



Welcome to those of you who are new to the Upper Moreland Music Program, you are in for a treat! The first year can seem overwhelming at times, but can also be one of the most rewarding program your child can participate in at Upper Moreland High School! Upper Moreland has a proud tradition of excellence in Music. The Upper Moreland Music Patrons are the parents booster club that supports the Marching Band (Late Summer/Fall) then after the holiday break supports the Jazz Band, Indoor Percussion and Indoor Guard. This page is to help new parents get a better understanding for each band so they can get the most out of an amazing program.

Communication

- Email - Generally sent out weekly and contains important information for the week
- [UMMP Facebook Page](#) - Many Pictures, videos, comments and is a closed group generally for Parents/members of UMMP
- Remind - This is a service that you create an account that can text/email messages in an instant from the Teaching Staff
- [Google Calendar](#) - This has all events, helpful hint: Sync with your personal calendar to keep your life organized!

Performances

- Please consider having a few dollars for Tickets, Snacks or Concessions, events sometime can be long and it's a nice break
- Candy Grams are a fund raiser for the hosting school but gives you the chance to send your child a personal message and a little treat
- Plan on arriving approx 45 minutes early to allow time for Parking, event tickets, finding a seat ect.
- The UM scheduled performance is only an estimate and could shift a little,
- The UM Parents generally sit together, look for the Purple and Gold the kids love seeing the UM Community applauding for them.
- Please be respectful of other bands performing, we ask this of the students and we should do the same. Please applaud for UM but again be respectful of other schools.

What is Expected of Parents?

All Upper Moreland Band Parents are invited to attend monthly meetings this is a great way to meet other parents and understand what is coming up and ask questions, make suggestions and be part of the process.

Volunteer at the home show as well as Chaperone or Grunt.

Read the notifications and make sure your child is ready for all games and competitions as well as rehearsals and other activities. It has been stated by many at Upper Moreland that the Marching Unit is one of the hardest working programs at the High School and you will be amazed from the time they start marching band till the end of the season how well they mature and continue to amaze the crowds.

Marching Band - Band consists of Performances and Competitions. Performances are at football games (usually Friday Nights), Parent Preview and of course the Hatboro parade. Competitions are usually on Saturdays, some are local, some are not. Parents generally attend both the performances and competitions whenever possible. There are rehearsals prior to each performance please pay attention to the schedule for drop off and pick up times. At home football games, the band performs Before the game and the band parents sit near the band on the left hand side facing the field. At away football games, the parents will sit in the competitors stands next to the band on the right hand side facing the field and the Marching Unit perform at Half Time. At competitions, the Upper Moreland Band Parents generally wear Purple and Gold and sit together around the 50 yard line up high in the stands. Buses always take the kids, the parents either carpool for long distance competitions or drive themselves for the more local events. The competitions are what these kids are working for so they want parental support at these events and thrive on your applause!

Prior to each weekend Mr. Cowen will send an email with details on the Football Game, Itinerary for the competition and any special information. On that itinerary will be the rough performance time for Upper Moreland. The time slot we are given in advance is only an estimate, plan to arrive at least 45 minutes before our time slot to allow for parking, purchasing tickets, finding seats, etc. Depending on the competition you may be asked to pack a lunch for your child and water is a must.

The Marching Band uniform is provided however, students are asked to purchase a specific brand of shoes called "[Dinkles](#)". The uniforms are very expensive and generally are handled with care and specific care when they are dry-cleaned before being returned. Many low cost dry cleaners use chemicals that could damage the uniform. More information will be shared but please keep in mind that they should be dry-cleaned at a standard dry cleaners and not a low cost cleaners.

Competitions/ Football games have entrance fees, usually about \$10 give or take. In addition, students will often bring money to buy a snack after their performance. For champs the tickets might be sold in advance but all other ticket purchases are at the door. Even though parents are present at the competitions, band members must ride home in the bus with the band to help

unload instruments, have a post competition meeting, and hang up their uniforms. You will pick them up at Upper Moreland High School, and generally, txt or social media is the best method for knowing approximately, when they are done. Some of these nights can get late!

Jazz Band - The Jazz Band program at Upper Moreland High School has a strong tradition of musical excellence. UMHS currently maintains two jazz ensembles - **Jazz Band One** and **Jazz Band Two**. Both jazz bands are audition based ensembles that study and perform a wide range of jazz music. **Jazz Band One** has been a perennial finalist in the top division of the Cavalcade of Bands jazz circuit, and has been consistently recognized with Superior festival ratings.

