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Southridge Winter Percussion Overview

Who Can Join:

Southridge Winter Percussion is open to high school and middle school band students within the Southridge boundaries. Students do not need percussion experience, but must have a desire to learn. With director approval, students not currently enrolled in a band class may also join.

Who Instructs:

Percussion Director, Mike Stevens (mike@ocindoor.org) and additional staff

What Winter Percussion is:

Winter percussion is a sport of the arts for drum line and front ensemble musicians. Imagine a marching band football field show without wind instruments or color guard and brought into a warm, dry gym for the winter. Indoor percussion ensembles include many instruments, such as snare drums, bass drums, cymbals, marimbas, bass guitars, timpani, and synthesizers. Ensembles perform 4 – 8 minute long choreographed shows. Music may be original or new arrangements of familiar pieces. Shows incorporate stunning visual design, including costumes and props, and have themes ranging from ancient myths to machinery to zombies.

Southridge competes in the NWAPA Circuit (nwapa.net) in Open Class which is the highest classification in our circuit. Competitions will be on some Saturdays from early February through early April. Southridge usually performs at 5-6 shows. The end goal is the championships in late March or early April.

What is Expected:

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. We are competing for a regional championship. When people are missing, it is very hard to achieve a high level of excellence. Please do not schedule appointments or events that conflict with our rehearsal or performance schedule.

Before a show day, students are expected to help load the truck either Friday night before the Saturday performance, or Saturday morning depending on when the show times are.

When We Rehearse:

Rehearsal days and times vary from year-to-year based on facility access, but expect at least two three-hour rehearsals each week from mid-November through late March or early April. Time changes or additional times will be listed on the calendar at www.simde.org.

What it Costs:

Fees for the Winter season will be announced in November. If you would like to know last year's fees to help you estimate your family budget, please contact us.

What We Need:

Parent volunteers are needed to move equipment, set up camp, help on and off the floor, fundraise, supervise students, and help in many other ways. Parents are also encouraged to participate in SIMDE's general fundraisers, such as restaurant nights. Student fees only cover a portion of program expenses. General fundraisers are essential to make the percussion program financially possible.

How to Learn More or Join:

If you are interested in learning more or joining, please contact us, so that we can invite you to the parent meeting and first practice in November. Send student and parent contact information (names, email addresses, student grade, student school) to secretary@simde.org.