



TUMB

Notes

The Newsletter of the Tulane University Marching Band

Vol. 7 - Summer 2014

CHILLY GRAS!



New Orleans endured the coldest Mardi Gras since 1899. Temperatures hovered in the mid-30s with steady rain and wind for good measure, but the TUMB marched on. Pictured here playing through the Crescent City Connection underpass, members give their all for this favorite spot on the parade route known for its intensity of sound, audience engagement, and aromas from the BBQ grills!

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SEASON IN REVIEW

Spring in New Orleans = Mardi Gras, and the TUMB has established itself as a crowd favorite. Drum Major Chris Willuhn led the TUMB for the Knights of Nemesis (*right*), the first college band ever to march in this Chalmette parade! For the Thoth parade, an Uptown neighborhood crowd of more than a hundred gathered just to watch the band warm up (*below*) and were treated to musical highlights of the TUMB's parade repertoire.



TUMB is the hardest working college band in America when it comes to parades. To support that effort, we enlist drivers and their vehicles to transport water, doubloons, first aid kits, and other necessary supplies. This year we benefited from three different sources: Patrick and Marian Maguire with their '61 VW truck (*right*) for the Thoth parade, TU Police Department Officers Sgt. Angela Davis and Sgt. Olive Daw (*below, right*) for Nemesis and Hermes parades, and TUMB alumnus Greg Tacconi-Moore and his ride "Jackie" (*below, left*) for the Rex parade. Thanks to all!



TUMBarama, presented in Devlin Fieldhouse on March 12, showcased all components of the marching band program: Green Wave Brass Band, color guard (*below*), Shockwave dance team, feature twirler, and the full TUMB (*right*) for the grand finale.



On March 25 the TUMB returned to Devlin Fieldhouse for **Great Scott!**, a university-wide tribute to President Scott Cowen. It was a great opportunity to say thank you and best wishes to our leader for the past sixteen years. Although a storm outside derailed a planned parade, the TUMB with Feature Twirler Erin Ketterman, Shockwave Dance Team, and the Color Guard all danced up a storm inside (*right*).



The 2014 Spring Concert embodied the great strides that the Tulane Concert Band has made in recent years. Our audience continues to grow along with the ensemble's level of achievement. A more rigorous repertoire was highlighted by a challenging arrangement of Modeste Moussorgky's *Night On Bald Mountain*. Other portions of the program commemorated the 150th Anniversary of Patrick Gilmore's Lafayette Square extravaganza, and two selections celebrated Tabasco Sauce of Avery Island, LA. This annual musical evening concluded with our traditional reception for musicians and audience, in honor of our graduating seniors.



Photo by Sarrah Danziger



SPOTLIGHT

Four students from the Tulane Band Program had the privilege of performing in the Louisiana Intercollegiate Honor Band, January 17-19 at McNeese State University. Pictured below are (left to right) Lauren Stevens, Liz King, Marissa Beam and Christina Borne. The repertoire included *American Salute*, *Chester*, *Toccata Marziales*, *Carmina Burana*, and *The Diplomat*. Frank Wickes, retired LSU Director of Bands, conducted and lead the ensemble, while sharing many stories and instruction on professional performance techniques. The weekend was a learning experience and a fun time to mingle with musicians and Kappa Kappa Psi “brothers” from other universities!



McAlister Place had the look of “Hollywood South” as a film crew took aim at the TUMB (above), producing the main video shots for Yulman Stadium ticket sales advertising. The TUMB Drumline also recorded the primary soundtrack for the ad, which has been airing regularly in prime time television.



nienteForte, the contemporary music series produced by TUMB drumline instructor Mendel Lee, presented its spring event in the Dixon Annex Recital Hall on March 24th. The recital featured **Liminal Space Contemporary Music Ensemble** with guest artists Luke Hubley, percussionist, and George Heathco, composer/electric guitarist. They were joined in performance by Mendel and TUMB assistant director of bands Mark Lighthiser. Pictured above at the post-performance reception are (left-to-right) Mendel, Mark, Luke and George.



TUMB had the honor of having Dr. Tom Stafford, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs, assist during Mardi Gras parades. Tom (pictured third from left) has been a great friend of the band during his time with Tulane this past year, and we wish him all the best in retirement!

Welcome to our new University President Michael Fitts. Here's to a great beginning, a wonderful adventure and fabulous success in the years ahead. Roll Wave!



ALUMNI

TUMBAA As we say farewell to our largest senior class ever (*below*), we welcome them to the ranks of our alumni, joining other recent graduates who are leading the newly formed Tulane University Marching Band Alumni Association: TUMBAA. This is a new category for alumni groups, identified by a specific area of interest or activity, rather than the traditional school or academic affiliation. TUMBAA will be leading new initiatives to help support the TUMB, creating outreach activities for alumni members, and serving as a networking resource for new graduates, among other goals. TUMBAA is making plans to host tailgating on campus prior to every home football game on the Weinmann Patio, in front of Dixon Annex. This will be a fantastic venue! For more information about TUMBAA and how to get involved, contact them at TULANE BANDALUMNI@GMAIL.COM.



