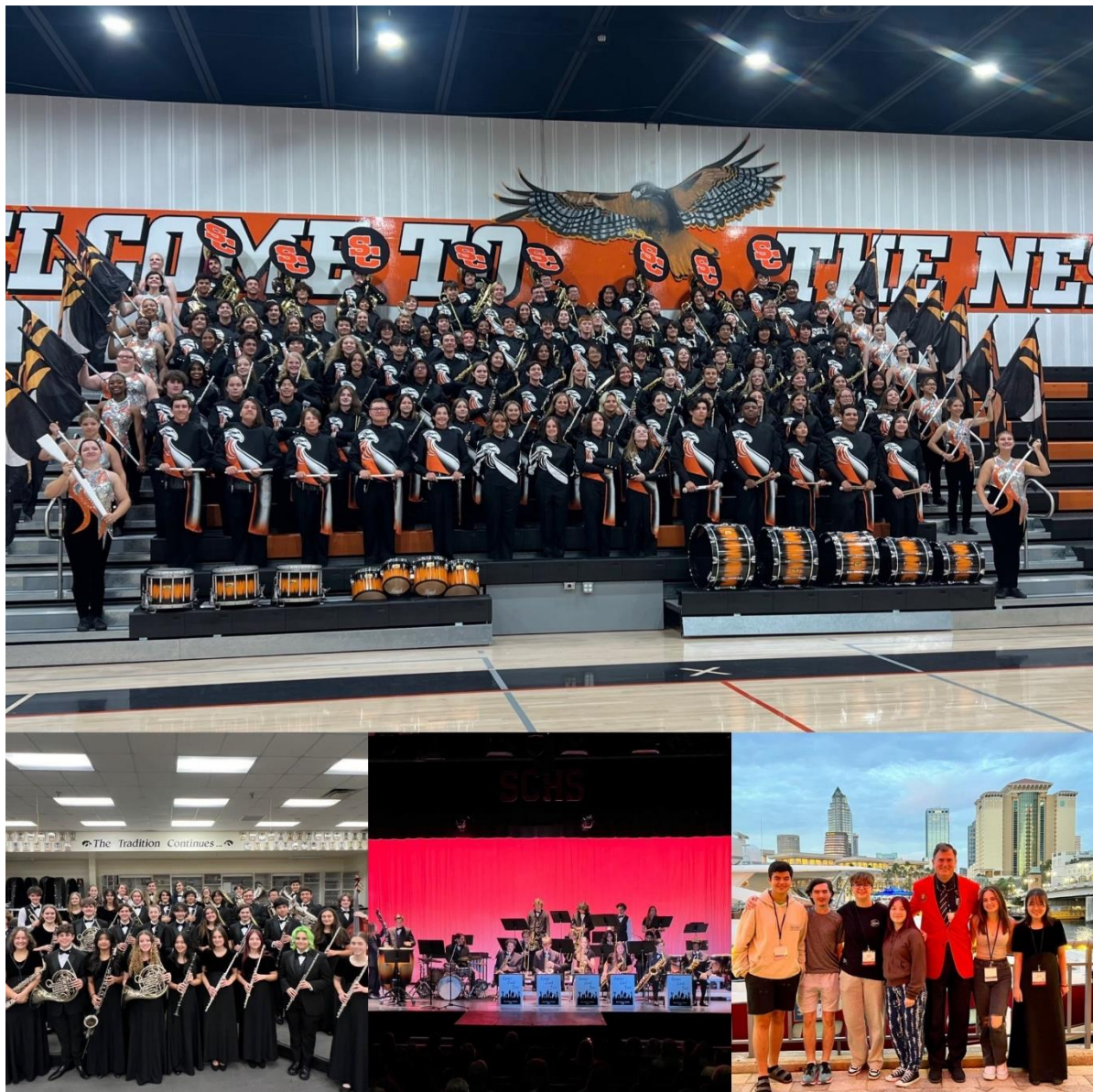


Welcome to The Nest!

We are excited for you as part of our Band & Color Guard family next year!

Please fill out this survey so that we can contact you about important band events: <https://forms.gle/mgqR8gEiAccQ2rov6>

It's a GREAT Day to be a Hawk!



Please put these dates on your calendar as they are required events for all students.

