Preseason Retreat and early move-in for Orientation may be available. Requirements include having both stayed in retreat housing and living in dorms during the following academic year. Please email garigsby@ucdavis.edu if you need more information about these options.

Make-Up Training Post-Retreat

Bandsmen who don't attend Retreat or Stales who join after are required to complete some make-up training before being able to perform with the band. This may include attending a “Manager Meeting”, Learn to March Session, CARE, HDAAP, and Hazing Prevention Trainings.

Rehearsal Schedule

The Aggie Band rehearses at different times throughout the academic year depending on what type of performance we are preparing for. We hold our weekly indoor music rehearsal on Monday evenings from 7:10PM - 9:00PM in the University Credit Union Center, which we call MNR (Monday Night Rehearsal). Additional rehearsals are only required if you are participating in the performance we are preparing for (i.e. upcoming football game).

During football season, we rehearse on Wednesdays (6:30pm - 8:00pm) and Fridays (6:30pm - 8:30pm) at UC Davis Health Stadium to prepare for upcoming halftime shows. We also hold a mandatory final rehearsal on game days (Saturday) from 7:00am - 9:00am.

We occasionally have one or two parades during Winter quarter, which may require additional rehearsals in the weeks leading up to the performance. These rehearsals often take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings (6:10pm - 8:00pm).

Picnic Day season takes place at the start of Spring quarter in the weeks leading up to Picnic Day (UC Davis open house event). We prepare an entire show to kick-off the parade. In addition to MNR, we rehearse on Wednesday (4:10PM - 6:00PM), Friday (4:10PM - 6:00PM), and Saturdays (9:00AM - 1:00PM).

Game Day Schedule

A typical home football game follows the schedule below:

- Morning Rehearsal at UCD Health Stadium 7:00AM to 9:00AM
- 4 hours before kickoff - Call time at Band Room
- 3 hours before kickoff - Aggie Walk
- 2.5 hours before kickoff - Game meal and change into full dress
- 1 hour 15 minutes before kickoff - March to stadium
- 20 minutes before kickoff - Pregame show
- At kickoff, cheer on the Ags! Follow directions from StuD!
- 4:00 left on clock in 2nd quarter, send band down to sideline for halftime
- Halftime Show
- Finish the game. Go Ags!
- Roughly 4 hours after kickoff, game ends
- Post-game rally at the Tavernetti Victory Bell
- March band to Band Suite, sing to the cows, announcements, hang uniform, go home!

Rehearsal Procedures & Etiquette

Marching Rehearsals

Band members are required to bring the following items to rehearsal:

- Sheet Music (ups and closes written in)
- Poop Sheet (spot/dot marked or highlighted on each set)
 - Avoid viewing poop sheets on your phone unless absolutely necessary.
- Pen/Pencil
- Highlighter (optional)
- Instrument (unless specified otherwise)

Band members are expected to be **on the field in the stadium** at call time. Communicate with your SL, manager, or Directors if you are going to be late or absent. See attendance policy.

Upon arrival, check in with iClicker or via the Student Manager to record your attendance. If you are unable to check-in before stretches begin, you may check in after rehearsal or during water breaks. The manager may not be taking attendance during stretches.

The Drum Major will lead the band in a warm up lap before rehearsal. Band members are encouraged to run/walk the lap if they are able. The Drum Major will then lead the band in stretches. ALL SECTIONS and ROADIES (unless doing a task) are expected to stretch.

After stretches, the Drum Major will lead a review of basic marching techniques depending on need of the band and the time frame of rehearsal. From there, we'll begin drill rehearsal, or do a short music warm-up and then drill depending on where we are at in the rehearsal cycle.

After a run, the band will be instructed to "Check, Adjust, and Standby"

"Check" - Without moving your feet, check your marching form/dot placement. Did you end up exactly on your dot? Did you undershoot or overshoot? Are you on the wrong side of the field? Don't move, but take note. The Drum Major, StuD, Director, and Assistant Director will give overall feedback regarding marching form/dot placement. Talking is not allowed.

"Adjust" - The Drum Major, StuD, Director, and Assistant Director will give overall feedback regarding marching form/dot placement. At this point, you may move to your correct dot. Dress to the drill charts during practice unless specified by the Drum Major. Talking is not allowed unless asking a question (which is encouraged!)

“Standby” - Stay in your correct spot, but you may now talk to those around you. Marching TAs and the Drum Major will help spot check and give more individualized support. StuD, Director, and Assistant Director may give additional feedback.

Additional Expectations:

- No additional movement past adjustment is allowed until the whistle is blown or “standby” is called. If officers or career staff are talking, no talking is allowed by members.
- Be back in your spot by the end of a break/water break. Roadies, staff, and SLs will help remind you, but you are responsible for being ready.
- Count LOUDLY when you aren’t playing music.
- Direct marching-specific questions to the Drum Major or Marching TAs when/if possible, although staff/officers will do their best to help if needed.
- Anyone can yell “cut”, “stop”, etc. if there is imminent danger or an unsafe situation that needs attention.

Music Rehearsals

Band members are required to bring the following items to rehearsal:

- Sheet music (ups and closes written in no later than the rehearsal you receive it)
- Pencil/Pen
- Instrument (unless specified otherwise)

Bandsmen are expected to be **ready to rehearse in the correct spot** at call time. Communicate with your SL, manager, or Directors if you are going to be late or absent. See attendance policy.

Upon arrival, check in with iClicker or via the Student Manager to record your attendance.

