The Official Handbook

Blinn College
Buccaneer Band
2005-2006
Welcome to Blinn College and especially the Buccaneer Band. We look forward to your contribution to what is already considered the top community/junior college band program in the state.

This handbook is intended to answer many anticipated questions often asked by new students and to clarify many aspects of the band program for returning students. It is not possible to anticipate every question, but hopefully this booklet will address many concerns regarding operation of the band program. Thanks to Kappa Kappa Psi during the Spring of 1999 for actually compiling the information and taking this idea which has been on the “back burner” for many years.

Through your participation in the Buccaneer Band, you will have the opportunity to make many lasting friendships with fellow band members from as many as 50 different high schools, including large city and small rural schools. It is the intention of the directors that the band provide an outlet for your musical talents as well as an opportunity to experience the satisfaction and pride that is earned from participation in a quality organization. In order for this to be possible, you must be in excellent shape on your instrument and have prepared all music sent prior to the start of the semester. Be informed, prepared, and current on all items relating to the start of the semester, responding to requested information/forms, and the first rehearsal. In general, take care of business. Blinn College is an excellent place to begin your college studies, and like any other place it is “what you make of it.” Directors are interested and concerned with your success and available to assist whenever possible.

To returning members, we remind you that we cannot be content with prior accomplishments but will continue our pursuit of excellence in all phases of the band program. I am excited about the quality of returning band members, the leadership of Kappa Kappa Psi, and the level of musicianship in general.

We are looking forward to another year with great expectations.

Larry Campbell
Dr. Brett Jones

Letter from the President

Welcome! As we hoist the sails and set out on the mighty voyage of the year to come, I wish to welcome you all to the Blinn College Buccaneer Band. It’s going to be a great year, filled with dedicated, intense hard work and determination, but not without the fun, new friends, and oceans of memories! We are the Buccaneer Band; and if we stay focused and work hard, our ship shall lead us to treasures untold. Let’s have a great year, fellow Bucs, and remember that practice is the key to our whole foundation. With a positive attitude and trust in teamwork, we shall set sail on our journey as the mighty Buccaneer Band.

Paula Mueller
ΚΚΨ President
I. Band Week
   A. Auditions
      1. Auditions will be held on the first day of band week in the band hall after dorm check in. Exact times and locations will be announced on the first day.
      2. Marching band music and audition music will be sent to you ahead of time. Prepare as you would for any other audition. This does effect future decisions concerning placement, etc. Make a good impression.
   B. Room/Board (dorms)
      Room and board will be comp this week for non-Brenham residents.
      1. What to bring: Bring all essentials; wait to bring televisions, refrigerators, and other big items so you and your roommate can decide what each of you will bring. Bring items such as: sheets, blankets, pillows, telephone, loud alarm clock, sunscreen, soap, deodorant, tennis shoes, hats, and clothes appropriate for marching rehearsal.
      2. According to school policy, members of the opposite sex are prohibited from visiting your personal room. Each dorm has specific visiting hours, during which visitations are allowed in the dayroom ONLY. For further information, consult your Blinn handbook.
   C. Marching rehearsals
      1. Rehearsals during band week will include outside marching practices and indoor rehearsals. Make sure you have your music memorized so we can have a week of fun work.
      2. Make sure you bring tennis shoes. You cannot march correctly in inappropriate shoes. No bare feet, sandals, boots, or DocMartin’s etc.
      3. Bring shorts and T-shirts for rehearsals. Avoid off-color slogans and poor taste. Make sure that your shorts are a decent length.
      4. Remember to bring hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen. These items will help you tremendously since rehearsal is 1-3 pm during the semester.
   D. Registration
      1. All band members will register using the BORIS option on the Blinn College web site. Registration must be completed PRIOR to band week.
      2. THEA must be satisfied, either exempt or already attempted, and scores must be on file in the admissions office prior to registration.
      3. Advisement sessions are offered several times during the summer starting in June. Students must call to reserve a date/time. Your general letter in May lists these dates. Call counseling at 979-830-4196 to schedule a.s.a.p. since space is limited and sessions fill quickly. Note: Music majors must be advised by music faculty.
      4. Prior to registration (no later than early June) your admission file must be complete with the following:
         a. Application for admission
         b. Final high school transcript
c. Returning students must have cleared any holds from the previous semester.
4. Forms required for scholarship validation are:
   a. FAFSA complete and on file
      or Exemption form complete and on file
   b. Student Aid Data Form (all students)
These items must be complete and on file no later than early June in order to issue financial aid and scholarship validation.