A second band alumnus has celebrated a centennial milestone this academic year! April 20th marked the 100th birthday for Dr. J. Dudley Talbot, Tulane Drum Major in 1935! He and many of his close friends from Shreveport, LA travelled to Las Vegas, NV to celebrate. Tulane director of bands Barry Spanier was invited for the festivities and presented the honoree with a TUMB shako (*above*). Dr. Talbot was in great spirits as he enjoyed the stage shows, restaurants, casinos and hospitality of Caesars Palace. Mr. Spanier also met with the Tulane Alumni Club of Las Vegas (*below*) and others from the region to update them on TUMB history, progress and plans for the future. Thanks to Las Vegas Alumni Club president James Wallin for bringing it all together!

Play your part in Alumni Band history, at Yulman Stadium's first **HOME COMING** on Saturday, November 15. Alumni Band will rehearse with the TUMB on Friday, November 14 from 3:00-6:00pm. New custom designed TUMB Hawaiian shirts will be available for band alumni, as the official homecoming "uniform." TUMBAA (*see story above*) will help facilitate alumni band activities. For more information and to **REGISTER** to participate, contact Patricia McWhorter-Broussard at patmcwbr@tulane.edu or call 504-314-BAND (2263).





DEVELOPMENT

TUMB Endowed Fund
\$50,000 goal for 2013-14:

\$46K RAISED

\$4K
still to
raise

The Richard B. Graves Marching Band Student Awards

continue to have a significant, positive impact on the lives of our students and the band program. They support our members who put in extensive hours and provide boundless energy, and ensure that the TUMB is rewarding loyalty and developing leaders. This past spring, 35 more Richard B. Graves Marching Band Awards were granted to TUMB students, for a range of dedication and leadership categories. That brings the total to 161 awards granted over eight semesters since this fund was established. Thank you to our generous donors whose 5-year pledges have made all of this possible.

The *TUMB Endowed Fund* is approaching our first year goal of \$50,000. This fund will help to solidify our operating base, for the program to grow and flourish. Gifts to this fund allow our band members to proudly serve as ambassadors for Tulane and New Orleans. When you support the band you help to keep the Green Wave spirit alive at athletic events, Mardi Gras parades, concerts and through our community service projects.

The band program hosted its third annual pre-concert dinner for band donors, alumni and parents. This dinner event has grown by leaps and bounds, with significant increases in attendance each of the past two years. To accommodate guests this year, dinner was served in the 1834 Club Faculty Dining Room (*below*) in the LBC. Special thanks are due to our co-hosts and colleagues Kelly Gripshover and Leslie Marsh of Tulane's Office of Development. Following the meal and presentation by director of bands Barry Spanier, students of the TUMB color guard, dance team and drumline escorted guests to the Tulane Concert Band's spring concert, across the street in Dixon Hall.



Photo by Sarah Danziger



Support comes in many forms. **Tulane's Greenie Gals** continue to show their spirit in new ways: they provide a home cooked meal for one-hundred every August during band camp; they bought new pom-poms for the dance team in 2013, and this year they purchased a set of replacement shakos and plumes (*left*) to keep the TUMB looking its best!

SUPPORT THE TUMB!



Visit tulaneband.org/support/ to make your tax-deductible donation today!

COMMUNITY

TUMB members are exposed first hand to the full range of music traditions of New Orleans. And our students do more than learn and perform - they become part of the fabric and evolving history of the place. Nowhere is this more evident than through the service learning opportunity of working with the young musicians and their directors at the Roots of Music. Our students tutor music basics and technique, helping their young players to develop solid foundations for a brighter musical future. They also mentor by engaging one-on-one and modeling success.



The Roots of Music drumline (above) returns to the historic Cabildo, their home base at Jackson Square, after performing on the Abita Stage in the French Quarter Festival (below).

IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

My perspective on the whole learning process has changed in that I have truly realized the incredible learning potential that all children have, regardless of their background or how disadvantaged they may be. I worked with a saxophone player, teaching him something very important that he had previously never been taught. I felt like I truly made a difference in their musical education.

– Joshua Kirbens, TUMB sophomore

Being on the teaching side of the band was a new experience for me, and it challenged the way I normally think about music; I had to think of ways to express the concepts that I already know and have been practicing for years. I also got to see the Roots of Music marching band practice and perform from an outside perspective, which I rarely get to see while inside a band.

– Andrew Crawford, TUMB freshman

I always knew how important music was in my life. Service learning has allowed me to help kids and pass along the knowledge that has been bestowed upon me by mentors in the past. Working one-on-one was my favorite part of the experience. A very young musician tentatively approached and quietly told me that he didn't know how to read music. Being able to step in and help someone at the beginning of what could be the most important part of their life was assuredly the greatest aspect of my service learning experience.

– Sam Feintech, TUMB





Tulane University Marching Band

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Upcoming Fall 2014 Events!

Yulman Stadium Inaugural Home Game:
September 6 vs. Georgia Tech

6th Annual Band Day:
September 13 vs. Southeastern Louisiana

TUMB Road Trip to Cocoa Beach, FL:
October 17-18 vs. Central Florida

Homecoming and Alumni Band:
November 15 vs. Memphis



ENCORE



ALUMNI BAND: Join us for Yulman Stadium's first **HOMECOMING** on Nov. 15, with afternoon rehearsal on Friday, Nov. 14. For more information and to REGISTER to participate, contact Patricia McWhorter-Broussard at patmcwbr@tulane.edu or call 504-314-BAND (2263).

*Visit tulaneband.org for the latest in TUMB related news!
Follow us online for photos, videos, and livestreaming broadcasts!*



Or give us a call at 504.314.BAND (2263)

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