



Notes and Rests - from the Maestro

From MCBA Secretary Sue McLaughlin. Please find an addendum attachment to this week's newsletter which contains updated 'policies/practices' for cancellations (winter/summer) and membership (adult and student)



As in the past, I have encouraged our membership to participate in the "Sousa March Mania." Best of luck as you attempt to participate in the tournament!

Marcus

SOUSA'S MARCH MANIA

32 MARCHES. 4 WEEKS. 1 CHAMPION.

THE MANIA BEGINS MARCH 2, 2026.

"The President's Own" hosts its annual "Sousa's March Mania," a tournament pitting 32 musical marches against each other for voters to decide which one will be crowned the year's champion march. Every weekday marches will compete head-to-head while our friends and fans vote for marches to advance in the tournament. **This year the competition celebrates America 250!**

Use the menu below to navigate through March Mania resources.

VOTE

- 2026 Match Results
- 2026 Bracket
- 2026 Playlist
- Educational Resources
- 2025 Champion Reveal
- Hall of Fame
- Fleet Marine Band Program

FIRST ROUND

VOTE HERE

March 5 - Game 7

The Invincible Eagle vs **National Emblem**

March 5 - Game 8

Superman March vs **The National Game**

March 6 - Game 9

32 MARCHES. 4 WEEKS. 1 CHAMPION. THE MANIA BEGINS MARCH 2, 2026. -

[Sousa's March Mania](#)

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Our rehearsals will begin again on Wednesday, March 11th. We will work on the following selections, in the following order:

Shenandoah	Break
Wingspan	Chester
Harmonious Blacksmith	Rolling Thunder
Galop	My Fair Lady
Wrong Note Rag	Hail to the Spirit of Liberty

We will also read two/three songs for the summer? We have plenty to work on if not.

Thank you, Darren

Hey MCB Band,

We have a concert on Sunday! Don't forget the time change Saturday night—we spring forward! I think we're ready for a terrific performance. Thank you for all the effort you have put into preparing for this concert.

Darren

Concert Attire: Concert Black

Schedule:

1:00 - Set-up crew
1:30 - Be in seats; individual warm-up time
1:45 - Tuning pitches
1:50 - Chorale: *Air for Band*
1:58 - Another set of tuning pitches
2:00 - Welcome

If you have a solo during a piece, please stand after the applause has begun. I will try to remember to acknowledge you as well.

Darren

The Medina Community Band
Marcus L. Neiman, conductor
Dr. Darren LeBeau, associate conductor
Matthew Hastings & Amy Muhl, assistant conductors

Mid-Winter Concert – Western Reserve Masonic Community

Sunday, March 8th, 2026 – 2:00 p.m.

Anthem, *Star Spangled Banner* (1889/1917) Francis Scott Key *
Floyd Werle

Rhapsody, *American Folk Rhapsody No. 2* (1959) Clare Grundman *

March, *Flags of Freedom* (1918) John Philip Sousa #

Two from the Civil War

Ashokan Farewell (from *The Civil War*) (1983) Jay Unger #
Calvin Custer

Bonnie Eloise (Belle of Mohawk Vale) (1858/2015) J.P. Thomas #
Ronald C. Knoener

Brass Choir, *Variations on Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (1959/1917) Martin Luther #
Kevin Kaisershort

Interval

Woodwind Choir, *Symphony No. 5, mvt 1* (1816/1973) Franz Schubert #
Nilo Hovey

Patrol, *American Patrol* (1978) Frank Wright Meacham #
Frank Erickson

Clarinet Duet, *Clarinet Candy* (1962) Leroy Anderson *
Mary Ann Grof-Neiman & Erich Standar (solo clarinet)

Flute Trio, *The Penny Whistle* (1951) Leroy Anderson *
Dr. Tracy Gulling-Tracy Gulling-Leftwich, Amy Muhl, and Sue McLaughlin, (solo flutes)

Saxophone Ensemble, *Sax Serenade* (1958) Ira P. Schwarz *
Robert Moore and Margo Miller (alto), Marcia Warden (tenor), and Gwen Grehle (baritone)

Our National March, *The Stars and Stripes Forever* (1895) John Philip Sousa *

Hymn, *Goin' Home* (from *Symphony 9, largo*) (1893/1996) Antonín Dvořák *
Jari Villanneva

Dr. Darren LeBeau conducting
* Marcus L. Neiman, conducting

Program subject to change



To view entire program online (at our website) scan QR code above!
Revised 26 01 22



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MCBA Winter Weather Policy for Cancellations

MCBA prioritizes the well-being of all members. Weather conditions may differ across areas within the county and neighboring counties; therefore, each member is responsible for determining whether it is safe to travel. MCBA is unable to make this determination on behalf of individuals. If a member feels uncomfortable driving for any reason, they should choose not to do so and promptly notify their section leader regarding their absence from rehearsal or concert.

