



Marysville Community Band: What You Need to Know

Thank you for dedicating your time and talent to MCB and our community!

MCB is a nonprofit organized exclusively for musical, educational, and charitable purposes. Our mission is to *build community one note at a time* through active and positive encouragement to improve technique, intonation, and other musical skills... while having fun!

Who We Are

Marysville Community Band members come from all over Marysville and its surrounding neighborhoods. We are students, young adults, established professionals, and retired people. Some of us have played our instruments for only a few years; some have played for several decades. We are volunteers who come together for the sheer joy of making music.

As a community band, all of our activities (rehearsals, performances, meetings, etc) are safe spaces. **Marysville Community Band is a welcoming group that does not discriminate and does not permit discrimination or harassment** on the basis of race, ethnicity, national identity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or any other such factor. This document outlines practices that help us to create and defend that safe space together.

Musicians interested in checking us out can learn more at www.marysvillecommunityband.org.

Our director, John Opina, leads the band by choosing our music and guiding us through rehearsals to learn to play together, always striving for improvement while maintaining a fun atmosphere. Our assistant director is Isaac Draculan. Learn more about John & Issac at www.marysvillecommunityband.org/directors.

The Board of Directors manages the operations of the band, including concert planning, fundraising, and outreach. Directors are elected on an as-needed basis. Board meetings are open to all band members of the band; please drop in if you are interested in sharing ideas or just want to listen in. The Board meets virtually at 7 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month; email the Board ahead of time to get the virtual login information.

Contact the Board at marysvillecommunityband@gmail.com or by approaching any Board member during rehearsal. The Board wants to hear your input and ideas!

- **President:** Lia Blanchard (tenor sax)
- **Vice President:** Margot Wolcott (flute)
- **Treasurer:** Thomas Wright (trumpet/euphonium)
- **Secretary:** Anna Kruse (bassoon)
- **Librarian:** Theresa Haverty (clarinet/bass clarinet)
- **Director-at-large:** Sarah Jones (clarinet/bass clarinet)
- **Director-at-large:** Ryan Olberg (alto sax/bass clarinet)
- **Director-at-large:** Molly Deardorff (percussion)

Membership Requirements, Registration & Dues

“The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers.” -Roy Ayers, musician

Requirements

- **Skill level.** Marysville Community Band musicians should be able to sight read music, and, with practice, play music at a Grade 3 or 4 level. This generally requires 3 years of study on the instrument, even if that was many years ago.
 - MCB does not audition its musicians. Please talk to our conductor if you are unsure of your ability to play.
- **Equipment.** All musicians must own or have access to their own instrument (some exceptions for percussion). Music stands are required for summer sessions.

Registration

- **Forms.** Forms are due from new members or if you'd like to update your information.

Dues

- **Adults**
 - Dues for the fall, winter, and spring sessions are \$20 each (\$60/year).
 - Summer session dues are \$15.
 - Pay online at <https://givebutter.com/nmHEJ9> or by cash, card, or check to our treasurer at rehearsal.
 - Payment is due within two weeks of the first rehearsal date that session.
 - If payment poses financial hardship, please see a board member ASAP.
- **Youth** (under age 18)
 - No dues required: we believe there should be no barrier to youth participation.
 - Want to make a donation in lieu of dues? See “Donations & Fundraising” below.

Rehearsals & Practice

It isn't hard, it's new. Practice makes it not new.

Rehearsals

- **Attendance.** Attendance is expected at all rehearsals unless you are ill. Missing a rehearsal negatively affects other musicians and makes it difficult to balance a piece.
 - Life happens! If you know you must miss rehearsals (due to illness or otherwise) please let your section leader and the conductor know, or send email to marysvillecommunityband@gmail.com.
 - ***It is imperative that all musicians attend the final rehearsal before a concert.*** If you absolutely must miss rehearsal(s) leading up to a concert, you need to get the conductor's permission to perform.
- **Day, Time & Location.** Rehearsals are held 6-8 p.m. on Thursday evenings.
 - Fall, Winter & Spring: Totem Middle School band room at 1605 7th St., Marysville
 - Summer: Bethlehem Lutheran Church gym on the corner of 51st Ave and Grove St, Marysville. The gym is at the north end of the building.
 - Please remember that we are guests in these rehearsal spaces. We are expected to only use band-related equipment and leave these spaces clean.

