

Pride of the Southland Band

Recruiting Visit – Outline

Before you begin:

- Write contact info on board (if available): 865-974-5031 or utbands.com
- Speak slowly and project voice
- BE POSITIVE. You are “selling” the band. Emphasize the fun/positive aspects of band and why you are a part of this organization**
- If students want more information, take down name & address so we may send them flyers and/or get them on our mailing list

I. Welcome

- Thank the director for allowing you to take rehearsal time to talk about the Pride
- Introduce yourself
 - your major
 - year in school/band
 - your instrument
 - the high school you attended
 - why you chose to attend UT and be a part of the Pride

II. About the UT Band Program

- Concert Bands (only discuss details if time allows)
 - Nationally recognized ensembles having performed at the local and national levels
 - Wind Ensemble (top ensemble, mostly music majors, challenging music)
 - Symphonic Band & Concert Band (both music majors & non-majors, standard wind literature, only meet 3 times a week, year-round)
 - University Band is a new ensemble that only meets 1 time a week, year-round. Designed for non-majors and music education majors who want to get better on a secondary instrument.
 - All ensembles require an audition (typically at the beginning of each semester)
- Pep Bands (only discuss details if time allows)
 - Orange and White Pep Bands provide entertainment at UT Events
 - Perform for music for government and alumni events
 - Perform for UT Men’s and Lady Vol’s Basketball games
 - Students have a book of about 60 tunes, get into the games for free, and make \$20 per game
- *Pride of the Southland Marching Band*
 - Celebrating its 155 year anniversary (est. 1869)
 - One of the most prestigious college marching bands in the United States
 - 415 members (including percussion, majorettes and guard)
 - Provides music and entertainment at all UT and SEC football games, most of which are covered by national television
 - over 50 bowl games
 - 14 presidential inaugurations

III. So how do I join the Pride?

- Auditions for WINDS & PERCUSSION
 - Anyone interested in being a member of the Pride (or concert bands) must audition in the Spring of their Senior Year of High School
 - Dates are posted on the web site and will be sent out via mail
 - Music Majors: Register on College of Music website
 - NON-Majors: VIDEO AUDITIONS ONLY by March 18
 - Color Guard: Live Audition on Feb. 2
 - Majorettes: Live Audition on Jan. 25
 - Spring audition will be for entrance into the Pride and to be considered for a band department stipend (can be anywhere from \$200 - \$2,000+ per year)
 - Perform 2 excerpts (one technical & one lyrical), approximately 5 minutes of music. NO scale or sight-reading requirements
 - Percussion will submit one snare solo, mallet solo is optional. If accepted, they will be invited to our Drum Camp in June for the final round of auditions and instrument placement.

- Auditions for GUARD & MAJORETTES
 - Live Auditions for both (option for video if needed)
 - Call our office or check the website for more information and to register

- Visit the band website to schedule an audition
 - utbands.com**
 - 865-974-5031**
 - email: utbands@utk.edu

IV. FAQ (if time or if a question arises)

- Are band *scholarships* available?
 - Yes! Band stipends are based upon performance ability demonstrated during the entrance audition (for music majors and non-majors). You need to play in the ensembles for consideration. More information is available by calling the band office. Everyone gets some type of stipend (usually around \$300 for each year)

- Do I have to be a *music major* to play in the Pride?
 - NO! The majority of the Pride (approximately 80%) are non-majors!

- How much time does band take?
 - The Pride rehearses 2 hours on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
 - 1 hour on Tuesday as well as Saturday morning before the game
 - This is often LESS than most high schools and many other college bands
 - We do NOT call extra rehearsals

- How much does it cost to be in the Pride?
 - Only purchases include: Marching shoes, spats, gloves, travel uniform, lyre, plume, and an instrument fee (if using a UT instrument).
 - Most of these costs are a 1time fee (freshman year)
 - All other fees (including travel) are paid by the Athletic Department (no more fundraisers)

V. Closing

- Try to leave time for Questions ***Be positive, you are “selling” the Pride***
- Show a video (if time allows)
- Remind them of the contact information (865-974-5031 or utbands@utk.edu)
- Remind them of the web site, where they can find most of this information and/or email a director with specific questions
- Thank the teacher and the students for their time