The StuD or Directors will lead the band in a music warm up at the beginning of rehearsal. Following this we will tune to a concert Bb in the following order: Sousies, Baritax, Bones, Tenors, Mellors, Altos, Trumpets, Nets, Flutes/Picc. Tuning should be played at a mezzo-piano level and talking is not permitted while playing. Please also play the tuning note in an appropriate octave.

When the StuD or Directors are giving instruction when not playing, please do not talk. Please listen clearly and only play when instructed to do so. This will help ensure we are able to have a productive rehearsal.

Other Items

- Pass back hazards when marching in a block or two lines.

- Correct marching form is always important and should be executed to the best of your ability.
- Please be respectful of those leading rehearsals. If you have any questions, please raise your hand so we can see you and answer you clearly.

Communication

Announcements

The Officers and Band Staff will make announcements between halves during MNR and at the end of field rehearsal and performances. These announcements may also be included in the weekly newsletter.

The general order of announcements is officers with general business items, band members who need to make announcements (please check with Manager first), and then Garrett, StuD, and finally Drum Major. The Drum Major blows the whistle to dismiss the band. During MNR or informal gigs, the StuD gives the final announcements and dismissal.

Online Calendar

Performances, rehearsals, and other events are available on the UCDMB Google Calendar. It can also be found on the “Band Resources” page of the Aggie Band website.

[UC Davis Marching Band Official Google Calendar](#)

Newsletter

The newsletter is sent out weekly by the Student Manager on **Tuesday evenings**. This will contain important information about upcoming gigs and rehearsals, signup forms, and other important information. ALL BANDSMEN are expected to read the newsletter each week.

E-Mail

Occasionally announcements or communications will be sent via the UC Davis Marching Band email list. Please check your emails regularly and respond if needed. All bandsmen are added to the official UCDMB email list.

SLACK

The band is most active on the UCDMB Slack channel. This is how we send last-minute updates, general information, and there are some other smaller groups within the band that use this platform. All bandsmen are required to use the Slack channel for communication. Within Slack, there are channels for general use, random items, band questions, officers, leadership, SLs, Retreat, show planning, script writing, and others can be created. Please contact the Manager or Garrett if you need a link to access Slack.

Band Facilities & Operational Policies

Activities and Recreation Center

The Aggie Band is housed within the Activities and Recreation Center (ARC). The Band Suite is located at the Northeast entrance of the ARC and the closest parking lot is Visitor Lot 25. There is ample bike parking available outside the ARC.

The Band Suite includes a band lounge with instrument cubbies, conference room, drum room, career staff offices, practice room, music library, HPM room, SIM room, and the uniform room.

Students are not permitted to enter the ARC Ballroom storage area to grab chairs or other equipment. Prior approval from UC Davis Operations and Events Management is required to enter these spaces or to use equipment (chairs, etc.)

The Band Suite does not belong to the Aggie Band and we are expected to be good stewards of the limited space provided to us. Please do not modify the space, duct tape items to the walls, or otherwise cause damage to the building. Vandalism of any kind is strictly prohibited.

Each week a different section will clean the band room after MNR so that it is presentable for use throughout the week. This is decided randomly through an online name picker wheel set up by the STUNTS. A vacuum is available for use. Regardless of which section is cleaning the band room, **EVERYONE** should be mindful of the space and pick up after themselves. Often Campus Rec Department Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday mornings following MNR, so it is important that our space reflects positively on the organization.

Other ARC spaces that are sometimes used include the Multi-Activity Center (MAC) and Four-Court Gym.

Band Suite Security

It is important for safety and security that you exercise the following precautions:

- Always ensure that all band suite doors are secured and **CLOSED** if you are the *last* person leaving the space.
- Bikes, scooters, and other transportation devices are not to be stored in the band suite as per University Policy

Band Career and/or Student Staff will lock the outer doors at closing time, which is typically 9:00PM on non-game days.

Officers, and Section Leaders will have Aggie Access credentials to access the band suite during normal ARC business hours. Career Staff will have access to the facility 24/7.

Band Suite General Hours

Below are the hours that the band suite will typically be open each week. The space may be available at other times depending on scheduled events.

Monday	12:00pm - 9:30pm
Tuesday	9:00am - 9:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am - 9:00pm
Thursday	5:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday	9:00am - 9:00pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	9:00am - 9:00pm

University Credit Union Center

The University Credit Union Center is the basketball arena located next to the ARC. We sometimes use this space for MNR. This is also used for volleyball and basketball games. Like other campus spaces, use of equipment requires prior approval (i.e. don't just go behind the bleachers and grab chairs).

Field Space

The Aggie Band utilizes many different field spaces on Campus including Hutchison Field, Howard Field, Russel Field, and on occasion, A-Street Field. This space is managed and used by many different Campus Recreation units and we are expected to be mindful of our scheduled time(s) and to not cause intentional damage. All of these fields are natural grass fields, sometimes with gopher holes and other imperfections. Please use caution when rehearsals take place on these fields.

UC Davis Health Stadium

Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) grants the Aggie Band permission to use UC Davis Health Stadium to prepare for our football game performances. Sochor Field is an artificially turfed field. Like any other campus space, please be respectful and don't cause damage. The football program stores much of their equipment at the stadium, so please refrain from moving or messing around with their equipment.

