

MUSIC is the KEY to ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

Mira Costa High School (MCHS) Band Students Excel...

Accepted into the most prestigious universities in the country...

Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford, MIT, UCLA, USC, UC Berkeley, Pomona, Northwestern, Duke, UVA, Michigan, NYU, Dartmouth, UCSD, Illinois, and many more!



Academic and Music Honors...

- 40% of band members' GPA is over 4.0
- 70% are on the Honor Roll (3 .5+)
- 80% are Scholar Athletes (3.3+)
- National Merit Scholars
- California and Southern California Honor Bands
- Tournament of Roses Honor Band

Award Winning MBUSD Band Programs...

- Elementary Schools Honor Band – given the highest “Superior” rating at adjudicated festivals
- Manhattan Beach Middle School (MBMS) – awarded the highest “Superior” rating for all bands
- Mira Costa High School Ensembles:
 - ♪ “One of the best, if not the best, high school bands in California.” – *California Music Education Association (CMEA) President*
 - ♪ Invited to perform for California Delegates as Guest Band for CMEA StandUp4Music presentation at the California State Capitol Building
 - ♪ Grammy Signature School Semifinalist (top 123 schools in nation – one of only two in Los Angeles County)
 - ♪ Marching Band: 2013 Southern California Championship 4A Bronze medalist
 - ♪ All MCHS bands rated at the Highest level by all adjudicators at 2013 Santa Monica Band Festival
 - ♪ Jazz Ensemble: 2013 First Place in Adv Division of Riverside Community College Jazz Festival

Students and parents love their band experiences – turn the page over to see Testimonials...

Is Music the Key to Success? Multiple studies link music to...

PROFESSIONAL Success¹: “Look carefully and you’ll find musicians at the top of almost any industry... The television broadcaster Paula Zahn (cello) and the NBC chief White House correspondent Chuck Todd (French horn) attended college on music scholarships... Both Microsoft’s Mr. Allen and the venture capitalist Roger McNamee have rock bands. Larry Page, a co-founder of Google, played saxophone in high school. Steven Spielberg is a clarinetist and son of a pianist. The former World Bank president James D. Wolfensohn has played cello at Carnegie Hall.”

ACADEMIC Success²:

- ♪ Nearly nine in ten people (88 percent) with post graduate degrees participated in music education...83 percent of those with incomes higher than \$150,000 participated in music.
- ♪ On the 2012 SAT, students who participated in music scored an average of 31 points above average in reading, 23 points above average in math, and 31 points above average in writing. (College Board SAT, 2012 College-bound Seniors)
- ♪ Students in high-quality school music programs score higher on standardized tests.
- ♪ Thomas Südhof, who won the Nobel Prize for Medicine, said he owed his success to his bassoon teacher. Being a bassoonist, he said, “was a lot harder than being a scientist.”
- ♪ High achievers say music has sharpened: collaboration, creativity, discipline and the capacity to reconcile conflicting ideas...”

LEADERSHIP Success: Band offers opportunities to demonstrate leadership with positions including: Band President, Drum Majors, Ensemble Vice Presidents, Chairs of Departments, and Section Leaders.

¹ NY Times 10/13 “Is Music the Key to Success?” J.Lipman

² National Advocacy for Music Education (advocacy.nafme.org)

TESTIMONIALS...

Top 1-3 Reasons everyone should join MCHS bands:

1. The bonds and the friendships that you make in band will last you a lifetime. I really can't understate how great all the people are in band and how much every single person means to me. Before you know it, band can really become your second family and no matter who you are, I guarantee that in band you can always find a group of great friends
2. Learning an instrument and playing in an ensemble will help you in every other facet of your life. It relieves stress, improves your academics and your analytical thinking, allows you to connect with your peers, and makes you feel like you're part of something bigger than yourself. It's an hour of your day where the rest of the world falls away and you get to connect with everyone around you to create something beautiful. It truly is a magical experience
3. Being in band helps you find who you are. When I came into high school I was a shy soft-spoken person and there's nothing wrong with that. However, people who know me now would never believe that I was that way. Being in band gave me the confidence and made me feel welcome enough to become who I really wanted to be.

Nick DiNiro – MCHS Class of 2013 – UCLA, Double major in Psychology and English

Top 3 reasons for participating in band...

1. Being associated with the band gives students an identity, and allows smart, talented, kind, and caring students a place to come together for a common goal
2. The band challenges students musically, mentally, physically, and developmentally. It teaches personal responsibility, as well as teamwork. There are many student leadership opportunities, including peer mentoring and small & large ensemble directing.
3. Completing a high school music program is absolutely essential for continued music performance opportunities in college, including music performance, composition, production, etc.

Kenny Harrison – MCHS Class of 1999 -- USC
Band Director Hermosa Valley School and Co-Owner/Musical Director of the Young Musicians Performance Academy

Three examples about how band has changed my life, profession, and success:

1. Band helped with my success in high school because it helped me become more committed. Band (especially marching band) is very demanding. It requires a lot of hours of practice and rehearsal time. But if you take the time to commit to everything, and try your hardest, there is a guaranteed reward. This pertains to anything in life, including band or academics. Never give up!

2. Music has changed the way I think and go about my everyday life. Don't underestimate anything. Take everything in to the fullest extent. Whether a piece of music has a really difficult and fast excerpt, or whether it has a slow and melodic excerpt; everything is important. Make sure you nail all the rests, make sure your attack is on time...don't leave anything out. Don't underestimate anything.
3. Lastly, and maybe most importantly, band has influenced my decisions in life even after high school. Now I am in college studying music as a percussion performance major. I want to play music for the rest of my life and high school band has definitely influenced that.

Casey Choi -- MCHS Class of 2013 -- University of Massachusetts Amherst, Percussion Performance Major

I have two sons in college who participated in the MCHS Bands for four years each. It is a top notch music program with a dedicated, highly talented staff. The kids in the program are smart, motivated, high-achieving kids, and the parent network is strong and supportive. Best of all - the bands sound simply amazing!

One of my favorite benefits of band is the built-in coed social group that starts having fun the day the freshman step onto campus until the day the kids graduate (and beyond). Band kids stick together and they know how to have fun - from car wash fundraisers to waffle-making parties to water fights to pizza parties after the football games. The band kids bond during their four years of time spent together and form friendships that will last a lifetime. The minute my sons come home from college, they are meeting up with their band alumni friends from Costa just like old times.

Lastly, the band program helped pave the road to acceptances at top colleges and universities. Not only are college admission counselors impressed with a kid who is fully immersed in the challenging Mira Costa band program, but the kids have many opportunities within the program to obtain leadership positions and participate in many related activities that further enhance their college resume.

Tracey Thomasson, parent of Riley Thomasson – MCHS Class of 2011 – Princeton, Electrical Eng & Computer Science and Zachary Thomasson – MCHS Class of 2013 -- Whitman College, double major in Geology and Studio Art

Nowhere else will you find a better program that fosters discipline. Not just your run-of-the-mill, "drop and give me twenty" kind of discipline, but that which comes from within. Band is all about assessing your own performance, even that performance which goes beyond the music: your attitude and your outlook on life. By the time your child graduates, they not only will be able to assess, but they'll be able to self-improve and love doing it. Mr. Carlson and the band program will teach your child how to be responsible and excellent all at once. The best part? They'll have a blast doing it too.

Kris Phillips – MCHS Class of 2013 – UC Riverside, double major in Economics and Computer Science