II. Marching style (Corp)
   A. Feet
      1. Stand with heels together and toes apart at a slight angle.
      2. Relaxed glide step- roll feet, toe points upward.
      3. No “kick out” before first step.
      4. Backwards marching on toes- do not put down heels.
   B. Section leaders will explain instrument carriage.
   C. Upper Body Carriage
      1. Make yourself two inches taller.
      2. Get rib cage off of hip bones.
      3. Align head, shoulders, knees, and feet.
      4. Shoulders back.
      5. Head slightly up.
   D. When called to attention, yell “GO BUCS”
   E. Drill
      1. Individuals must learn quickly to read drill charts, coordinate sheets, field position, and spacing between squad members.

III. Band Etiquette
   A. Rehearsal conduct - marching
      1. Short water breaks will be provided by Kappa Kappa Psi. Throw trash away!! Keep the practice field clean. No smoking during the water breaks. Do not waste time returning to the field after each break.
      2. No talking during rehearsals. Ask for help if you need it. Work hard and quickly. Be sure to listen for all instructions. No over-blowing or excess notes when band is cut off. Be on time (preferably early) to rehearsals, with all necessary equipment and ready to work.
      3. Be prepared!! Have all music learned and memorized ahead of time. (This is why we send it to you early.) Have all necessary equipment before summer band.
      4. Bring music, drill charts, coordinate sheets, pencils, mutes, and other accessories needed to all rehearsals (inside and outside).
B. Rehearsal conduct - band hall and surrounding areas

1. Smoking is only allowed on the west side of the building. Keep this area clean and do not be late to rehearsal for a smoke break.

2. Help us keep our band hall looking great! Throw away all trash and do not leave music, horns, etc. out. No open drink containers are allowed.

C. Be sure to wear appropriate attire that is in good taste!! Have pride for yourself and the band program. No caps will be allowed in rehearsals indoors.

D. Be sure to have the correct attitude for a productive rehearsal. Our band is what you make it, so always give 100%. If a problem occurs, try to not let it affect your rehearsal. Talk to a director if you cannot solve the problem among yourselves. Be receptive to constructive criticism and ready to respond to directions.

IV. Uniforms

A. Marching Uniform

1. How to wear: Band Tshirt is worn under uniform coat. Black band shoes and socks must be worn with the uniform. The hat is worn with an angle that is 2 fingers from the bridge of the nose.

2. Check-out will be each week after warm-up and before the game. Be sure to check out your uniform in plenty of time to get ready and make sure you have all pieces each week. You must check out your uniform on your own. Do not send a friend to get it for you.

3. Check-in will occur immediately after each game. Be sure that the uniform is hung properly (pants hung straight by the creases—not wrinkled). Uniforms not hung up correctly will be returned to the wearer. Be sure to turn in all pieces of the uniform. Do not take uniforms home. They must be turned in for cleaning which is provided by the school.

B. Concert Uniforms

Symphonic Band:

**Dress black** – tuxedo for men or black coat and trousers with long sleeve white dress shirt, black dress shoes, black socks, and black bow tie. Women must wear long-sleeved solid black dress or solid black skirt and blouse with black close-toed dress shoes and black hose. Skirt length must be below the knees when seated. NO skirts with slits extending above the knee are permitted. Ladies that play horn, bass clarinet, sax or tuba may opt to wear an appropriate pantsuit. Remember-this is formal attire.

Concert Band:

1. Men – white long-sleeved dress shirt and black trousers with black shoes

2. Women – white blouse and black skirt with black shoes and black hose; skirt length must be below the knees when seated. NO skirts
with slits extending above the knee are permitted. Ladies that play horn, bass clarinet, sax or tuba may opt to wear dress pants.

D. Casual Uniform:
At times such as rainy games or some parades, we may opt to wear our “casual uniform” which consists of the polo-style band shirt, black pants (not jeans), black socks and black band shoes. Band shirt must be tucked in at all times.