Biggs Field

When UC Davis Health Stadium is unavailable, we will sometimes hold daytime rehearsal on Biggs Field. This space is managed by ICA and is directly adjacent to

the Edwards Family Athletic Center (EFAC). This is a *well maintained*, natural grass field. Please refrain from driving motor vehicles or riding bikes on the field. There is ample bike parking between the EFAC and UC Davis Health Stadium

Attendance Policy

Membership in the Aggie Band is voluntary, events you have committed to are not

Active Membership Requirements

- Members must attend at least 1 event every 30 days in order to remain an Active Member. Members who have not attended for more than 30 days will be moved to “Inactive” status
- Attendance level may be used as a factor when making cuts for events

Inactive Member Status

- Inactive members can become active again by attending another event where attendance is taken (including MNR and informal gigs)
- Inactive members may have their instrument and/or formal uniform recalled to be used for active band members
- Inactive status may also result in negative consideration at capped events (i.e. away football games, CNYP, and/or Big West)

Sign-Up Performances

- Sign-up performances include football games (pregame/halftime), parades, post-season basketball travel, Picnic Day, and any other event where you have committed via the sign-up form

Required Rehearsals

- First hour of MNR (7:00pm to 8:00pm) is required for those participating in upcoming sign-up performances
 - Finals week and University holidays are exempt from this requirement
- Sectionals outside of normal rehearsals led by Section Leaders
 - 1 hour of sectional per week in preparation for major performances
 - Bandsmen may practice on their own, but must submit proof of practicing to SL via PRACTICE FORM (send ur section member the form, have them make a copy, and once they fill it out you can clear them)
 - The personal practice form may be used a max of TWO TIMES. People are responsible for attending sectionals under the direction of SLs to ensure high-quality rehearsals

Attendance Credit

- Attendance percentage is applied to for all performances, rehearsals, and events

- If you want to know your attendance percentage, contact the Student Manager or Directors
- Events during academic holidays and finals week count as extra credit
- Anyone cut from a performance due to space will be excused from the attendance requirement. Failure to sign up will still count as “no credit”

Football Season

- Field Rehearsals are from 6:30pm to 8pm each Wednesday and 6:30pm to 8:30pm each Friday during football season. Saturday morning rehearsals before games are typically 7:00am to 9:00am. All field rehearsals are at UC Davis Health Stadium unless otherwise announced.
- You may miss up to one hour of music rehearsal and one hour of field rehearsal the week of a football game. You may miss up to two hours of field rehearsal and two hours of music rehearsal during non-football game weeks with a *valid* excuse. If you miss more than the permitted number of rehearsal hours, you may be dropped from the game as an unexcused drop.
 - **Saturday practice is not included in this exception and is ABSOLUTELY MANDATORY** for those marching the rehearsed halftime/pregame show
- A detailed rehearsal schedule and calendar invites will be emailed out prior to each rehearsal cycle
- Rehearsals begin promptly with music and/or stretching warmups. All performers are expected to participate
- Roadies must attend Saturday morning practice and any other rehearsals determined by Stunts.
- Attendance is taken via the iClicker app on your phone
 - Notify the officer or section leader taking attendance when you leave early or show up late to a field rehearsal
 - If there are technical issues with iClicker, attendance will be taken manually

Pregame Shows

- You may sign-up to march your own spot in pregame for the entire football season or share a spot with someone else
- You decide on your Pregame status at Retreat
 - If you missed the Pregame signup deadline, you will not be able to participate in the Pregame Show
 - This includes Stales who may register after the Pregame deadline has passed

- Everyone marching the Retreat halftime show learns the basics of Pregame during retreat
- Outside of Retreat, Pregame rehearsals are typically held only during the last 30-45 minutes of Saturday game day rehearsal
 - Additional Pregame rehearsals may be announced at the start of the season
- Commemorative Pregame patches and pins are awarded at Home Dessert following the completion of the football season

Basketball Season

- You must be present for at least half the game to receive credit
- For double-headers, attending both games will count as extra credit

Excuses

- Excuses will be submitted through the [excuses form](#)
- Excuses sent more than 14 days after the event will not be accepted
- **Legitimate** excuses include classes *where attendance is required*, work*, illness (physical or mental), family emergency, and religious observances
 - *work is only a valid excuse if you have no control over your work schedule. Bandsmen are highly encouraged to speak with their supervisor about the possibility of avoiding scheduled shifts taking place during scheduled band rehearsals

Penalties for Unexcused Drops

- These apply to all sign-up performances including pregame, halftime, parades, and other events where you have committed via the sign-up form
- If you drop a football game or do not fulfill the commitment you signed up for without a valid excuse, you will be barred from signing up for the next game until you discuss your reason for dropping with the Director *in person*.
- You will be barred from performing in the next sign-up event, until an “act of service” for the band is completed
 - “Acts of Service” can include: Roadie-ing, serving on a committee, or volunteering in other ways that support the band with approval from the Director
- If you have two unexcused drops, you will be barred from marching ***the rest of the season’s games***
 - Depending on the timing of the second unexcused drop, this penalty may include sign-up events during winter and/or spring quarter (CNYP, Mountain West, Picnic Day Show, etc.)

Uniform Policy

The uniform is a symbol of the unity that defines the Aggie Band. A clean, correctly assembled uniform represents the attention to detail that the Band expects of its members. Each individual is responsible for general uniform care.

Full Dress

Full Dress consists of navy blue UCDB “cow” shirt, bibbers, coat, full dress hat (with emblem), white gloves, black sunglasses (black frames, and dark non-mirrored lenses), black shoes, calf-length black socks, and white spats. Plumes may or may not be used depending on the weather or travel conditions. Flutes, clarinets, and baritone saxophones cut the fingertips and drums do not wear gloves at all. Sousaphones never wear plumes. No jewelry, watches, makeup, or nail polish is allowed in full dress without consulting the Uniform Manager before the performance. Any long hair must be up and held in the full dress hat. Full dress uniforms are dry cleaned twice per year.

