



March 2022 Newsletter

Band Together leadership strives to spend as little as possible on administrative overhead to maximize support to students in need. We are all volunteers who are as devoted to the cause as you are.

Annual Income & Expenses	Misc. Expenses	Student Support Payments	Donations	
Balance Jan. 1. 2021				\$9,766.83
Students Payments		\$10,245.19		
Promotion Purchase	\$183.15			
Misc. fundraising related expenses	\$300.00			
Donations			\$ 13,149.68	
Yearly Total	\$483.15	\$10,245.19	\$13,149.68	\$2,421.34
Balance Dec. 31.2021				\$12,188.17

Message from the President - On behalf of the board, thank you for your continued support. From Marching Season of 2019 to the end of Winter Season 2022, our donors have assisted 62 teens experience the satisfaction and joy that comes from dedication and hard work. Your contributions for these three years have totaled to \$27,862.00. These students are participating in this nationally recognized program because of your generosity. We are the facilitators; you are the community that makes this a success!

This program means so much more to the students, not just performing and winning. So many of the essays this year mentioned “family” when referring to AMB&G. Some of their sentiments from their essays –

“I’m making many new friends and I’m in a new family.”

“I have realized the band room is a safe place, and everyone in the room is a family.”

“The Avon Marching Black & Gold means many things to many people, but to me it means family, pride and home.”

“These are my friends and family that I will never forget.”

Meet our newest Board Member – Welcome Mary Boyd



My husband and I moved to Avon in 1999. While we knew of Avon’s great band and music program, it wasn’t until we experienced it ourselves that we realized what a special program this is! Our daughter is a Senior trumpet this year and we have seen so much growth and change in her these past four years due to the marching band. During her time in band, I have been the Spirit Co-Chair on the Booster Board which I think is the best job on the board! I love working with the other parents and these amazing kids! I am also the co-director of the Light and Life Food Pantry in Avon and have been working with these great people since 2006. I am so honored to be on the Band Together board to give back to not only the Marching Black and Gold, which has given our family so much, but also the Avon community. I am excited to be a part of an organization that helps to make this program available to all students regardless of financial ability!

Donor Feature - I first met this wonderful Grandmother when the band was getting ready to attend the Rose Parade in 2012. She came into my office and said she wanted to help send a percussion student and Sax student to the parade, which she did! Grandma Nancy, as the kids know her, had been a supporter of Avon Band Together for several years. Here are her thoughts on the Band Program and Avon Band Together.

“It was once said that it takes a village to raise a child. In Avon, Indiana it takes a community to support a world-renowned band program. Band Together is a major supporter of the Avon Band program. Over the years increased need of

scholarships for students to compete in the different band ensembles has grown tremendously. Avon Band Together strives to raise these needed monies and to support the students that need monetary assistance.

The rewards that students receive as members of the Avon Fine Arts Programs are unmeasurable. The friendships, family, confidence, leadership, enjoyment, and work ethic are just a few. As a grandmother of two graduates of the Avon MBG, and Indoor drumlines and a future band member the joys, rewards, and friendships I have gained over the years are priceless. The youngest one who is now in intermediate school band informed me several years ago that he is going to be a "Rimba" player because that is what the men in his family do. What a testament for what he has gained over the years from supporting the AVON MBG.

If you have ever been in the band room when the members are getting ready or returning, listening to the roar of voices, and watching the interactions between students, parents, and students and parents, you know it is amazing. If not, you need to experience it.

Hearing the chatter, all the thank yous, the oh my I love this food during the mass feeding before a contest or football game is precious. Sitting with other parents, chatting, cutting, sewing, measuring, and making uniforms fit is so heartwarming. Watching the props being build, coming and going off the field is astonishing.

All of these are labors of love. That love and family feel along with the musical talents makes AVON Band known across the entire United States. Whether you are a parent of a current, past, or future band member and alumni or a music lover your talents can be put to good use.

Please consider donating to Avon Band Together. No matter what the size of the donation it will make an impact on the life of an Avon Student. Money is a major need but if you feel you cannot donate monetarily there are so many other ways to volunteer and offer your support. Reach out to the Band office or Avon Band Together they will set you up for an experience you will never forget."

Thank you, Nancy, for your continued support, it has meant a lot to many students!

Good fortune is what happens when opportunity meets with planning. –Thomas Edison

This past year Band Together has seen a significant increase in monthly donors. These donors have embraced the opportunity to support our mission and their planned giving has allowed Band Together to provide grants to more financially needy teens than ever before in our 10-year history.

Recurring donations provide a steady cash flow that permits the board to plan more effectively. It allows us to model our future financial state and this, in turn, makes us more comfortable to provide grants to a larger group of students.

While Band Together gladly accepts and greatly appreciates all donations—big or small, one-time, or recurring, recurring donations have resulted in support to **10** marching band members in the fall season. We then were able to assist **14** drumline, guard and hornline students for the winter season.

There are 86,400 seconds in a day, and it takes only a few of them to make a difference in the lives of our students. Would you be able to take your support to the next level as a monthly or quarterly recurring donor?

Visit <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/marching-black-gold-inc/supporting-life-changing-experiences> Or scan this QR code to become a donor.



You may also send your donation to Mary Burkhart 10757 Bakeway Drive, Indianapolis IN 46231.

If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact Barb Doll @ bthelpingkids@gmail.com

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