

# **THE MARSHALL MOUTHPIECE**

## **GCM Band Parent & Student Newsletter**

May 24, 2026

### **EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

Remember to check the calendar on the Marshall Band website at [www.marshallband.org](http://www.marshallband.org) regularly for the most up-to-date information:

- Monday, May 25
  - Memorial Day: School Holiday
- Tuesday, May 26
  - Student Holiday/Teacher Workday
- Wednesday, May 27
  - Student Holiday
- Thursday, May 28
  - 7:00 PM Marching Percussion Workshop
- Friday, May 29
  - Last Day of School for SENIORS!

### **SPRING BAND BANQUET RECAP**

We had a fantastic turnout for the Spring Band Banquet! Here is a link to photos of the event:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOLOLSLUreD8x71Jx4E7y-avF2kZweagxsEt22stHIo3xJxZFgxoZNGGel0gCku0g?pli=1&key=ekg5djJPSkhsQ1BVTzZOZnJQSzd6YWFzQ3ZhM3RR>

*Congratulations to the following students who received special awards at the banquet:*

Outstanding Freshman Instrumentalists: Jasper Diffel and Brycen Gibbons

Outstanding Sophomore Instrumentalists: Natalie Viskupic and Jessica Malcov

Outstanding Junior Instrumentalists: Ashley Thompson and Lee Vanstory

Outstanding Senior Instrumentalists: Ryan Viskupic and David Wang

Anthony McKay Award and Honorarium: Emma Katz

BPO Scholarship Award: Mateo Stine

Patrick S. Gilmore Band Award: Ryan Viskupic

Jazz Band Award: Sophia Kattak

John Philip Sousa Award: Lydia Wilder

Thank you again as well to all of our amazing PARENT volunteers who work behind-the-scenes to support our incredible band program! And Congratulations to our GRADUATING SENIORS! We will miss you!

## **MARCHING STATESMEN 2026 REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

Calling all 2026 Marching Statesmen!...Get excited for the new season! The theme for next year (as dramatically unveiled at the Band Banquet) is *EVENT HORIZON!*

Now is the time to register to participate as a member of the 2026 Marching Statesmen! Forms were sent out last week from My Music Office by Mr. V, and are due no later than June 5! Once you are registered, please go to MY SCHOOL BUCKS and click on the store, find the Summer Marching Band Fee ICON, and click on that to add it to the cart. Then pay the \$150 SUMMER marching band camp fee!

Please note: Summer Band Camp dates, after-school practice dates, competition dates and HOME Varsity Football Game dates have been posted to the Marshall Band Calendar at [www.marshallband.org](http://www.marshallband.org)!

(*Note:* If you are a current GCM Band student who has not previously participated in marching band or colorguard, but are interested in giving it a try, we invite you to speak to Mr. V and sign up! There is always a place for you in marching band!)

## **FAREWELL TO KILMER BAND DIRECTOR**

Calling all former Kilmer band students and families—Kilmer Band Director, Sharon Bonneau is retiring at the end of the school year and relocating to the northeast to be closer to family. Her last Kilmer band concert will be held at GCM on June 2. To commemorate her years of service to FCPS and the band program at Kilmer, we'd like to invite her former students to bring a card (perhaps containing a photo or two of you/Ms. Bonneau from Kilmer Band and optionally a gift card of \$10-25 if you'd like), sharing a special thank you and memory of your time in Kilmer Band, and these will be presented to her at the end of the concert for her to enjoy.

(Unfortunately, Kilmer band concerts are typically “standing room only” due to so many participants and spectators, so we won't be able to fit us all into the auditorium for the presentation, but we know she will be delighted by the gesture!) If you'd like to participate, please be sure to bring your cards to the Marshall Band Room and place them in the basket in Mr. V's office by Tuesday morning, June 2. Thank you.

## **BAND PARENT SOCIAL AT JAMMIN' JAVA**

*Parents:* Come join us for a fun night out at Jammin' Java—with *LIVE* music from *Latent Defect* (featuring Marshall Band's own Mr. Vesilind on bass and vocals & Mr. Wallace on drums)! This talented band plays music you'll love from the 60s through today...and it's such a good time! Grab your neighbors and friends...all are welcome! Let's pack the house and show our support for some GREAT live music!

Doors open at 7PM, Show starts at 8PM! Most tickets are standing room only, but there is also limited reserved seating available, so get your tickets now before they sell out at:

<https://www.unionstagepresents.com/shows/latent-defect-12-jun>

### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

- Tuesday, June 2
  - 3:15 PM Junior Drum Major Tryouts
  - Farewell Cards for Ms. Bonneau's final band concert (from participating students) due to Band Room by end of school day!
- Friday, June 5
  - Last Day to register for MARCHING STATESMEN 2026
- Monday, June 8
  - NO SCHOOL!
  - 2:30 PM **Graduation at DAR Constitution Hall** (Non-Senior Wind Ensemble and other participating band members will receive details from Mr. V regarding reporting time and band transportation to/from the venue)
  - 7:00 PM Marching Percussion Workshop
- Friday, June 11
  - Half-Day School Schedule
- Friday, June 12
  - Half-Day School Schedule
  - 8:00 PM **Band Parent Social at Jammin' Java** to hear/see *Latent Defect!* (Mr. Vesilind performs on bass and vocals, and Mr. Wallace is on drums!) Doors open at 7PM, Show starts at 8PM! This show is open to the public and all are welcome! So grab your friends and neighbors and get your tickets now at <https://www.unionstagepresents.com/shows/latent-defect-12-jun>

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact Michelle Thompson (Band Parent Organization President) at [gcmbpopresident@gmail.com](mailto:gcmbpopresident@gmail.com) or Paul Vesilind (Marshall Band Director) at [pjvesilind@fcps.edu](mailto:pjvesilind@fcps.edu)