- **Thursday, May 16th 6-8pm: New Student Kick Off**
- **Monday, June 3rd 3-6pm: Marching Band Rehearsal**
- **July 22-25 & July 29-August 1st 8am-5pm: Band Camp**

All dates for the 2024-2025 school year have been added to our calendar! Check them out here: <https://www.creekband.org/events-and-calendar>

To learn more about our program, visit our website <https://www.creekband.org/about-us> & follow us on:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sprucecreekband/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9FvWlfBDVtRQ2se9LI3mXw>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/musicchs/>

Please see below for some frequently asked questions!

- ***What is Kick Off & why do we need to attend?*** Kick Off is our registration night! Although students have registered for an instrumental music class, Kick Off verifies that they plan to be in the program next year and have made at least a partial payment towards their fees. From there, we will send a finalized list to our guidance counselors of who should be in our classes next year, as well as which class(es) they should be placed in.
- ***What happens at Kick Off?*** We will start with a general parent meeting at 6pm, where each family will receive a packet of paperwork. We will go through the paperwork in the packet and some general items regarding the program (communication, attendance, grading, classes, etc). From there, students will be measured for their uniforms, meet their section leaders, receive marching band music, and finally turn in paperwork and pay fees.

- **What are the yearly fees & why does it cost so much?** Unfortunately, we do not receive any outside funding, so most of our budget comes from student fees. I have provided you all with a copy of our most recent budget & expenditures, where you can see exactly how our money is being spent each year. If you have ideas to help bring down the cost, please let us know! We are very transparent with how we spend student fees! Please see below for a fee breakdown:

2024-2025 Fee Assessment	
Returning Band	\$400.00
New Band Students	\$450.00
Color Guard \$300 for Field Season & \$450 for Winter Season	\$750.00
Percussion	\$200
Instrument Rental	\$50 per semester
IB & Pre-IB Students	\$50.00

- **Do I have to participate in fundraising?** YES! We have two major fundraisers in our program: Program Ad Sales & Luminaries. Program Ads are used to not only help students raise funds for their specific fees, but they are also used to help off-set the cost of summer & fall activities. Luminary Sales are used to help the entire organization off-set the cost of 2nd Semester items, as well as keeping the following year's fees lower. Our program has done both fundraisers for several years, and both are staples within our community!
- **My student would like to audition for a Wind Ensemble & 12 O Clock Jazz, is that possible?** YES! Our current students audition for ensemble placement in mid-May, and current 8th graders are welcome to audition during that time as well. In May, an audition appointment form will be sent out via Remind. Students will audition in-person at Spruce Creek High School for both Mr. & Mrs. Martin. The audition will consist of scales & an All-State etude. The etude will be sent out after the student has signed up for auditions. All 12 major scales should be played in the All-State pattern, memorized, in 3 minutes or less. Students are required to play each scale at least two octaves, & a 3rd octave is highly

encouraged, if possible. Students should start practicing their scales now & focus on the etude in May. Please note that this is the same audition as the current high school students!

- ***Why does my student need to attend summer band activities & band camp?*** Believe it or not, our first performance of the year is the FRIDAY before school starts, followed by a football game the first Friday of school! To be performance-ready and teach entirely new skills such as memorizing music & marching while playing at a high level, we must have summer band. Not only is attendance required but missing these events will put your student even further behind, making remediation more difficult. Band camp is not just work; we also have a lot of fun & spend at least half of the day inside! More information on band camp will be sent out over the next few weeks!
- ***Is Marching Band required?*** YES! The High Steppin' Hawks are the most visible ensemble at Spruce Creek HS & all students in the band & color guard are in the marching band. In fact, our first nine weeks' curriculum is based entirely on marching band. Please note that all after school marching practices are considered summative assessments (test grades) as we do not practice outdoors during the school day. Because of how the formations are made on the field, the absence of one student affects the overall image on the field, and all the students around them. Students **MUST** be at practice to have a successful performance each week! If your student is not that active, encourage them to start building up their endurance by walking or running. Marching band is physical, but it is also fun!
- ***Should I be involved?*** YES! Families sign up for band when a student signs up for band! There are MANY ways for parents, grandparents, older siblings, and extended family to help & all help is welcome! The more parent involvement we have, the more Mr. and Mrs. Martin can focus on your student's musical education! We will have a parent sign up table at Kick Off- please let us know how you can help the program!