



VIRTUAL CLINICS

MUSIC IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS - WINTER 2024

“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band will offer virtual clinics for high school music programs Feb. 1-29, 2024. Music educators can sign up beginning noon (ET), Jan. 11, 2024, 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. Mindset Matters
3. Improving Tone
4. Before You Play - Setting Up for Success
5. Technical Mastery Through Creative Scales Practice
6. Every Minute Counts - Sound Strategies for Efficient and Effective Practice
7. Performance Preparation
8. Fundamentals for Clarinet
9. Making and Adjusting Single Reeds
10. Improving on Trombone - Fundamentals, Concepts & Techniques
11. Ask Me Anything
12. 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. **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.
3. **Improving Tone:** Help your wind and brass students understand, identify, and produce a good tone! Saxophonist SSgt 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.

4. **Before You Play - Setting Up for Success:** A fun and interactive clinic that revisits the importance of correct posture, breathing, instrument placement, and healthy coping mechanisms for nerves. The mastery of these fundamentals helps pave the way for better technique, musicality, and overall performance. This clinic is for all instrument types.
5. **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.
6. **Every Minute Counts - Sound Strategies for Efficient and Effective Practice:** There is perhaps nothing more frustrating than feeling unproductive after hours of practice, especially when time is already scarce due to hectic and demanding schedules. In this class, we will address common challenges and discuss a wide range of unique and proven methods to develop smart and lasting habits, to structure and optimize your precious time, and to learn new music faster and more meaningfully. Open to all instruments.
7. **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.
8. **Fundamentals for Clarinet:** This clinic aims to resolve some of the most common problems clarinetists of all levels encounter. Students will investigate areas such as tone, technique, embouchure, tongue position, and air support. Please have all students bring their instruments.

9. **Making and Adjusting Single Reeds:** Learn the basics behind how a reed is made. This clinic will focus on how to curate and adjust reeds to help keep students ready for top performance all year round.

10. **Improving on Trombone: Fundamentals, Concepts, and Techniques:** This clinic is designed to help high school trombonists of any level improve on their instrument. From fundamental concepts to practice techniques to learning musical styles and repertoire, this clinic focuses on the foundations of healthy and high-quality trombone playing.

11. **Ask Me Anything:** Students are invited to join GySgt Will Samson in a discussion about their music-related concerns. GySgt Samson will perform on the tuba and host a conversation on topics such as effective practice, careers in music, and performance anxiety.

12. **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.