V. Football Games
A. A schedule of games will be issued before the start of the Fall semester. We usually have two away games.
B. A complete pre-game & half-time run-through will be executed two hours before game time. After practice, you will get in uniform and line up to head towards the field.
C. Pre-game includes:
1. March over to the stadium and around track.
2. March and play Bluebonnet across the field.
3. National Anthem, Alma Mater, etc. on the field.
4. Line up on goal line for team entry and fight song.
D. Half-time
1. Line up and march around track to other side of field and then get into starting position.
2. Play for drill team.
3. Perform half-time show.
4. Go into stands to wait the return of the team and play fight song.
E. Third Quarter
1. **Return to stands first and wait for instructions.**
2. You get third quarter “off” for snacks, bathroom, family, etc. A soft drink will be provided after half-time. **Uniform must stay intact.**
3. Be in your seat before the fourth quarter starts.
4. There will be no smoking in uniform.
F. Stand Etiquette
1. Uniforms must stay intact.
2. You may wear caps and sunglasses in the stands.
3. No “guests” are allowed in the band section.
4. Please stay in your assigned section.
5. Pay attention so you will know what music to play.
6. Avoid random playing or “yells” that are in poor taste.
G. After the Game
1. Usually, we will play a short “concert” after the game until spectators exit.
2. Walk back to the Band Hall on your own and turn in your uniform.
3. On away trips, load buses after game and turn in your uniform after we get back.
VI. Trips
A. Game/Parades
   1. Bus rides: Bus rides are usually several hours long in chartered buses. You
      will sign up for seating ahead of time. You may bring appropriate movies
      approved by a director if a VCR is available on the bus. Be considerate of
      everyone (bus driver, people trying to sleep, etc.) BE ON TIME!!!
   2. Dress depends on the length of trip/time schedule. It will usually be either
      uniform or band shirt. When dress is casual, wear jeans with band shirt at all
      times.
   3. Parades we march include: Blinn and Brenham Homecoming Parades (Fall
      semester); Austin County Fair Parade (Bellville, Fall semester); Holiday
      Parade (Bryan/C.S., Fall semester); Maifest (Brenham, Spring semester).

B. Tour (Spring Semester for Symphonic Band Only)
   1. The consumption of alcohol or the use of illegal substances is strictly
      prohibited on school-sponsored trips.
   2. Please use common sense on this trip. Remember to keep activities inside
      hotel rooms so that you do not disturb others. No one is allowed in rooms that
      are not part of our group. No “guests” are allowed in the hotel. Band
      members are expected to demonstrate mature and responsible behavior at all
      times. In general, remember you are “a walking billboard” representing Blinn
      College and the Blinn College Band. Act as such. Do not participate in any
      activities that would hinder your ability to do your absolute best in
      performance.

VII. Contests/Meets
The band hosts numerous events during the year, which generate funds for the band
program. These funds are used towards concert tour, supplemental meal allowance,
band party, and many aspects of the total band program from which all band
members benefit.

Fall – We host the Annual Blinn Marching Festival at which we perform twice. All
members must help by monitoring bands, working concession stand, etc.

Spring – Solo and Ensemble; Concert contests for high school/junior high bands.
   Again, members of the band are needed to help monitor bands.

VIII. Blinn Band Staff
A. Larry Campbell – Director of Bands, Instructor of Tuba, Euphonium, Horn,
   Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble, Fine Arts Department Chairman, Kappa Kappa
   Psi Sponsor. Faculty member since 1973. Office Location: Music Building
   (979)830-4260.
   Mr. Campbell received his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music in
   Tuba Performance from the University of Houston Moores School of Music
   where he studied with Bill Rose, Houston Symphony, retired. He is continually
in demand as a teacher, conductor, performer, adjudicator, and records the All-State audition etudes for tuba and euphonium. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Brazos Valley Brass Quintet and the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra.

B. Dr. Brett Jones – Assistant Director of Bands, Instructor of Percussion, Percussion Ensemble, and Music Literature. Faculty member since 2004. Office Location: Music Building  (979)830-4015
Dr. Brett Jones received his Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Colorado, a Master’s Degree in Music and a Doctorate in Musical Arts from Texas Tech University. He has been the drumline instructor and percussion coordinator for Texas Tech University. He was a member of the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, timpanist for the Lubbock Chorale, drum-set player for Texas Tech University’s top jazz combo, percussionist for Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, percussionist for Black Hills Symphony Orchestra, and drum-set for the University of South Dakota’s Black Hills Playhouse.

C. Jill Stewart – Instructor of Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe, and Bassoon, Woodwind Ensembles, Aural Music, Kappa Kappa Psi Sponsor. Office Location Music Building  (979) 830-4262
A member of the Blinn College Music Faculty since 1997, Mrs. Stewart received both a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Texas Tech University where she studied with Dr. Robert Walzel. While at Texas Tech, she received numerous honors and was the Assistant Coordinator of Clarinet Fest ’97. She was a member of the Lubbock Symphony and is currently Principal Clarinetist with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra. She was a featured soloist with the BVSO in 2003, performing Debussy’s “Premiere Rhapsody” with the orchestra. Mrs. Stewart has also performed with the Abilene Philharmonic, the Roswell Symphony, the San Angelo Symphony, and the Big Spring Symphony.