Informal Dress

Informal dress consists of the UCDB uniform t-shirt, long blue denim jeans (or jean shorts), track jacket, tennis shoes that are at least 50%: blue, gold, yellow, white, silver, gray, or black ; sunglasses, and UCDB marching band hat. During Trads, hats stay on while an individual is playing but comes off when an individual is singing. At televised gigs, all members should wear full length jeans. Occasionally, band members may be expected to wear khaki shorts, skirts, or pants, such as for Spring Commencement or memorial events.

General

- Prescription glasses are always acceptable instead of sunglasses.
- If part of your uniform poorly represents the band, any staff member can request that you remove it.
- Whether or not holiday hats are allowed during the Winter holiday season is up to the staff from the dates of Dec. 1 to Jan. 1.
- If your full dress uniform needs to be fixed, inform the UM with the uniform repair request form ASAP. Do not wait until the last minute.
- Bell and slide covers are all or nothing for the entire section.
- ***Swearing in full-dress uniform is strictly prohibited.***
- Members of the History Committee wear the khakis, brown shoes, a white button up, the historian hat, and a blue/gold tie or bowtie.
- Do not store the uniform wet. Hang outside of the uniform bag or leave the uniform bag open to allow moisture to escape.
- **Do not attempt to clean your uniform yourself.**
- **Do not help yourself to uniform supplies.**

Band members in violation of the uniform policy will not be allowed to perform or may face other consequences at the discretion of the UM or career staff.

Music Folder Policy

Every band member is given a music folder containing all of the band's folder tunes at the start of the academic year. These songs are what we perform when we aren't doing halftime or Picnic Day shows. The folder is updated each year depending on the needs and desires of the organization by the Director, Assistant Director, Student Director, and Librarian.

If anything is missing from your folder, printed oddly, or damaged in some way, you can contact the librarian or fill out the [music request form](#). You are encouraged to take a few minutes to go through your folder and put the songs in alphabetical order to find out which songs you are missing. For your convenience, the form contains all the folder tunes in alphabetical order for you to check against.

Students are encouraged to write and arrange music for the UCDB and have the opportunity for it to be read at rehearsal. Depending on the arrangement, it may even be added to the folder. Please send arrangements to Garrett and the StuD for approval to be rehearsed.

Music Request Form QR Code



Instrument Policy

The UCDB has a limited number of marching and concert instruments available to be checked out to active members in good organizational standing.

To check out an instrument, meet with or contact the instrument manager or career staff. You will be asked to sign an instrument check-out contract and are required to follow our instrument policy. Members are expected to maintain the appearance and integrity of the instruments, accessories, and instrument cases. Regular oiling, greasing, and at least once per quarter cleaning is REQUIRED - supplies are available through the Instrument Manager and Career Staff.

Woodwind players who need reeds must contact the Instrument Manager to be issued a new reed. Other maintenance supplies such as cork grease, slide grease, valve oil, etc. must be requested through the instrument manager or career staff.

DO NOT ENTER THE SIM ROOM AND HELP YOURSELF TO SUPPLIES!

Band members with instrument failures should contact the Instrument Manager or career staff. The cost of repairs for damage caused by negligence or unnecessary abuse will be billed to via your student account and may result in losing instrument check-out privileges. Damage occurring during normal use as determined by the Directors and is repaired free of charge.

Concert instruments, including bass clarinets, oboes, bassoons, french horns, euphoniums, and tubas ***are only available for use by bandmen who are participating in the University Campus Band.*** These instruments may be checked out for use in the ***UCD Concert Band*** with prior approval from the IM and Career Staff. However, Campus Band members will be prioritized.

The Instrument Manager and career staff will only work on University-owned instruments. Students who need repairs on their personal instruments are advised to use Tim's Music in Carmichael or Gottschalk Music Center in Clovis.

Members with personal instruments who wish to check out a UCDB owned instrument may request a school horn, but priority is given to members who do not own a personal instrument. Students may check out no more than two instruments at a time, unless approved by career staff. Band instruments **MUST ONLY** be used for University purposes.

Members found to be in violation of the instrument policy or otherwise considered to be in poor organizational standing will lose instrument borrowing privileges until they become active or in good organizational standing. Members may receive a different horn if their instrument is checked out or otherwise unavailable at the time they become eligible again.

Code of Conduct

Band Conduct

The basic concept underlying the band's standard of conduct is that students, by participating in the UCDMB, are assuming an obligation to conduct themselves and their organization in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution. Individuals must always act in a way which does not detract from the reputation of the University during band activity. Failure of Band individuals to adhere to a responsible and reasonable stand of conduct will result in disciplinary action set forth by Career Staff, Campus Recreation, or Office of Student Conduct.

Individuals in violation of this may be removed from performances or dismissed from the band. It is not the intent or purpose to list every possible rule infringement. It is assumed that members of the UCDMB are responsible, intelligent adults, and will be treated as such. If a rule infringement occurs that is not listed below but is determined to be poor conduct by the directors, it will be treated as a violation of the code of conduct.

The Code of Conduct serves as a guideline for how individuals are expected to behave when participating in Band. Students who participate in the UCDMB represent UC Davis, the Department of Campus Recreation, and the program as a whole.

