

Marching Band season comes to a close for I-W Band

By Duncan Sharples-Schmidt

As the academic quarter comes to an end, so does the I-W Marching Band season.

This year, the band performed at three competitions, two parades, one football game, and at I-W coronation.

This year's theme was "Top Gun." The band started with the Top Gun anthem and then moved into the song "Danger Zone." The sax ensemble started it all out, followed by Cayden Ganschow and Jordan Stockland on trumpets. Then, the entire band joined in for a big sound.

To match the music, the girls in Color Guard wore Top Gun jackets, and the boys in Color Guard wore fighter suits. The band wore their usual uniforms, but in honor of Superintendent Dave Hutchison, the drummers and Color Guard boys wore orange bandanas, and the rest of the band and the Color Guard girls wore orange ribbons.

Members of this year's Marching Band included:

Banner carriers: Kaitlyn, 11th; Bria, 6th; **Colorguard:** Jocee, 11th; Alyssa, 11th, Bellah, 10th, Duncan, 10th, Lara, 8th, and Hunter B., 7th. **Saxophones:** Molly, 9th; Joshua, 8th, Rose, 7th; Alice, 7th; **Flute:** Josalin, 8th; **Trumpets:** Cayden, 10th, Jordan, 10th; Latika, 11th; Asher, 8th, Andrew, 7th, Alyda, 7th; **Baritones:** Gavin, 9th and Eli, 7th **Trombone:** Lydian, 11th; **Percussion:** Jefferey, 10th; Rory, 10th; Elden, 9th; Iszy, 9th; Lucy, 8th, Sky, 7th; **Drum Major:** Grace Hansen, 10th; **Special Flag carrier:** Blayne, 6th.

Overall as a band, the group improved throughout the nine



weeks and got some positive feedback from judges.

At the first competition in Beresford on Sept. 27, the judges said they loved the outfits for colorguard and that the band had a lot of potential.



ABOVE: Members of the I-W Marching Band march across the Meridian Bridge in Yankton during a band competition October 12. **LEFT:** Marching in Menno on Oct. 4.

At Menno on Oct. 4, judges said they loved the sound of the band and the complicated colorguard routine.

At the final competition, held Oct. 12 in Yankton, the band and color guard marched over

the Meridian Bridge down Main Street. Fans of the band said it was their best performance yet.

For those participating in marching band, they say this year's season was a lot of fun.

Practice for All State Choir underway

By Alyssa Kirschenman

Being part of All State Choir is something I have always dreamed about as my mom and all my siblings experienced it. I have been a part of

All State since I was a freshman. I am a junior now.

On Oct. 9, several schools including I-W went to an All-State chorus prep day at USD. We rehearsed the music we will be performing Nov. 1-2. Representing I-W were myself, Lydian Mews, Duncan Sharples-Schmidt, Lara Spurrell, Jocee Llewellyn, Callie Peterson, Wyatt Hoxeng, and Jaksen Olson.

Some of the music we rehearsed included: "Sure



On This Shining Night," a stunning arrangement full of beautiful harmonies; a Scottish song, "Auld Lang Syne," using Scottish dialect; a gospel number by composer Andre Thomas called "Gloria," and a classical piece by Mozart that is in Latin, "Veni Sancte Spiritus." At the workshop, we also rehearsed two numbers that will be done with All State Orchestra.

Lydian Mews said, "The USD workshop helped me

get a better grasp of all the pieces and helped me understand how the different parts flowed together. My favorite song was Gloria because I like the gospel sound ... I can't wait to hear the whole state come together to sing it."

This event was only one of many experiences that will help us learn the music. Every Monday in October, we are practicing in Beresford with others in the region. To really solidify it, we will tour various towns on Oct. 30 to sing the music for the public. The tour starts at Dakota Valley at 8:40 a.m., Elk Point-Jefferson at 9:45 a.m., Gayville at 11 a.m., Irene-Wakonda at 1:20 p.m. and Viborg at 2:15 p.m.

I-W sponsoring Haunted House and Truck or Treat

By LaTika Blakey

The school is setting up for two exciting community Halloween events coming next Saturday, October 26. These two events are the yearly Haunted House hosted by the I-W Band and Choir and the Trunk or Treat organized by I-W's FCCLA Chapter.

Music Meets Horror: Haunted House



The Haunted House was established in 2017 by I-W Music Teacher Stacy Kirschenman and the I-W Music Department. It's an opportunity for the school's band and choir kids to learn how music is used to create eerie tension, fear, and suspense, like in horror films.

All music students must participate and are graded. Through this challenging assignment, the students gain hands-on experience by embodying the music into storytelling, which helps their understanding of the important role music plays in films.

This year, the Haunted House will have 14 sections, each designed by students to spook visitors as they are navigated by the escorts through the eerie hallways of Irene-Wakonda High School.

The event runs from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. on the 26th. Admission is \$5.

Community Safety and Fun: Truck or Treat

Also happening on the 26th at the school, the FCCLA is hosting its second year of Truck or Treat.

Truck or Treat was started last year by FCCLA chapter leader and junior Lydian Mews. It was conceived as a community service project to provide a safe place for children to trick or treat. Trunk or Treat is held in Irene-Wakonda High School's parking lot and is open for everyone.

FCCLA is collaborating with Mrs. Kirschenman's Haunted House event as a fun and interactive way to engage with the community while keeping children safe during the two events. Both events promise everyone thrills and community engagement.

Truck or Treat will run from 4 - 6 p.m. on Oct. 26.



The I-W Journal October Staff

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