D. Dr. Craig Garrett – Director of Jazz Ensemble, Instructor of Trumpet, Guitar, and Introduction to Music. Faculty member since 1994. Office Location: Music Building (979)830-4261
Dr. Garrett earned his Bachelor and Master Degrees at the University of North Texas. He has a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he began his college-level teaching career. Since returning to Texas, Dr. Garrett has taught at Cedar Valley College (Dallas) and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

E. John Dujka – Instructor of Piano, Group Piano, Music Theory. Faculty member since 1990. Office Location: Music Building (979)830-4249
Mr. John Dujka earned his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance at the University of Houston Moores School of Music where he studied with Ruth Tomførde and Abbey Simon. While at the university, he was a winner of state and national piano competitions. Mr. Dujka is an active recitalist and also maintains a private piano studio in Brenham. He is also in demand as an adjudicator and is president of the Brenham Area Piano
Teachers Association. Mr. Dujka is a versatile musician who is comfortable with classical repertoire, Czech and German folk music, Hebrew and Latino songs, and jazz/pop styles.

F. Jennifer Wise – Director of Choral Activities, Instructor of Vocal Studies and Musical Theater. Faculty member since 2002. Office Location: O’Donnell Performing Arts Center (979)830-4239
Mrs. Wise has had a successful career as a singer, actress, and choral director. She has extensive experience in musical theater including productions with the Alley Theatre, A.D. Players, Stages Repertory Theatre, Unity Theatre, The Barn Theatre, The Actors Workshop and Baytown Little Theatre. She has also appeared in television films and commercials. Her teaching experience in voice and theatre include St. Anne Catholic School, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, La Porte High School, and the Unity Theatre. She also has extensive experience as a private voice instructor and vocal ensemble coach. Mrs. Wise is also an accomplished violist, having performed with the Sherman Symphony in Sherman, TX and the Bolzano Chamber Festival in Bolzano, Italy. She holds a Bachelor of Communication Arts and Music from Austin College in Sherman, TX, and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

G. Teresa Grawunder – Instructor of Flute, Flute Ensemble. Part-time Faculty member since Fall 2004. Office Location: Music Building (979) 830-4260
Teresa Grawunder has held the position of principal flutist with the Houston Ballet, Theater Under the Stars and American Pops orchestras and was a substitute in the Houston Symphony for many years. An active free-lance musician in the Houston area, she is a member of the mixed chamber ensemble “MOSAIC”, whose live recordings are frequently heard on the Houston NPR station KUHF. She is also Affiliate Artist in Flute at Houston Baptist University and maintains a private studio at her home in Houston. Ms. Grawunder holds Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in flute performance from the University of Houston where she studied with Bryan Hester.

H. John McCroskey – instructor of Trombone, Director of Trombone Ensemble since Spring of 2002. Office Location: Music Building (979)830-4260
John Michael McCroskey studied trombone performance at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City from 1964 to 1968. His instructor was Ed Herman, Jr., principal trombonist of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra from 1963 to 1968 with Ed Klein hammer, bass trombonist of the Chicago Symphony. While still a student, Mr. McCroskey played trombone with the American Symphony (New York) in 1967. He was employed as a trombonist with the Dallas Symphony from 1968-1972 then with the Houston Symphony from 1972 until he retired in Dec. of 1999. Mr. McCroskey currently instructs trombone students as Blinn College, Brenham I.S.D. and Cy-Fair I.S.D.
IX. Dorms/Apartments

Dorms are provided comp during band week for non-Brenham residents. Regular dorm and Blinn apartment residents for the semester may move into assigned rooms during this week prior to the first day of class. Band members are expected to show respect for the dorm and apartment directors and abide by their policies.

1. It might be helpful for regular dorm residents to wait until after you have met with your roommate to bring big items. Once you have met your roommate, you can decide on who will bring what.
2. Washers and dryers are located in each dorm, and at the end of every apartment building.
3. Microwaves, toasters, hot plates, etc. are not allowed in dorm rooms. Blinn does provide at least one microwave on each floor of the dorms.
4. Helpful items to bring include: clothes hamper, fans, television, VCR, DVD player, stereo, refrigerator (cannot exceed 3 cubic feet), towels, shower caddy (especially for men), extension cords, multiple outlet plugs, hangers.
5. Cinder blocks are nice to put beds on. This creates more storage space (Not allowed in Melcher Hall).
6. Shoe and towel racks that go on doors also save space.
7. Women share a bathroom with the next room over.
8. Women’s dorm is Melcher. Men’s dorm is Lockett.