Code of Conduct

- UCDMB member actions represent UC Davis, the Department of Campus Recreation, and the UC Davis Marching Band.
- The presence, consumption, possession, or being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis/marijuana (in any form, including edibles, vapes, and THC products), tobacco/nicotine, or any illegal or unauthorized controlled substances is strictly prohibited during any band activity. "Band Activity" includes but is not limited to, games, rehearsals, performances, pre-season, travel, or any activity where participants could reasonably be associated with the band.
- Participation in the band is an opportunity and a privilege, not a right.
- Members will not haze anyone as defined in [California Penal Code § 245.6 PC](#), Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act ([S.2901](#), [HR.5646](#)), [UC Davis Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline 102.12](#), and [UC Policy Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#), and will respect the dignity of all persons.
- Band members will never deliberately jeopardize the safety and well-being of band members, staff, or others.
- Members will follow all policies and procedures described and outlined in the UCDMB "Joy of Marching" as well as University policies and procedures.

- Be alert for time-outs and other performance opportunities. Our function in the stands is to support our team. **ALL should play, and play well.** Careless playing and/or ad-libbing in the stands are unacceptable, and may result in the loss of performance privileges. Participate in cheers led by the StuD/StuD Buds to maintain a high level of support regardless of the score.
- Members that have chronic medical conditions and will need frequent medical assistance **MUST** meet with the Directors and Campus Rec Risk Managers to create a safety plan.

Band Travel Policy

Bus Travel

- On bus travel days, be at the band room by call-time, ready to load instruments and other gear before departure.
- Keep the bus clean - do not leave trash or personal belongings on the bus.
- Be considerate of the driver and passengers around you.
- Do not open/close doors or get on/off the bus until instructed to do so.

Driving Your Own Vehicle

- Let career-staff and the manager know in advance if you plan on driving yourself to or from a gig, event, or performance.
- If needed, provide information to career-staff for parking passes or security clearance.
- Plan to arrive well in advance of rehearsal or performance - parking for personal vehicles is often difficult and expensive, so it's recommended that students travel via official university transportation.
- Moving violations, cost of gas mileage, parking citations, or vehicle damage are not the responsibility of the Aggie Band or the University.
- Please fill out and return a signed copy of the Independent Travel Form. Please see Garrett for a copy.

Carpools

- Carpool sheets will be sent out via email or slack and are self-assigned.
- Carpool sheets must not be edited the day of an event.
- You must stay in your assigned car unless approved otherwise.
- Before leaving an event, notify the manager or career staff that everyone in your car is present, and that all gear is accounted for. You may be asked to hold extra gear if other cars are not able.
- All student drivers who are driving other students must register for SAMBA with one of the directors, and hold a valid CA driver's license (out of state not eligible)

Open Forums & Feedback

Student Feedback

Bandsmen are encouraged to provide feedback whenever possible. This can be through email, in-person conversations, open forums, etc. While the band is not “Student-Run”, your feedback and ideas are highly valued. We do make every effort to incorporate feedback whenever possible.

Open Forums

Open Forums are a great opportunity to have an open discussion between the staff (Directors and Officers) and the band. This can be an opportunity to address questions, concerns, provide feedback or suggestions. For the most part, there is very little that is “off the table,” but Garrett and/or Matt can clarify if something may not be appropriate for a public discussion. While bandsmen may have strong feelings about a topic or concern, we do expect that discussions will remain civil and respectful between all parties.

Open Forums will take place **every third Monday of the month**. If there is a conflict due to a performance, University Holiday, etc., the open forum will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

Show Planning Ideas

Band members are highly encouraged to provide ideas to the “Red Binder” Committee at anytime via the *#show-planning-ideas* channel in Slack. In the weeks leading up to our show planning sessions, we’ll send out a call for ideas. While we cannot guarantee that every idea will make it in a show, we do make every effort to consider and include suggestions from the band.

Script Writing Ideas

The Voice of the Aggie Band, Andy Hyun, loves it when bandsmen provide ideas for the show scripts. Bandsmen are encouraged to drop ideas in the *#script-writing-ideas* channel in Slack. Andy is quite responsive and makes a great effort to include these in the final scripts whenever possible.

Hazing Policy

The UC Davis Marching Band has a strict **no hazing** policy. We adhere to the University's hazing policy and will not tolerate actions that could potentially be considered hazing. The UC definition of hazing is as follows:

Hazing is any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, activity, or method committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons, including current, former, or prospective students, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that is committed in the course of a preinitiation, an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, an official or unofficial student organization or other student group that

- I. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury, including personal degradation or disgrace, and/or*
- II. the person knew or should have known was likely to cause serious bodily injury.*

Being a member of the Band requires no additional measures to prove oneself worthy or gain belonging. Each member proves themselves worthy every day through the already highly demanding activities of our great organization.

Understand that consent does not imply removal of guilt or circumvent hazing policy.

If you ever feel the need to ask “are you ok with what’s happening?”, that feeling implies that there is a portion of the population that would object to your actions, and you are likely breaking the law.

Reporting Procedures:

Individuals who experience or observe hazing may report it through any of the following:

1. Immediately report violence or criminal activity to the UC Davis Police Department.
2. In addition to reporting to the UC Davis Police Department, report to the following offices based on the individuals involved:
 - a. **Students or Student Organizations:**
Report to Student Conduct and Integrity using the [online incident reporting form](#). Anonymous reports may also be submitted.

- b. Employees (Staff and Faculty), Unpaid Interns, or Third Parties:
Report to the reporting individual's manager, any supervisor, or Employee and Labor Relations, using the incident reporting form on the [Abusive Conduct in the workplace website](#).
Anonymous reports may also be submitted

Failure to abide by the conditions of membership is cause for administrative action by the Officers or the Department of Campus Recreation, or discipline through the Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs. Violations of these expectations and policies can result in discipline including suspension, adjustment of membership or performance status, removal of uniform privileges, dismissal from the organization, and possible legal action that could jeopardize your student status.

