

Yakima Valley Community Band

A Brief History

Records tie our current band back to April 15, 1902, known as Nagler's Band, under the direction of Frank X. Nagler. There were multiple bands in Yakima during that timeframe. Nagler's Band was the one that seems to have carried forward to what we are today as having been one of the first to start in the Yakima area as a community band.

Members from Nagler's Band carried forward to the Yakima Elks Band formed in 1919. It was a 50-piece, all-male group supported by local businessmen; they rehearsed in school band rooms and performed in parades and park concerts.

In the 1940's, the band left the Elks Band and moved to the Yakima City Band, to include female musicians. They continued to rehearse in schools and play summer park concerts. Randall Park, with its creek-side location was established and used for many years.

The band expanded and renamed itself Yakima Community Band and then Yakima Valley Community Band. They performed in summer park concerts across valley communities, particularly in Toppenish and Selah, but in other cities up and down the valley as well.

The band has traveled beyond the valley to perform in Leavenworth, Goldendale, and Walla Walla. As part of Community Band festivals, the band has performed at the Seattle Center and on the Seattle waterfront for their Maritime Days Festival.

The band has also represented Yakima abroad. At their own expense, members of the Yakima Valley Community Band traveled to Switzerland in 1996. A grant from the Petry Trust enabled that group to appear in the band's new dress uniforms for concerts in Davos, Bad Ragaz, and in a historic band shell on the shores of Lake Lucerne.

In 1999, the band traveled to Great Britain, traveling through England and Scotland to perform. Most of the concerts were arranged in small communities so band members were able to interact with the local people. Meeting local band musicians and sharing concert venues with them enriched the experience.

In 2000, the band purchased a trailer to replace the small fleet of pickup trucks that formerly transported percussion instruments, music stands, our public address system, and boxes of music to the outdoor concerts. Having a safe system of transporting and storing band supplies and instruments led to the purchase of a set of timpani and other percussion instruments which previously were borrowed from school bands.

There are countless contributions to our band over the past 120+ years. A common thread that weaves us all together is participating in this live music-making community band, entertaining audiences, and the personal enrichment it brings us. Our local band historian and Library Manager, Gary Peterson, compiled a 23-page document with our band's history including articles, photos, notable people, and memories. A copy is available for those interested in further reading.

Yakima Valley Community Band

Member Handbook

February 2024

Band Purpose

The purpose of the organization is to perform, promote, and further live concert band music. The band is organized exclusively for educational, charitable, scientific and literary purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, the YVCB shall not carry on any activities that are not in furtherance of one of these purposes.

Band Mission Statement

1. To promote and further the performance of live concert band music.
2. To provide area musicians an opportunity to continue to enjoy their music experience.
3. To provide students with a large band experience.

A copy of the Band Constitution and Bylaws are available on the band website.



Band Organization

Director, and Substitute Director

Executive Board

President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer
Five At-Large Members, and Director

Yakima Valley Community Band

PO Box 9742, Yakima, WA 98909

<https://yvcb.org>

Band Policies

Membership Selection

Anyone eighteen (18) years of age or over who is interested in promoting and furthering the purposes of the organization is eligible for membership, subject to the approval of the section leader and the band director.

Anyone under the age of eighteen (18) years who desires to gain the experience of rehearsing and performing with the organization is subject to the approval of the section leader and the band director. Anyone under the age of eighteen will also provide a recommendation from his/her school band director or private music teacher.

Membership is extended to all who meet the approval standards without regard to race, creed, color, gender, or sexual orientation. Membership is discretionary. No person is guaranteed membership. Membership may only be granted upon the terms and conditions set forth in Article IV of the Bylaws.

Responsibilities

Membership Code of Ethics

- Members will remain attentive in rehearsal (listening and following directions without talking).
- Members will offer comments, critiques, and suggestions after rehearsal and privately.
- Members will use respectful language.
- Members will communicate with section leaders/band director if they must miss a rehearsal.
- Members will deliver their folders to section leader when absent so their part can be covered in rehearsal.
- Members need to turn in band folders at the end of concerts.
- Members are expected to attend rehearsals. Members with sporadic attendance may be addressed by the section leader or director regarding whether they should play in the next concert.
- Members will use member and donor/follower roster/directory list information for band use only; members will not use said items for personal or employer business solicitation.

Membership Rights

Members in good standing:

- (over 18 years of age) shall have full voting powers in election procedures and on other matters that require member votes.
- (over 18 years of age) have the right to run for all positions on the Executive Board.
- shall have paid the YVCB dues.

Members shall read and signify that they understand band policies and will abide by the Code of Ethics. Members may also consent to email notifications of meetings. YVCB director has the authority to ask a member to leave rehearsal or resign from band if the responsibilities listed in this handbook are not followed. The Executive Board has a policy to review a member's request to be reinstated.

Band Policies Continued...

Band-owned Instruments

- Band-owned percussion equipment – band pays for the maintenance and repairs.
- Band-owned wind/brass instruments – members who play them pay for maintenance and repairs.

Concert Attire

- Winter and Spring formal attire consists of professional/formal all black clothing. Long or short sleeves (not sleeveless).
Black socks and black shoes.
If wearing a dress, black hose are required.
- Summer attire consists of a light blue polo shirt with the band logo, black pants or black shorts or black skirt, and optional white cap or white visor.
- Members purchase their own concert clothing; financial assistance is available through the board if this presents a hardship for any member – contact any board member when needed.

Rehearsal Schedule

- YVCB meets weekly on Mondays.
- Rehearsals are from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with a scheduled break.
- A list of rehearsal dates will be handed out to members and will be posted on the band website.
- Rehearsal location will be on the schedule and posted on the band website.

Concert Schedule

- Winter and Spring concerts are held on a Monday and often one extra day; these dates to be announced. The concert schedule will be handed out to members and will be posted on the band website. These programs are held indoors.
- Summer concerts are on Wednesdays with intermittent extra dates. The summer schedule and locations will be handed out to members and will be posted on the band website. These programs are held in various pleasant, outdoor settings.

Dues

- Membership dues are fifteen dollars (\$15) per concert series or forty (\$40) for the year. Dues will be collected at least annually from the membership.
- Dues are given to the Secretary/Treasurer or any Officer of the band.