X. Miscellaneous Items

A. Expenses

1. Includes $10 for annual band dues that will cover drinks at home games and other functions.
2. Band shirts (2): a dress shirt and a T-shirt which will cost around $25.
3. Specific black band shoes for marching uniform will be ordered from the band.
4. You must provide your own lyre and flip folder.
5. You must provide any other accessories excluding reeds and valve/slide oil.

B. Blinn provides usual school instruments with no fee if instruments are maintained properly. This includes most large instruments and some small instruments depending on availability.

C. Uniform, usual school horns, reeds for woodwinds, and valve/slide oil will be provided at no cost to you. Your help is required to conserve supplies and maintain equipment.

XI. Leadership

If at any time you have a conflict with school, family, music, or a friend, there are several people within the band to whom you can go. Section leaders play key roles in band. Also, KΚΨ is a leadership and service organization in our band,
and each of its members will be willing to listen and try to help. You will be introduced to the band officers for the current year at the beginning of summer camp; these are also people to whom you can go for help. ALWAYS remember that no problem is too great. At Blinn, your directors care about your ability to perform, but most importantly they care about you! If you have a problem, especially a conflict with school, you can always ask them for assistance.

XII. The Musical History of Blinn College

Blinn College was established in 1883 in a small white building, and over the years has grown into a well-established and credible junior college. One of its strongest points is its music department. The first concert was performed at the graduation ceremonies for the class of 1923. D.H. Fischer, Professor of Orchestra, led the music department. Further developments led to the assembly of an all-girls drum and bugle corps by 1948. The Blinn College Buccaneer Band was organized in September of 1951, appearing at home football games and holding several concerts. This was also the first year the band went on tour, making 14 appearances before a total of 7900 people in the area. Under the direction of Jesse Day, the Buccaneer Band grew in size from its original 25 member group. Johnny Bankston assumed direction of the band from 1956 to 1957. In 1958, Walter B. Williams was hired as the new Director of Bands, during which time he formed several new instrumental groups, including: the Dixieland Band, a dance band, and a Brass Choir. Blinn’s tradition of musical excellence was continued through the 60’s under the direction of E. W. Anderson (1960-1961) and Bob Ham (1962-1971). Dr. Tom Comtine served as Director of Bands for the years of 1971-1973. In 1973, Larry Campbell became Director of Bands for the Buccaneer Band, and is head of the organization to this day. Under the direction of these many talented instructors the band has grown in size and ability, and its tradition in striving for excellence continues to grow in strength every year.

Kappa Kappa Psi
National Honorary Band Fraternity

“Strive For The Highest”

“It is an honor to serve.” We provide such services such as rehearsal set-up, water at breaks, drinks at games, concession at contests, etc.
JOIN THE FUN IN SERVING OUR BAND!!

Kappa Kappa Psi Creed

We, the brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi, believe that service to the college or university band program fosters responsibility of brotherhood and leadership; that a spirit of
brotherhood is enhanced by the participation in a band program; that music is a universal
language and truly the greatest of the arts; and through fraternal participation, each
member will strive for the highest.

Preamble
To the National Constitution of
Kappa Kappa Psi
National Honorary Band Fraternity

Be it known that Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Fraternity for College Band
members, is an organization operating exclusively in the field of the college and
university bands, and for the following several purposes:

1. To promote the existence and welfare of the college and university bands and to
cultivate at large a wholesome respect for their activities and achievements.

2. To honor outstanding band members through privilege of membership extended
as a reward for technical achievement and appreciation for the best in music.

3. To stimulate campus leadership and promulgate an uncompromising respect
through the medium of the college band for gracious conduct, good taste and
unswerving loyalty.

4. To foster a close relationship between college bands and promote a high average
of attainment by the performance of good music and selection of worthwhile
projects.

5. To provide a pleasant and helpful social experience for all engaged in college
band work and to cooperate with other musical organizations in any manner
consistent with the purposes of the institution at which chapters are located.

Kappa Kappa Psi Officers

President: Paula Mueller (Waller)
Vice-President: Elaina George (Needville)
Recording Secretary: Bart Hosier (Cedar Park)
Treasurer: Rebecca Henry (Bastrop)
Historian: Whitney Houston (Bryan)
Alumni Secretary: Nichole Bonse (Needville)
Corresponding Secretary: Jessica Skelton (La Grange)
Sergeant at Arms: Anthony Tillman (Killeen)