More information about the campus hazing policy, reporting options, and how to prevent hazing can be found at [Stop Hazing - UC Davis](#)

Complaints Procedure

Reports involving race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, physical or mental disability, age, medical condition, ancestry, marital status, citizenship, and sexual orientation, will be handled by Career Staff including the Director of the Band, the Assistant Director of the Band or the Director of Campus Recreation.

Students can always make their own complaint reports to the Harassment and Discrimination Assistance and Prevention Program, The Office of Student Conduct, or UC Davis Police. See the Resources section of the *Joy of Marching* for contact information.

Please note that all staff, including Career Staff and Student Officers are considered **Responsible Employees**. In our role as staff, we are required by policy to report concerns that come to our attention related to sexual harassment, sexual violence, discrimination, or harassment involving students. Please know bandmen are still free to discuss these concerns with staff, but they will need to pass along any information shared to the Harassment and Discrimination Assistance and Prevention Program (HDAPP) so they can reach out to share resources and come up with possible resolution options. If you would prefer to speak to a confidential resource, who does not have the same responsibility to report, we can help you get connected with the CARE Office.

Career Staff and Officers are also mandated reporters and have a legal responsibility to report to Child Protective Services if a child has been or is at risk of being abused or neglected by their primary caregiver. While we don't encounter or work with minors too often in the Band, we do have minors on campus for High School Band Day and occasionally there are minors who join the Band prior to their 18th birthday.

The Director, Assistant Director, and Director of Campus Recreation are career staff positions, and therefore are held to university and department standards and expectations of conduct. Concerns about staff conduct can always be brought to their direct supervisor. Although this program is student-centric, and student leadership and involvement is a key component, this program is ultimately **run by career staff**. It is not outside the purview of career staff to make decisions or adjustments to policies and procedures as they deem necessary.

Glossary of Terms

Below is a comprehensive list of terms used in the band. However, there may be other terms not listed here. When in doubt, just ask for clarification! 😊

6 to 5	Marching at a stride of 6 steps to 5 yards (30" stride).
8 to 5	Marching at a stride of 8 steps to 5 yards (22.5" stride). This is our default stride!
ABAs	Aggie Band Arrangers
Aggie Baggie	Literal trash bags used to cover your instrument when it is raining.
Aggie Pack	Student support section at football and basketball games
Aggies	UC Davis Athletic Teams and students at UC Davis
ARC	Activities and Recreation Center
Arr-Comm	Arranging Committee.
Band Child	New bandsmen that is paired with an Upper for guidance
Band Parent	Upper that is paired with a new Bandsmen for mentorship
Bandsmen	Musician who plays in a band
Baritax	Baritone Saxophone & Baritone section
Battle for the Golden Horseshoe	Annual football game against Cal Poly SLO
Bicycling	How to do high stepping wrong.

Big Sky	Our FCS Football Conference
CAAA	Cal Aggie Alumni Association
Causeway Classic	Historical annual football game against Sac State
City of Trees	Sacramento's annual Mardi Gras parade
CNYP	San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade
Condense	Condense the block horizontally to fit through tight spaces
Cover Down	Front to Back Alignment
Dot	Where you are supposed to be in each set
Dress	Side to Side Alignment
Fanfare	Picnic Day Show Opener
FCS	Football Championship Subdivision, where we play in NCAA Division 1 Football
Focalize	The action to make a better circle/curve. We put our arms out to do this.
Form	The formation or shape on the field/street
FTL	Follow the leader marching maneuver
Full Dress	Formal band uniform
Full Run	A run of the whole show
Gate Turn	How we usually turn on street corners where each line swings out like a gate opening.

Gig	Any performance we are asked to play at, typically an informal performance
Hairy Hat	First Year Class Picnic Day Short Show
Hazards	Anything that causes the ground to be uneven or impedes on our ability to march safely.
Home Dessert	Annual awards banquet. Takes place the Monday between Causeway Classic and Thanksgiving
HPM	History & Publicity Manager
Hutch	Hutchison Field
ICA	UC Davis InterCollegiate Athletics
IM	Instrument Manager
IT	Officer In Training
IT Week	Annual week and football game where ITs take the lead
Long Show	The full Picnic Day Show before the parade starts
MAC	Multi-Activity Center in ARC
MIDI	Electronic rendered recording of the music we march to.
MNR	Monday Night Rehearsal
Mountain West	Mountain West Conference Basketball Tournament in Las Vegas, NV
Move	Transition between sets for a show
NCAA	Postseason Basketball

	Tournament, also known as the “Dance”
Pass it back!	If you hear something, turn your head and scream it at the back of the block.
PAV Hill	Hill between U Center and Hutch Field
Picnic Day	UC Davis Campus Open House Event
Picnic Day Season	The weeks leading up to Picnic Day
Poop Sheet	Drill Charts with Instructions
Postseason	Football Playoffs
Pregame	Traditional field show performed before kickoff. Includes Trads and SSB
Retreat	Preseason Retreat (band camp)
Roadie	A fine example of a human who assists in supporting the band during rehearsals and performances. Always thank your Roadie!
Set	A set for a field show, which is one page of drill. Also, position where horns are ready to go prior to the Rest Up!
Short Sheet	Collection of short songs that are played during time outs for basketball or football.
Short Show	Last song of the Picnic Day Show, which is performed at different stops along the parade route

