

Good Afternoon,

The 2023-24 Indoor Percussion season is just around the corner, and an interest meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19th at 6:00 pm in the Yorktown High School band room. If you are interested, but cannot attend that meeting time, send an email to let the director know that you are considering participating in this season.

The meeting will last no more than 45-60 minutes and staff will cover the schedule, expectations, goals, clinics/auditions, and will answer as many questions as you can think to ask!

What is Indoor Drumline?

Indoor Drumline combines elements of music performance, marching, and theater: Students work together to perform highly advanced percussion arrangements in coordination with choreographed drill on a customized floor covering. They then compete in gymnasiums with other performing groups.

The Arlington Indoor Percussion ensemble is a 25-40 member, extra-curricular, competitive percussion ensemble. The group consists of the marching percussion section and front ensemble section of a marching band or concert setting. We compete in the Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) circuit that includes ensembles from Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina, and the Winter Guard International (WGI) circuit that includes ensembles from all over the world.

Is percussion experience necessary?

No, percussion experience is not necessary; however, instrumental music experience is. Non-percussionists are invited to be a part of the ensemble. The staff is looking for students with good attitudes, and openness to learning and trying new things.

Is marching experience necessary?

No. Marching experience is not necessary to be a part of the ensemble; however, marching experience is necessary to be considered for the marching component of the ensemble (the battery section). All those without marching experience are eligible for the front ensemble.

Who is eligible to participate?

We welcome students in grades 7-12 from all Arlington County Public Schools. However, student participation in the ensemble is dependent on enrollment in a full-credit music course at the student's home school. Exceptions are only made for those students where there is not a course option for their instrument (synthesizer/piano, bass guitar).

What is the commitment like? When are rehearsals?

The season typically begins in early to mid-November and extends through end of March / early April. Rehearsals in November and December are twice per week in the evenings for 2.5 hours and include 1 to 2 Saturdays per month (Saturday rehearsals are typically longer than the week night rehearsals and are held in the morning).

Beginning in January, there are 3 rehearsals per week, (typically Monday, Thursday, and Saturday). We will compete in 3 to 4 area competitions plus Circuit Championships. These will generally take place on Saturdays; Championships this year is scheduled on a Sunday.

Is there a cost associated with participation?

Yes. Student dues will be determined by ensemble size and budget requirements. A full breakdown of how student dues are allocated will be available upon season start. In general, student dues go toward purchasing music, custom drill, custom uniforms, equipment/instruments, and transportation/travel.

Who do I contact for more information?

Please reach out to Peter Ketcham-Colwill (peter.ketchumcolwill@apsva.us (yes, the email address is spelled wrong), Nancy Hooper (nancy.hooper@apsva.us) and Angie Estay (angela.estay@apsva.us) for additional information or with any other questions.

You can also visit the following links:

Arlington Indoor Percussion: <http://www.yorktownband.org/WP/gallery/indoor-percussion>

Yorktown High School Band: www.yorktownband.org

Winter Guard International: www.wgi.org

Atlantic Indoor Association: www.atlanticindoor.org