As a result, it is important to stay informed about your local forecasts and any advisories issued for your specific area. MCBA encourages members to regularly check reliable weather sources to ensure their safety and preparedness for unexpected changes.

Decision to Cancel:

MCBA will decide on cancellations using these criteria and any current weather information.

- In the event that Medina County is placed under an Ohio Level 2 or 3 snow emergency, as defined by the State of Ohio, the rehearsal or concert will be cancelled.
- If a Weather WARNING is issued by the State of Ohio, the event may be cancelled based on the timing and specifics of the weather situation.
- The MCBA Weather Committee will carefully review all official weather notices issued by the state when making final decisions regarding event cancellations.

Time of Cancellation: The committee will, to the best of its ability, notify participants of any event (rehearsal or concert) cancellation at least two hours prior to the scheduled start time.

Approved by MCBA Board 01-2026

Attachments:

Snow Emergency definitions for the State of Ohio
Weather Terms defined by the State of Ohio

In Medina County, snow emergencies are defined using a three-level classification system mandated by the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness and issued by the Medina County Sheriff. These levels indicate the severity of road conditions and establish travel guidelines for residents.

Medina County Snow Emergency Levels

- **Level 1 (Low):** Roadways are hazardous due to blowing and drifting snow and potential ice. Motorists are advised to drive with caution.
- **Level 2 (Moderate):** Roadways are extremely hazardous with accumulated, blowing, and drifting snow and/or ice. Travel is recommended only if absolutely necessary, and residents should check with their employers.
- **Level 3 (High):** All roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. Only travel for life-threatening emergencies is permitted. Violators may face arrest for misconduct at an emergency.

The Medina County Sheriff is responsible for declaring and lifting these levels based on road conditions. For updates, residents can consult the [Medina County Sheriff's Facebook page](#) or the [OHGO traffic map](#).



CURRENT WEATHER

WEATHER SAFETY

MEDIA

ABOUT

OCSWA / Weather Safety / Winter Weather / Weather Terms

WELCOME

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

FLOOD INFORMATION

SCHOOL SAFETY

WEATHER TERMS

BE AWARE AND BE PREPARED

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Weather Terms

The National Weather Service (NWS) is responsible for issuing winter storm warnings, watches and advisories to alert the public when dangerous winter conditions are expected.

- **Watch** - A weather watch means there is the potential or conditions exist for a dangerous weather event.
- **Warning** - A weather warning means that a dangerous weather event is imminent. Immediate action must be taken to protect life and property.
- **Advisory** - A weather advisory means weather conditions that are less serious than a warning are imminent. These events may cause a significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, it could lead to a situation that may be threatening to life and property.

Hazardous Weather Outlook - Issued daily, a hazardous weather outlook highlights any significant weather conditions that may develop. It is intended to provide information on the potential of significant weather over the next week.

Special Weather Statement - Provides the public with information concerning ongoing weather hazards, including strong storms that may become severe.

Short Term Forecast - A short-term forecast describes the weather in the local area and includes a short-range forecast (usually not more than six hours). This product will be updated more frequently when it is used during active weather. A short-term forecast is sometimes referred to as a "NOW-cast."



MEDINA COMMUNITY BAND

Summer Concert Cancellation and/or Move to Inclement Weather Site Procedures and Policy

Remarks regarding concert cancellations:

Medina Community Band (MCB) and the Medina Community Band Association (MCBA) strive not to cancel concerts, but weather is beyond our control. We know cancelling is disappointing and inconvenient for everyone involved, including our social hosts. Our primary concern is the safety of our band members, social hosts, and audience.

Rationale:

We must carefully consider the following when the band plays in extreme temperatures:

- Very cold or hot weather, especially when there are wind-chill or humidity warnings, can pose health risks for ensemble members, especially those over age 50 or taking certain medications.
- Extreme temperatures can damage wooden instruments, which some band members own and value.
- Audience safety matters.