Shredville	Atmosphere at home football games, where visiting teams come to get “shredded”
STIM Room	Stunts & Instrument Manager Room
SSB	<i>Star Spangled Banner, The National Anthem of the United States of America</i>
Stadium	UC Davis Health Stadium
Stale	Bandsman who joins the band post-Retreat
Street Rehearsal	Rehearsal for Picnic Day and parades on streets near the Quad
Street Turn	How we turn on street corners during Picnic Day parade utilizing pivots
StuD	Student Director
StuD Buds	StuD training program
STUNTS	Stunts Coordinator
The Aggie	<i>The California Aggie, official UCD student newspaper</i>
The Met	Metronome used during marching practice
The Toom	Toomey Field, old football field on corner of A and Russel
Top	Beginning of the show or song
Trads	Campus Traditional Songs, such as Aggie Fight, Sons of California, Big C, Roll Big CA Roll, Alma Mater, Hot Time, and Hail to Cal Fanfare.
U Center	University Credit Union Center

UM	Uniform Manager
UP!	Position of left leg on the preparatory beat before beginning to march
Upper	A bandsman who is in their 2nd year or later in band
Whistle!	When you hear this shout “Whistle” and DON’T TALK!

Band Traditions

Aggie Fight

Win or lose, the UC Davis Marching Band can be heard playing our campus fight song Aggie Fight after every home game. Fight also concludes each musical rehearsal and performance.

The Tavernetti Victory Bell

Named after Thomas Tavernetti, a co-founder of the University of California, Davis, the Victory Bell can be found outside Aggie Stadium. The Bell comes from the grade school that Tavernetti attended. After the schoolhouse was abandoned, the Bell was taken to UC Davis. The Bell followed the band from Toomey Field when Aggie Stadium opened in 2007. Thomas Tavernetti served as Assistant Dean of Agriculture from 1922 to 1934, and his Bell is rung by the Student Director once for each point scored during UC Davis home football victories.

Picnic Day

UC Davis holds an annual “open house” for all of campus where various Majors, groups and clubs show off what they have been working on all year. This is a major event for all of Davis and the entire community of Davis as well as people from outside of town come out to see all of the work students have been doing. The UC Davis Marching Band participates by leading the parade in formal wear, as well as ending the parade in our informal wear. After the parades we then run and participate in the Battle of the Bands.

Battle of the Bands

Since the 1970s, the Band has invited other university marching bands to participate in the Battle of the Bands on Picnic Day. Bands compete, crowds are entertained, and music is rocked starting at 2pm every Picnic Day at Lake Spafford. Past participants include Stanford, UC Berkeley, Humboldt State, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, Oregon State, University of San Francisco, and Sacramento State.

Pregame Show

The traditional pregame show remains relatively unchanged from year to year. Performed prior to kickoff at home football games, the show features many of our campus traditionals including *Sons of California*, *Hail to Cal Fanfare*, *Big C*, *Roll Big CA Roll*, *Aggie Fight*, and ends with our rendition of the *Star Spangled Banner*. Other traditions during Pregame include the tunnel run, Bossy Cow Cow, and the ripple bow. Formations include the Block CA, UCD, and script Aggies! The Pregame Show is charted for a set number of bandsmen. Signups are taken prior to the start of the season. Bandsmen may march all pregame shows or share a spot with a friend. All participants receive a coveted Pregame Pin and those who march every Pregame show receive an exclusive Pregame Patch.

Campus Traditional Songs

Aggie Fight

Lift up your voices, now's the time to sing
This is the day the victory bell will ring
Loyal Aggies, all for one,
Never stopping, 'til we've won.
Because the Mustang will show our team the way to fight
Charging the enemy with all his might.
Let's go. Let's win.
Today's the day the Aggies will fight! Fight! Fight!

Big "C"

We are sons of California
Fighting for the Gold and Blue
Palms of glory we will win for Alma Mater true
Sac State's men will soon be routed
By our dazzling C
We'll stomp 'em in the mud
They're green will turn to blood
In our hour of victory!

Blood, drip, drip, drip
Blood, drip, drip, drip
Blood, drip, blood, drip, BLOOD!

Hot Time

Late last night, when we were all in bed
Old Grandma Leary left her lantern in the shed
And when the cow tipped it over, she winked her eye
and said:
"It's gonna be a hot time in the old town tonight," FIRE
FIRE FIRE!

Roll Big CA Roll

Here come the Aggies,
Here comes the Band
Spreading our colors over the land
Because the Blue and Gold will carry the day
Charging the Mustang into the fray
Wipe out the Hornet, declaw the Cat
Swallow the Gator, chop down the Jack
We'll fight for Alma Mater body and soul
We're gonna roll big CA roll!

Sons of California

We're sons of California
A loyal company
All shout for California
While we strive for victory
All sing a joyful chorus
As her banners we unfold
Then hurrah! For California
And for the Blue and Gold!

Aggie Blue and Gold

We'll raise our banner high, the blue and gold will fly.
California Davis, alma mater, stand and fight for fame and honor.
Sing the mustang song, the hills will echo long.
Through golden fields and deep blue sky,
The California aggie cry!

The Salvation Army Song

We're coming, we're coming, a brave little band
On the right side of temperance
We now take a stand.
We don't chew tobacco because we do think,
That people who use it are liable to drink.

Chorus

Away, away, with rum, by gum,
With rum, by gum, with rum, by gum,
Away, away, with rum, by gum,
The song of the Salvation Army.

We never eat fruitcake because it has rum,
And one little bite turns a man into a bum.
Oh can you imagine a sorrier sight,
Then a man eating fruitcake until he gets tight?

