Wind Symphony in NYC

The WVU Wind Symphony made their Carnegie Hall debut on March 6, 2018, when they performed as a Showcase Ensemble for the New York Wind Band Festival. The Wind Symphony was invited to perform at the festival based on a submitted application and recording of recent concerts. Also performing as part of the festival were six invited high school bands from across the country and the West Chester University Wind Ensemble. Special guests in attendance for the performance included world-renowned composer Johan de Meij and William Johnson, past-president of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE). The Wind Symphony’s program for the evening consisted of works by Leonard Bernstein, Viet Cuong, Aaron Perrine, Percy Grainger, and Ron Nelson.
Sharing the Stage

On Monday, April 23, the WVU Bands welcomed to campus the George Washington High School Concert Band from Charleston, West Virginia. Under the direction of WVU alumnus Mark Hardman, the GWHS Band joined the WVU Wind Symphony for a shared concert in the Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre. The evening concert opened with four selections performed by the GWHS Band and closed with two selections performed by the WVU Wind Symphony. In between the two ensembles combined for a performance of a work by composer Matthew Jackfert, a graduate of both George Washington High School and West Virginia University.

The GWHS Concert Band was recently named the WVMEA Honor Band for 2018. The WVU Wind Symphony was pleased to share the stage with these outstanding high school musicians.

Dr. Stephen Lytle named Associate Director of Bands

Joining the WVU Bands faculty in the Fall of 2018 will be Dr. Stephen Lytle. Previously the Associate Director of Bands at Miami University (OH), Dr. Lytle will serve as Associate Director of Bands in the West Virginia University School of Music. His duties will include serving as conductor of the WVU Symphonic Band, serving as director of “The Pride of West Virginia” Mountaineer Marching Band, overseeing athletic bands, and teaching courses in the School of Music.

Dr. Lytle holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Northwestern University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
39th Invitational Honor Bands on Campus

On February 8-10, 2018, approximately 325 high school students from seven different states participated in the 39th Annual WVU Invitational Honor Bands. Students from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and Kentucky performed as part of three clinic bands conducted by outstanding music educators from across the nation. Serving as conductor of this year’s Honor Band was Dr. Rebecca Phillips, Director of Bands at Colorado State University. Conductors for the two clinic bands were Dr. Ryan Kelly, Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Texas - Austin, and Dr. David Romines, Director of Bands at Marywood University.

In addition to their clinic band experience, students also participated in instrumental masterclasses led by faculty members from the West Virginia University School of Music. They also had the opportunity to hear the WVU Wind Symphony in concert as well as the WVU Steel Pan Ensemble performing a few pre-concert selections. The event culminated on Saturday afternoon with outstanding performances by the three honor bands.

40th Annual WVU Invitational Honor Bands
February 7-9, 2019

Clinicians, schedules, and other information available in October 2018 at www.music.wvu.edu/bands.
The Pride of West Virginia Celebrates 150 Years of WVU

On October 14, 2017, during the Homecoming football game versus Texas Tech University, the Pride of West Virginia celebrated the 150th anniversary of West Virginia University with a special halftime presentation. Joining The Pride for this special occasion was Emmy award-winning composer Jay Chattaway, a member of the WVU Class of 1968. Since graduating from WVU, Mr. Chattaway has enjoyed a distinguished career composing for film and television - most notably for the Star Trek franchise, including Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Enterprise, and Star Trek: Voyager. In honor of WVU’s 150th anniversary, Mr. Chattaway composed a new fanfare entitled Jubilee 150. Mr. Chattaway was not only in attendance for the game, but also guest conducted The Pride in the premiere performance of his new composition.
Dawn “Grandma” West Featured on CBS News

Trumpeter Dawn West has been a fixture of The Pride of West Virginia for the past three decades. She first joined the band during her freshman year of college in 1983 and has remained a member in good standing ever since. When the CBS Evening News learned of this, reporter Steve Hartman made the trip to Morgantown to do a feature story on Dawn for his “On the Road” segment. The national broadcast took place on Friday, September 22, with a second airing on Sunday, September 24 as part of CBS Sunday Morning. The complete story can be viewed here - https://www.cbsnews.com/video/52-year-old-still-in-university-marching-band/. 

By the numbers...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment:</th>
<th>Performances:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wind Symphony - 50</td>
<td>Wind Symphony - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symphonic Band - 42</td>
<td>Symphonic Band - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concert Band - 97</td>
<td>Concert Band - 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marching Band - 351</td>
<td>Marching Band - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Band - 75</td>
<td>Basketball Band - 42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Looking ahead…

2018-2019 Performance Schedule

Sept. 24 Wind Symphony Concert
Oct. 2 Symphonic Band Concert
Oct. 29 Wind Symphony Concert
Nov. 13 Symphonic Band Concert
Dec. 3 Wind Symphony Concert

Feb. 8 Wind Symphony Concert
Mar. 4 Wind Symphony Concert
Mar. 5 Symphonic Band Concert
Apr. 9 Concert Band Concert
Apr. 15 Wind Symphony Concert
Apr. 23 Symphonic Band Concert

The Pride of West Virginia
2018-2019 Schedule

Sept. 1 WVU vs. Tennessee
Sept. 8 WVU vs. Youngstown State
Sept. 15 WVU @ N.C. State
Sept. 22 WVU vs. Kansas State
Sept. 29 Buckwheat Festival
Oct. 5 WVU Homecoming Parade
Oct. 6 WVU vs. Kansas
Oct. 25 WVU vs. Baylor
Nov. 10 WVU vs. TCU
Nov. 23 WVU vs. Oklahoma
Nov. 27 Keynotes Concert