Jazz Band generally starts in January, they follow the same Performance Arts Google Calendar as Marching Band, there is a , specific remind group set up each Jazz Band. They generally rehearse after school and have competitions on Friday Night. At each competition they are judged and they also have awards for best soloist or sections. The competitions on Friday night are at local high schools and parents are encouraged to attend and root for Upper Moreland. Upper Moreland High School does host a “Home Show”, this is where other high school travel to Upper Moreland and we are the host. The attire for Jazz Band is generally suits and dresses. There are no needs for Grunts as the students carry their own equipment.

Indoor Percussion is similar to the Pit and Percussion Sections of the Marching Band. The start practicing around January and have rehearsals in doors at the school with competitions on Saturdays. Currently there is no “Home Show” for Indoor percussion but they do perform as many of the local high schools. They like Jazz Band have a specific remind group and follow the same performing arts calendar. They are judged however they do have a need for Grunts as the equipment needs to be stowed in the trailer. They do have a specific uniform that is provided and changes to match the theme of the show.

Winter Guard is also known as Indoor Guard is a performance similar to the color guard in Marching Band. The season starts in January and goes until early May with Competitions on Saturday. Like all competitions, they have Candy Grams and are at local high schools. They do have a specific uniform that is provided and changes to match the theme of the show.

What is the Function of the Upper Moreland Music Patrons?

The Upper Moreland Music Patrons (UMMP) are a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to financially and morally supporting the music programs in the Upper Moreland School District. The UMMP works closely with our music directors to coordinate numerous events and fundraisers to help maintain a vibrant, diverse music program throughout the district.

The Music Patrons Association of Upper Moreland consists primarily of parents and friends of students participating in the music programs in the high school , middle school and intermediate and Primary Schools. Membership in the association is open to everyone interested in furthering the music program in Upper Moreland. In addition to encouraging and assisting the music programs within the school system, the organization oversees and assumes responsibility for raising funds for a variety of projects in the music departments. You may become a voting member by attending and of the scheduled meetings listed below. The organization supports students by helping to plan activities and by attending, volunteering and chaperoning various events. Money needs to be raised since the school district funds are not sufficient to cover the costs of our entire music program. In addition, the Music Patrons, a non-profit organization, also provide three scholarships to graduating seniors interested in pursuing their studies in music beyond the high school level. There is one available for a member of band, orchestra and chorus.

Please consider investing some time becoming a parent volunteer, every minute of your time makes a difference. You do not need to chair a committee, or be an officer. There are always openings for Chaperones, Equipment Handlers (Known as Grunts), working a snack table, helping with a fund raiser. It is a very rewarding experience, and time well spent . The Music Staff in Upper Moreland is second to none, and we in the UMMP are proud to serve them in any way possible.

For almost any band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Indoor Percussion volunteers are needed. What a great way to get behind the scenes and understand how much work your child puts into the band and in return they see their parent involved in their activity. The two positions that require volunteers are Chaperones and Grunts. There is always a need for specialized volunteers for parties for the kids, fundraisers and leadership positions such as the UMMP Executive Board. Volunteering is a great way to meet other band parents, a better understanding of what your child does and continue to grow the music program. If we did not have volunteers we would not have many of the programs our children enjoy.

Every parent should volunteer for a minimum of one competition (grunt, chaperone) and one fund raising event. The largest fundraiser that UMMP has is the Home Show in October and every parent must volunteer for a position. Normally for an 8 -10 hour event such as the home show we are only looking for 2 hours of your time.

How Do I get Involved? It's easy every parent is welcomed. First is visit our [Facebook](#) page, often there are Sign Up Genius for many bands or please [contact us](#) and ask how can I get involved as always for any question or comment please email the officers and committee at ummpinfo@gmail.com. For requirements to volunteering at UM [Click here](#).

Related Links

Link	Description
http://www.ummp.org	Home Page for Upper Moreland Music Patrons
https://www.umtsd.org/domain/141	Home Page for High School Music Program
https://www.umtsd.org/Page/1308	Google Performing Arts Calendar for all Band Programs
https://www.facebook.com/groups/ummp1/	Upper Moreland Music Patrons Closed Group Facebook Page
http://cavalcadeofbands.com/	Cavalcade of Band Web Page
https://www.umtsd.org/Page/5379	Volunteer Forms for Upper Moreland School District
I Account voucher Form	I Account voucher form
http://ummp.org/reports/ummp%20bi-laws.pdf	Upper Moreland Music Patrons Bi-Laws