Decision Making Process:

The conductor and MCBA representatives will decide whether to cancel a concert based on the following:

- Weather advisories, warnings, or watches are in effect, with consideration given to the timing of such events.
- Temperatures fall below 60°F or rise above 85°F (accounting for chill or heat index), particularly when accompanied by high humidity.
- Poor air quality or an elevated AQI.

MCB places a high priority on member safety. If an MCB member believes that performing outdoors could be unsafe for any reason, they should make this decision on their own and inform their section leader right away.

Notification Process:

Decisions regarding concert cancellations or potential relocation from the Square will be made as early as possible on Friday evening. In the event of rain risk, an assessment of the Square's condition will be conducted, with consultation from the City of Medina if necessary. Ideally, the determination will occur between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM; however, should weather conditions remain uncertain, final decisions may be postponed until closer to the scheduled concert time.

If an event is cancelled or moved to an Inclement Weather Site, notifications will follow the procedures outlined below:

- The conductor will inform the MCBA board representative, section leaders, guest conductors, and soloists.
- Section leaders will inform their sections in the band.
- The MCBA Board will notify the City of Medina, staff (setup crew and sound team), social host, the City of Medina (for their website) and post the cancelation to MCB website, Facebook, Instagram and MailChimp (message to the fans).

(Approved by MCBA board on 2026-02-27)

Refer to the WEATHER COMMITTEE ADDENDUM TO MCB SUMMER CANCELLATION POLICY for details on notifications.



CURRENT WEATHER

WEATHER SAFETY

MEDIA

ABOUT US

WELCOME

Weather Terms

EXTREME HEAT

Although thunderstorms occur year round, they are most prevalent across the state during the spring and summer months. Thunderstorms can produce damaging winds, deadly lightning, large hail, flash flooding and tornadoes. In addition, effects of extreme heat can be exasperated by power outages caused by these storms. The following severe weather terms are defined by the National Weather Service.

FLOOD INFORMATION

THUNDER & LIGHTNING

The National Weather Service (NWS) is responsible for issuing severe weather watches, warnings and advisories to alert the public when dangerous weather conditions are expected.

TORNADO SAFETY

WEATHER TERMS

- **Watch** - A weather watch means there is the potential or conditions exist for a dangerous weather event.
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Heat Index (Apparent Temperature) - A measure of human discomfort due to the combination of heat and humidity. It is a more accurate measure than air temperature alone for estimating the risk of heat and its effects on human physiology. Exposure to full sunshine can increase the heat index by 15 degrees.



The Medina Community Band Adult Membership Policy

Medina Community Band has served the community since 1859, offering a musical experience and performing for local audiences. Members are expected to prepare for rehearsals and concerts under the conductors' guidance.

Expectations for All Members – Our expectations are clearly defined. For each expectation:

- **Adult Membership** is open to anyone aged 18 or older who plays brasswind, woodwind, or percussion. Members are responsible for self-training as needed to participate effectively in the band. Section leaders, with conductor approval, assign seating to balance parts. There are no dues or formal auditions. A separate policy applies to high school students and is available upon request.
- **Attendance expectations** are straightforward: members should attend every rehearsal, but we understand that family and work commitments may occasionally prevent this. Members must inform their section leader or conductor of absences in advance by phone, email, or text. If you share a music folder, ensure your stand partner has it if you'll be absent. Consistent unnotified absences can result in removal from the band. Excessive absences during the indoor season may affect eligibility for summer participation, with preference given to those who attend regularly.
- **Liability.** All members are fully responsible for themselves at rehearsals and performances, regardless of age. Medina Community Band is not liable in any case.
- **Communications:** Members must stay in contact with section leaders, the conductor, and other band members.
- **Instruments and equipment:** Members provide their own instruments. Percussionists bring their sticks or mallets. Music stands may be required depending on the venue.
- **Music Folders:** Each member receives a music folder to maintain and return if leaving or absent for over two weeks. Leave the folder, with music, in its assigned slot and notify your section leader. Lost, damaged, or unreturned folders with music require reimbursement (value: \$500–\$1000).