Chorus

We never eat cookies because they have yeast,
And one little bite turns a man into a beast.
Oh can you imagine a bigger disgrace,
Then a man in the gutter with crumbs on his face?

Chorus

We never eat taters, [they're] related to hops,
With one little bite your morality drops.
Oh tarnished virginity and bloodshot eyes,
The poor girl was talked into eating French fries!

Chorus

CADENCE!

Ragtime Cowboy Joe

Oh, he always sings lazy music to his cattle
As he swings - back and forward -
In his saddle
On a horse - pretty good horse -
That is syncopated gaited
And there's such a funny meter
To the roar of his repeater
How they run, when he shoots his gun,
Because the Western folks all know
He's a high-falutin', rootin'-tootin',
Son of a gun from California
He's some cowboy, talk about your cowboy,
Ragtime Cowboy Joe!

Hail to California

Words and Music by
CLINTON R. MORSE '96

With dignity

Hail to Cal - i - for - nia, Al - ma Ma - ter dear
Hail to Cal - i - for - nia, Queen in whom we're blest

Sing the joy - ful cho - rus Sound it far and near
Spread - ing light and good - ness O - ver all the West

Rally - ing 'round her ban - ner We shall nev - er fail
Fight - ing 'neath her stand - ard We shall sure pre - vail

Cal - i - for - nia Al - ma Ma - ter Hail! Hail! Hail!
Cal - i - for - nia Al - ma Ma - ter Hail! Hail! Hail!

Resources

On-Campus

1. OSSJA: [Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs](#)
 - a. Assists students in need through Case Management
 - b. Upholds University standards of academic honesty and responsible behavior
2. CARE: [Center for Advocacy Resources and Education](#)
 - a. Confidential advocacy, support and healing services to survivors of sexual harassment and sexual violence
 - b. 24/7 Emergency response hotline: (530) 752-3299
3. HDAPP: [Harassment & Discrimination Assistance and Prevention Program](#)
 - a. Reporting and conflict resolution relating to harassment, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence and hate and bias
4. SHCS: [Student Health and Counseling Services](#)
 - a. Short term counselors and long-term psychiatry
 - i. <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/counseling-services>
 - ii. Contact an Advice Nurse: (530) 752-2349
 - iii. Health Descriptions: <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/wellness/health-topics>
 - b. Appointments: <https://hem.ucdavis.edu/> or 530-752-2349
 - c. Locations: <https://shcs.ucdavis.edu/about/locationshours>
5. Health 34: <https://fire.ucdavis.edu/health34>
 - a. a team of healthcare educators and providers who will deliver free, non-emergency support and service navigation for mental health and basic medical care to every segment of the UC Davis campus.
 - b. Available 24/7
6. Aggie Mental Health: <https://mentalhealth.ucdavis.edu/>
 - a. This website is a one-stop-shop for student mental health resources.
7. Stop Hazing: <https://stophazing.ucdavis.edu/>
 - a. Online resource to learn how to identify, report and discourage hazing and implement positive ways to bring groups together.
8. Food Insecurity:
 - a. [Aggie Compass](#): Basic Needs Center
 - i. [Fruit & Veggie Up!](#)

1. Free Produce for UC Davis Students on a first come, first serve basis
 2. Tuesdays & Wednesday 11am-12:30pm
- ii. [The Pantry](#): Meals & personal items for students
9. SDC: [Student Disability Center](#)
 - a. Resources and accommodations for individuals with physical, mental or psychological disabilities
10. WRRC: [Women's Resources and Research Center](#)
 - a. Various Resources focused on gender equity and social justice
11. SCC: [Student Community Center](#)
 - a. [AB540 and Undocumented Student Center](#)
 - b. [Cross Cultural Center](#)
 - c. [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Resource Center](#)
 - d. [McNair Scholars Program](#)
 - e. [Student Recruitment and Retention Center](#)
 - f. [Undergraduate Research Center](#)
12. [Academic Assistance and Tutoring Centers](#)
13. ICC: [Internship and Career Center](#)
14. Academic Advisors
 - a. Each major has a designated group of staff and peer advisors
 - b. Undergraduate Student Advising by College:
 - i. [College of Ag & Environmental Sciences](#)
 - ii. [College of Biological Sciences](#)
 - iii. [College of Engineering](#)
 - iv. [College of Letters & Science](#)
 - c. [RA & First Year Experience Peer Advisors](#)
15. [Educational Opportunity Program](#)
 - a. Resources for first generation, low-income students
16. [Safe Ride Services](#): (530) 754-2677
 - a. On-Campus to on-campus, and on-campus to off-campus transportation

Off-Campus

1. [Yolo County Mental Health Services](#)
 - a. (888) 965-6647
2. [Acacia Counseling and Wellness](#)
 - a. Community Therapist
3. Hotlines
 - a. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-8255

- b. Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233
 - c. Crisis Text Line: Text “RELATE” to 741741
 - d. Sutter 24 hr Crisis Line:
 - i. Call: (916) 386-3620
 - e. CARE
 - f. Alcohol and Drug Helpline: (800) 821-4357
 - g. Poison Control Centers: (800) 222-1222
4. Food Insecurity
- a. Food Banks
 - i. [Yolo Food Bank](#)
 - ii. [Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services](#)
 - b. [CalFresh](#)/EBT
 - i. Most students who qualify for financial aid qualify
 - ii. Helps students afford food.
 - iii. The pantry helps people apply occasionally

MMXIX

2026-2027

The Joy of Marching

