

September 19, 2018

Dear Alumni,

Welcome back to the “Spirit of the West” Marching Band. We have planned a phenomenal event for you this October, and are thrilled to have you perform alongside us at this year’s Homecoming events!

School of Music

This year MSU celebrates our 125th birthday and we are privileged to be featuring the alumni of the Marching Band as part of the festivities. The purpose of this event is to recognize the commitment of our band alumni of years past who have laid the foundation for who and what we are today. Thank you!

The material in this packet includes sheet music, parking/transportation instructions, ticketing information, uniform/dress code, Friday check-in, rehearsal/game-day schedule, and a general statement of “what to expect” on the day of the game. Please refer to the information and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in just a few weeks!

Sincerely,

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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI BAND



Friday, October 12, 2018

5:30 p.m.	Check-in and instrument check-out	Bobcat Stadium
6:15-8:00 p.m.	Welcome and rehearsal	Bobcat Stadium

Saturday, October 13, 2018

7:00 a.m.	Optional breakfast - additional fee - open to guests	Location TBA
8:30 a.m.	Uniform pick-up	Bison Parking Lot
9:00 a.m.	Busing to Downtown for parade	Depart from Bison Lot
10:00 a.m.	Homecoming Parade	Downtown Bozeman
10:30 a.m.	Busing to Stadium	Depart Bozeman Library
11:00 a.m.	Refresher Rehearsal	Location TBA
11:30 a.m.	Lunch - open to guests for an additional fee	Rehearsal site
12:30 pm.	Group Band Photo	MSU Fieldhouse
12:45 p.m.	Bobcat Prowl	MSU Fieldhouse
1:45 p.m.	Pregame Performance	Bobcat Stadium
2:00 p.m.	Montana State vs. Idaho	Bobcat Stadium
3:30 p.m.	Alumni Band halftime performance	Bobcat Stadium
5:30 p.m.	Return uniforms/return to parking area	Bobcat Stadium
6:00 p.m.	Post-game goodbyes	Parking Lot

Performance Music The following tunes are available for download for your preparation for our performance. We understand that many of our alumni aren't active musicians. All we ask is that you do your best and enjoy the experience. Try to get your "chops" back as well as you can, but don't concern yourself excessively over learning every single note. Memorization is not required.

Pregame Performance

The Star Spangled Banner
(conducted by President Cruzado)
Stand Up and Cheer

Halftime Performance

Ain't No Mountain High Enough
Firedance (featuring guest artists)

Tailgate/Stand-Tunes

(second priority in your practicing)

Street Beat (drumline only)
Cheer "Stolen" Sheet (no drumline parts)
Do Watcha Wanna (no drumline/flute/clarinet parts)
Plus the following "pep" tunes:
Land of 1000 Dances , Can't Hold Us , Band Yell
Bad Romance, Thundercats, Ex's and Oh's

Download music here: <https://montana.box.com/v/Alumni-Band-Music>

Parking/Transportation Instructions

The rehearsal on Friday evening is at Bobcat stadium. The stadium lot is free starting at 5:00pm that afternoon. Please note that cars may NOT be left in the stadium lot following rehearsal due to the spots being reserved/sold for the football game on Saturday.

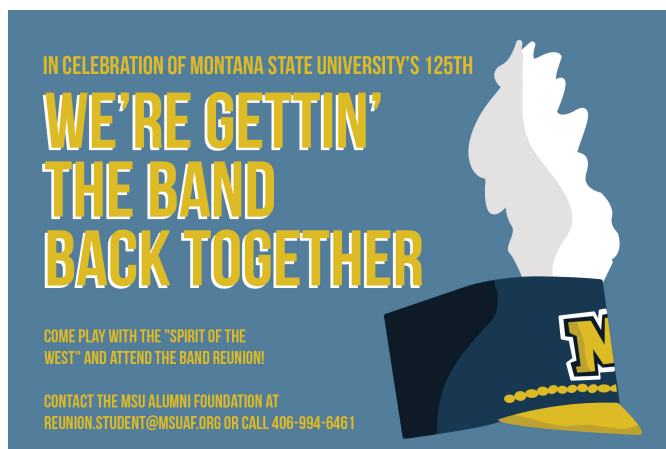
The Alumni Band will meet in the "Bison" lot on Saturday morning at 8:30am. Vehicles may remain in that lot for the duration of the day (including the football game). Bus transportation for band members AND their guests is provided from the parking lot to (and from) the Homecoming Parade (downtown). Alumni band members and guest are HIGHLY encouraged to ride the bus to ease with parking/transportation concerns.

Please note that the band will march the Homecoming parade (approximately 1.5 miles). A platform trailer will be available for band members who are unable march that distance.

Following the parade, the buses will return to MSU for a short "touch-up" rehearsal and lunch. The exact location of rehearsal and lunch is not yet determined, but it will be within short walking distance of the MSU Fieldhouse and/or stadium. From this location, we will be "on foot" until after the game. This will include a 0.75 mile tailgating loop from the Fieldhouse around the front of the stadium.