Approved by MCBA 2026 02 27



The Medina Community Band

Personnel Roster Information

Please print neatly

Name As you would like it printed in the program:

Address:

City:

Zip:

Phone – Cell:

Phone – Home:

Email:

Instrument:

Secondary Instrument(s):

Occupation As you would like it printed in the program:

Please return to:

**Marcus L. Neiman, conductor
Medina Community Band**

**4756 Gateway Drive – Medina, OH 44256-7941
marcusneiman@medinacommunityband.org**



The Medina Community Band Student Membership Policy

Who We Are – Medina Community Band serves as an adult concert band, welcoming musicians to play in a supportive atmosphere that encourages growth in musical and performance abilities. Membership does not require dues or auditions.

We understand our members possess diverse skill levels, but everyone is expected to attend rehearsals prepared to perform the scheduled music to the best of their abilities. Within each section, section leaders provide guidance and mentorship, helping fellow musicians improve their skills and overseeing placement within the section.

Opportunities for Young Musicians

From its inception, the band has welcomed young musicians as members, viewing student participation as both an honor and a responsibility. While Medina Community Band is not intended to replace high school band programs, it offers talented students a chance to further develop musically and expand their experiences.

- **Student Membership.** High school students wishing to be considered for membership must have:
 - Recommendation of the high school band director and/or personal private lesson instructor.
 - Signature of their high school band director
 - Signature of parent or guardian

Expectations for All Members – Our expectations are clearly defined. For each expectation:

- **Musical maturity.** The section leader will assign chair placement for a one-month trial period, taking into account recommendations from the student's band director and/or private lesson instructor. During this time, the section leader will collaborate with the student to assess their musical abilities and ensure they can perform effectively within the group.
- **Attendance expectations** are straightforward: members should attend every rehearsal, but we understand that family and work commitments may occasionally prevent this. Members must inform their section leader or conductor of absences in advance by phone, email, or text. If you share a music folder, ensure your stand partner has it if you'll be absent. Consistent unnotified absences can result in removal from the band. Excessive absences during the indoor season may affect eligibility for summer participation, with preference given to those who attend regularly.
- **Liability.** All members are fully responsible for themselves at rehearsals and performances, regardless of age. Medina Community Band is not liable in any case.
- **Communications:** Members must stay in contact with section leaders, the conductor, and other band members.
- **Instruments and equipment:** Members provide their own instruments. Percussionists bring their sticks or mallets. Music stands may be required depending on the venue.

- **Music Folders:** Each member receives a music folder to maintain and return if leaving or absent for over two weeks. Leave the folder, with music, in its assigned slot and notify your section leader. Lost, damaged, or unreturned folders with music require reimbursement (value: \$500–\$1000).

Full Status Membership – The one-month trial period is intended to provide students with the opportunity to evaluate whether band membership aligns with their interests and commitments. Simultaneously, it enables the band—through assessment by the section leader and conductor—to determine if the student demonstrates the requisite musical proficiency and personal work habits for successful integration as a band member. Throughout this period, the section leader will serve as a mentor, maintaining ongoing communication with the student and ultimately making a recommendation to the conductor regarding full membership status. The student will be notified of the decision within one week following the conclusion of the trial period.

Approved by MCBA 2026-02-27



The Medina Community Band Student Personnel Roster Information

Please print neatly

Name As you would like it printed in the program:

Address:

City:

Zip:

Phone – Cell:

Phone – Home:

Email:

Instrument:

Secondary Instrument(s):

High School Attending As you would like it printed in the program:

The High school band director must sign below and provide a recommendation for the student via email or attached to the application. The director acknowledges that the student's school band commitments take priority over MCB's schedule. **Application will not be accepted without this signature.**

Name: _____ **Signature** _____ **Date** _____

The parent or legal guardian must sign below, acknowledging that their child is responsible for following all Medina Community Band policies, attending rehearsals and performances, and communicating with the section leader and conductor. Any provided music folder remains MCB property and must be returned upon request. **Application will not be accepted without this signature.**

Name: _____ **Signature** _____ **Date** _____

Each student will be assigned a section leader who will serve as their mentor and advisor. A trial period of one month, or four rehearsals, will apply to all students. Upon completion of this period, the section leader will inform the student regarding their eligibility for full membership.

**Please return to: Marcus L. Neiman, conductor, Medina Community Band
4756 Gateway Drive – Medina, OH 44256 marcusneiman@medinacommunityband.org**