

THE MARSHALL MOUTHPIECE

GCM Band Parent & Student Newsletter

May 31, 2026

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Remember to check the calendar on the Marshall Band website at www.marshallband.org regularly for the most up-to-date information:

- 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

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 her last Kilmer band concert will be held at GCM on the evening of June 2. 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.) If you'd like to participate, please be sure to bring your cards to the Marshall Band Room and place them in the basket that will be located in Mr. V's office by Tuesday morning, June 2. Thank you.

MARSHALL BAND PERFORMANCE VIDEOS

Thank you to band parent extraordinaire, Steve Ni, for capturing our concert season on video! Click below to view the performances:

- Symphonic Band Concert
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3oZHqm5WDk>
- Wind Ensemble Band Concert Performance:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfmF9qxqPGs>
- Jazz Band & Percussion Concert Performances:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrjiKusxmQxmI3HinhLd4mdDW3yzlC06I>

MARCHING STATESMEN 2026 REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Calling all 2026 Marching Statesmen!...Get excited for the new season! The theme for next year is ***EVENT HORIZON!***

Marching Statesmen participation forms are due to Mr. V no later than Friday, 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!

Here are the dates at-a-glance:

- **2026 Marching Band Camp**
 - **August 3: LEADERSHIP DAY (upperclassmen leaders only)**
 - **August 4–7: Half-Day Band Camp**
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Marching Winds and Colorguard*
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Marching Percussion (includes front ensemble)*
(*Note: Times listed above are based on 2025 schedule but check calendar at end of June for updates.)
 - **August 10–14: Full Day Band Camp** *(All students attend from 8am-4pm)*
 - **August 17–20: Full Day Band Camp** *(All students attend from 8am-4pm)*
- **After-School Rehearsals (from August 25–November 5).**
 - **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm-6:00pm****
 - **Wednesdays from 6pm-9pm****
(Note:** See calendar for some exclusions to these dates)
- **2025 Marshall Band Commitments** *(Includes ALL Varsity Football “Home” Games, Tag Day Fundraiser, Vienna Halloween Parade, and 4 Saturday Competition Dates)*
 - **Friday, August 28** (Marshall Football Game v. Annandale HS)
 - **Saturday, August 29** (All Day “TAG DAY” Fundraiser)
 - **Friday, September 25** (Marshall Football Game v. Madison)
 - **Saturday, October 3** (US Bands Marine Corps Invitational Marching Competition)
 - **Saturday, October 10** (VMBC Shenandoah Valley Marching Invitational)
 - **Friday, October 16** (Marshall Homecoming Game v McLean)
 - **Friday, October 23** (Marshall Football Game v. Wakefield)
 - **Saturday, October 24** (VMBC Oakton Classic Marching Competition)
 - **Wednesday, October 28** (Vienna Halloween Parade)
 - **Friday, November 6** (Last Marshall Football Game v. Herndon)
 - **Saturday, November 7** (VMBC Championships Competition at Woodson HS)
 - **FALL BAND BANQUET TBD** *(Usually a Wed. or Thurs. in early November!)*

*Note that MARCHING COMPETITION DAYS are typically all-day events. Specific competition times for each school are not finalized/provided until the week of the event, and we will let you know the timing as soon as we are notified by the organizers.

JAMMIN' JAVA SOCIAL

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! Get your tickets now before they sell out at:

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

Please note that this is *not* a school-sponsored or Marshall Band/BPO-organized event and is open to the public for all ages! (We just think it's fun and are excited to go and support!)

LOOKING AHEAD:

- 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>
- Monday, June 15
 - 7:00 PM Marching Percussion Workshop
- Tuesday, June 16
 - Half-Day School Schedule
- Wednesday, June 17
 - Half-Day School Schedule
 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!!!

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