Please note that the band will march the Bobcat "Prowl" and around the front "horseshoe" of the stadium prior to our pregame performance. Members who are not able to walk this distance or pace will be escorted directly to our performance location as they are able.

Water and restrooms will be available following our tailgate loop. Following a short break we will enter the stadium for our Pregame performance. Once we are in the stadium, we will remain inside until the end of the game. Alumni band members are asked to stay with the band until the end of Halftime. Following the game, there will be transportation available from the stadium back to the Bison lot.



Ticketing Information

All performing members of the alumni band will sit with the band in the stadium—game tickets are NOT needed. Other than care-givers who will remain with their band alumni member, family and guests ARE required to purchase a ticket in order to access the game. Tickets may be purchased through the MSU ticket office by using the promo code: MSU125

Bobcat Ticket Office

<https://msubobcats.com/tickets/>

406-994-CATS

Please note that MSU has recently implemented a clear-bag policy which prevents anyone from bringing opaque bags into the stadium. Make sure that your family members/guests review the stadium entry protocols to avoid hassle when entering the gates. These increased security procedures do not allow for friends/family members to simply “follow the band” into the gates (as might have been allowed in years past). Only uniformed band members and caregivers will be allowed entry as a group. All other individuals MUST go through the normal spectator gates.

As of now, family and friends of the alumni band members will NOT have access to the field for the performance. Please direct your guests to watch the field shows (both pregame and halftime) from the West/pressbox side of the stadium.

Friday Check-In

Members of the alumni band are asked to check-in prior to rehearsal on Friday afternoon. This will help us determine our food/uniform needs for Saturday. Only performing members need to check-in.

For members of the Alumni Band that are borrowing an MSU-owned instrument, these will be available at check-in on Friday prior to the rehearsal. Please take good care of your instrument and let us know if there are any problems with it following the game.

Music flip folders will be available for purchase (\$5.00) at check-in. We will also have extra copies of the music available.

Kappa Kappa Psi, the band fraternity, will be selling “fan shwag” on Friday at the rehearsal. If you are interested in purchasing some shwag, please consider pre-ordering using the group’s online store: <https://sotwstore.ecwid.com>

Uniform/Dress Code

Please adhere to the following dress code for all performing members of the alumni band. Thank you for your cooperation!

Required uniform for 2018 alumni band:

- Long Blue Jeans
- Closed-toe “athletic” shoes
- Black socks
- SotW Alumni Band long-sleeved T-shirt (provided)
- SotW ball cap (provided)

Sunglasses may be worn, but should be black, white, blue, or yellow. It is also important that there are no non-uniform colors appearing on other articles of clothing that may show through the uniform. Please wear white or black/navy underlayers if the weather is cold. Be aware of bright colors on shoes, sunglasses, instruments, or coats. Avoid maroon and red (which can look like maroon)!

As of now—and depending on the weather—it is possible that we will fit the entire alumni band in our old marching uniforms. If this is the case, we will have them available at the parking lot starting at 8:00am on Saturday. The final determination will be made at the rehearsal on Friday evening.



What to Expect

Our desire is to make this event fun and positive for all members! With this in mind, there are some things we simply cannot control. All we ask is that you stay positive and remain in communication if you have any needs or concerns throughout the event. We will do our best to accommodate everyone to the extent of our ability.

Band alumni may remember the long action-filled football game-days. This will certainly be one to rival them all! Know your limits, and prioritize your time. We respect and trust you to make the best decisions for you (and your family) during our time together. Here are some special considerations:

1. **Poor weather.** There is no chance that this event will be cancelled due to bad weather. If members of the alumni band wish to alter their schedule to accommodate the weather, please keep us informed.
2. **Performance quality.** This is going to be a really fun day for everyone. With this in mind, it is still imperative that we maintain a sufficiently high quality of music during all of our performances. Help us create a positive rehearsal/performance atmosphere by listening and responding to instructions and doing your best when playing and with the band. Anyone failing to comply with these goals will be asked to leave the band.
3. **Lots of standing.** We will do our best to give you breaks, snacks, and water, but a typical game-day involves a lot of time on your feet—we are counting on you to know your limits and prioritize your energy and stamina!
4. **Alcohol use.** We ask that you refrain from the use of alcohol during alumni band events. Intoxication on the part of any of our students while in playing the band will result in immediate dismissal from the band and loss of scholarship. As such, we expect our alumni to respect this same policy. If an alumni is intoxicated or partaking in alcohol during any of our band events, we will ask to you leave. Thank you.
5. **Decorum in the Stands.** Despite what the culture may have been during your years at MSU, our current students are held to a very strict interpretation of the Student Code of Conduct. This includes use of profanity in uniform. Please respect our current students by keeping your comments “clean” and focusing on making the band sound good.



Thank you for doing your BEST for the “Spirit of the West”!