



VIRTUAL CLINICS

MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS - WINTER 2025

“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band will offer virtual clinics for high school music programs Feb. 10-28, 2025. Music educators can sign up beginning noon (ET), Jan. 13, 2025, for a Marine musician to meet with their class. Clinic availability is limited. One request per educator, please.

Sign up: www.marineband.marines.mil/Educational/Music-in-the-Schools/

CLINIC TOPICS

1. Practice Techniques for High School Musicians
2. Performance Preparation
3. Mindset Matters
4. Technical Mastery Through Creative Scales Practice
5. Improving Tone
6. Crafting an Interpretation: Unlocking Your Musical Toolbox
7. Practicing with Recordings
8. Jazz Band: Methods and Techniques for Improvisation

CLINIC DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Practice Techniques for High School Musicians:** We’ve all heard that practice makes perfect, but what makes perfect practice? This clinic will give your students inspiration and practical tips to take their playing to the next level.
2. **Performance Preparation:** The performance experience does not have to be stressful. Advice and strategies provided during this class will help prepare students for all the knowns and unknowns of a performance or audition at any level. Students will learn ways to minimize and control nerves, build confidence, improve consistency, and grow from every performance experience.
3. **Mindset Matters:** In this clinic, we will explore the mental tools to help navigate the triumphs and obstacles that are a part of everyone’s musical and life journey. It will also cover some practical, actionable steps that can help us consistently access these tools and propel us to maximize the impact we have on ourselves and those around us.
4. **Technical Mastery Through Creative Scales Practice:** Do your students find practicing scales boring or stale? A thorough knowledge of scales, paired with the ability to execute them in every imaginable way on one’s instrument, is the key to being able to play any style of music. This clinic offers fresh new ways to approach scale practice for any high school instrumental ensemble.
5. **Improving Tone:** Help your wind and brass students understand, identify, and produce a good tone! Saxophonist Staff Sgt. Connor Mikula will guide students to become active listeners and begin describing tone qualities, then provide them tools to improve their own tone through active and engaged warm ups.
6. **Crafting an Interpretation: Unlocking Your Musical Toolbox:** One of the most crucial but often most overlooked developmental challenges for young performers is learning to be expressive through their instrument rather than blindly reading the ink on the page. In this class, Staff Sgt. Stephen Rudman will discuss methods for not only discovering an interpretation of a piece, but also choosing and implementing the most effective musical tools to express that interpretation through any instrument.
7. **Practicing with Recordings:** Bassoonist Staff Sgt. Stephen Rudman will discuss engaging new ways to incorporate recordings into a player’s practice routine. These techniques will help students train their ears, feel more confident with their parts, and have more fun in their practice.
8. **Jazz Band: Methods and Techniques for Improvisation:** This clinic will break down the methods and techniques used by masters of the jazz language so students can better understand how to develop their jazz improvisational language, as well as how to practice to take their improvisation to the next level.