Practice

As with any other band, we do expect that you will practice your parts at home. Our group rehearsal time is limited, so practicing at home is essential. If you are experiencing difficulty with a piece, please talk to your section leader or the conductor for advice or assistance.

Concerts

We believe music is a right, not a privilege. Performances are our gift to the community.

We don't sell tickets or charge admission, but we do ask for donations at our performances; those who can afford to support the band will, and those who cannot will still be able to enjoy our music. Please invite your friends and family to our concerts!

- **Frequency.** We perform several concerts throughout the year; typically, there are 2-3 performances near the end of each session (December, March, May/June, and August)
 - End-of-session "official" concert.
 - Community performances: Festivals and other community events.
 - Special performances: As requested, particularly for members of our community who are physically unable to attend public events.
- **Dress.** Concert dress is generally black, accessorized for the season — i.e., red and green in December, pastels in the spring. Summer is often casual for comfort.
- **Promotion/Publicity.** Our performances allow us to share our music, celebrate our growth as musicians, and work toward our mission to *build community one note at a time*. To that end, we want to get the word out about our concerts!
 - The Board of Directors promotes to the public via press releases, flyers, our social media channels, and our website at marysvillecommunityband.org.
 - Band members' friends and family are important guests — please invite them! To help get the word out about a performance, you can also:
 - Like our Facebook page and share the concert announcement on yours.
 - Share the flyers that the Board sends out before each event — you can share them electronically and/or print and distribute them.
 - Note: To ensure consistency of the MCB brand, all media content (visuals, text, ads, etc) must be approved by the Board of Directors.

Health & Safety

"I think music in itself is healing." -Billy Joel, musician

Playing wind instruments circulates airborne germs. Out of respect for your fellow musicians — who represent a wide range of well-being — please do not attend any MCB activity if you are sick. If you arrive to any activity (rehearsal, concert, etc) visibly ill, you may be asked to leave.

In the event of a public health issue about a communicable illness, the Board of Directors may enact safety precautions that align with the Snohomish County Health Department. This may include cancelling activities or requiring proof of vaccination.

Donations & Fundraising

"It is always fatal to have music or poetry interrupted." -George Eliot, writer

As a 501(c)(3), Marysville Community Band is fully funded by donations, fundraising, and grants. **All donations to MCB are tax deductible.**

Donations

Donations are gratefully accepted from individuals or businesses. We acknowledge donors via shout outs on social media, inclusion in concert programs, or even including the donor's name in the title of the concert! See the "Support Us" page at marysvillecommunityband.org for more information or donate directly at <https://givebutter.com/cLRnUu>.

If you'd like your gift to be spent on a specific item, you can do so in Givebutter or let a Board member know. (Note: Purchasing an item for the band then asking for reimbursement is not a donation. Reimbursements are not granted without prior approval from the Board of Directors.)

Fundraising

Currently, the band's main fundraiser is participation in Fred Meyer's Community Rewards program. If you (or your friends and family) shop at Fred Meyer, please take a moment to register your rewards card, so Fred Meyer will make donations to MCB at no extra cost to you. Register your card at <https://www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards>.

If you have fundraising ideas or experience, please share this with the Board!

Grants

The Board of Directors does apply for grant money; if you are aware of grants that might work for us, please send us an email at marysvillecommunityband@gmail.com.

What does the band spend money on?

Ongoing expenses include rehearsal space rental, performance venue rental, liability insurance, music purchases, percussion instruments and accessories, promotional expenses (printing, website maintenance, banners, etc), and conductor appreciation gifts.

We'd love, in the future, to spend any extra funds on: expanding our music library, additional promotional banners, band t-shirts, performance folders, special performances, and more!

How can I support the band without spending money?

Money isn't everything! There are many non-financial ways to support MCB:

- Encourage participation in Fred Meyer Community Rewards: see above
- Share the band's Facebook posts and concert flyers
- Ask your friends and family to promote and attend concerts, or to join us
- Attend Board meetings to listen in and speak; share your ideas and talents!
- Support events by bringing a shareable treat, helping to set up and take down
- Participate in any fundraisers
- Notify us of community grants that you are aware of
- Nominate the band for community awards
- Connect MCB with any business that you know would like to support local musicians