



**Main Street Community Band**  
**An Ensemble of The City of Fairfax Band Association, Inc.**

**HANDBOOK**

Geoffrey Seffens, Conductor, Main Street Community Band  
Robert Pouliot, Music Director



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Welcome to membership in the Main Street Community Band. In this handbook you will find important information to guide you through the season of our organization.

### **ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE**

The Main Street Community Band (MSCB) is an open membership, multi-generational “come and play” community ensemble of the City of Fairfax Band Association, Inc. with a friendly, welcoming spirit promoting the personal rewards of making music with friends while encouraging excitement for music education and continued learning.

The Main Street Community Band fulfills the following elements of our organizational mission:

“to stimulate, promote and develop interest in the musical environments, to educate the general public in the musical environment, to advance the national culture in the musical environment through the performance of, and education in the wind and percussion ensemble, and symphonic band musical literatures;

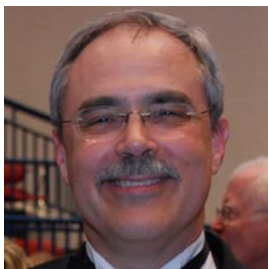
to provide opportunity for development of individual musicianship and musical skills; and for individual musical expression and enjoyment of music among its membership and the general public.”

### **MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Membership in MSCB is open to all wind and percussion instrumentalists 18 years of age or older with a wide range of musical backgrounds and training, from those renewing musical skills to those of moderate to advanced ability. No audition is required.

The ensemble rehearses once per week on Wednesday evenings from 7:45 p.m.– 9:45 p.m. at Fairfax High School (subject to availability). Members are expected to be in their seat at 7:45 p.m., and to stay until the end of rehearsal. A minimum of two public concerts (one winter, one summer) are planned per year with possible opportunities for additional civic and community performances. Members are expected to perform in all of the season’s regularly scheduled concerts. Mandatory dress rehearsals are held prior to each concert. A planning calendar is distributed before the season begins.

## CONDUCTOR, **Geoffrey Seffens**



**Geoffrey Seffens** is a retired Fairfax County Public Schools band director and former member of the City of Fairfax Band.

A native of the City of Fairfax, Mr. Seffens attended Layton Hall Elementary (now Daniel's Run Elementary), Sidney Lanier "Intermediate" School, and the old Fairfax High School, performing in Matt Hynes' bands and earning numerous music awards and distinctions. After graduating from the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music in 1975, he served as an itinerant elementary band instructor in the Fairfax County Public Schools, teaching wind and percussion for four years. He transferred to the then Sidney Lanier Intermediate School, where he remained for the next 28 years until his retirement in 2007, elevating the band and ensembles to the position of distinction they now hold and mentoring numerous student teachers from both George Mason and James Madison Universities. During that time, he was included in the 13th edition of the International Biographical Center's Men of Achievement in 1988, was named the Rotary Club of Fairfax's 1999 Outstanding Teacher of the Year, received The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts' 2005 John Mason Arts Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to the arts, and was Lanier's 2006 nominee for the Disney Teachers Award.

As a trumpeter, Mr. Seffens played with the City of Fairfax Band, the National Concert Band of America, the GTEV "Alpenveilchen" German Band, and for 14 years in the professional Tom Cunningham Orchestra. He was a member of the Fairfax United Methodist Church Brass Quintet, and conducted the Vienna Community Band from 1975 until 1981. Most recently, he played tuba with the Fairfax County Fine Arts Ensemble. His professional affiliations include membership in the Music Educators National Conference, the Virginia Music Educators Association, the Phi Mu Alpha Professional Music Fraternity, Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity, and the American School Band Masters Association.

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES & OTHER EXPENSES**

**Membership Dues:** Annual dues are collected in September for the period of September – August. New members pay dues upon acceptance into the ensemble and then annually in September. Dues are applied to general operating expenses and are commensurate with the City of Fairfax Band Association's dues structure, currently \$25/per year individual, \$40/year family. Members of this ensemble receive full voting membership in the Association. Association governing documents and policies are available at [www.fairfaxband.org](http://www.fairfaxband.org).

**Concert Season Attire:** Each member must purchase concert black attire.

**For men:** single-breasted black tuxedo jacket & pants, white tuxedo shirt, black tie and red cummerbund, black socks and shoes. A black suit can be substituted for the tux. The cost of the red cummerbund is \$9.25.

**For women:** a black dress, shoes and stockings. Black pants and blouse may be substituted for the dress.

**Summer Concert Attire:** The uniform for all members consists of khaki pants with belt, socks and shoes, and an MSCB polo shirt. Cost for the polo shirt is \$16.50.

**Music Stand:** Folding stands may be purchased at retail stores for about \$15.

**Instrument:** Members are expected to own their own instrument for rehearsal and performance. A selection of large percussion equipment is available.

Dues and ticket sales do not cover the costs of concert productions and organizational activities. Members are urged to purchase tickets for or sell tickets to family, friends and colleagues. Members are also expected to participate in fundraising efforts through donations, solicitations and attendance at events.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Although the program is “Come and Play” in nature, attendance is required at 2/3 of rehearsals to be eligible to participate in performances.

In the event that you will miss a rehearsal, please inform your section leader and the personnel coordinator. The section leaders’ names and email addresses can be found on the roster available in the members only portion of the website (see “Communication” below.) Failure to contact your section leader prior to a missed rehearsal will result in the absence being unexcused.

Members who miss more than 2/3 of rehearsals will be ineligible to perform. Extenuating circumstances resulting in absences from rehearsal will be taken into consideration. The director, in consultation with the section leaders and personnel coordinator will make the final decisions.

A dress rehearsal may be scheduled prior to a particular performance. Attendance at this rehearsal is required in order to perform in the concert.

## **DRESS REHEARSAL POLICY**

All MSCB dress rehearsals are closed to the public. Special exceptions to this policy should be addressed to the Conductor and the Managing Director prior to the day of the rehearsal. No photography or recording is allowed without permission of the MSCB staff. Violation of this policy will result in the loss of this privilege for future concerts.

## **VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT**

The City of Fairfax Band Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization with a strong history of reliance upon volunteers for its administrative operation. We rely on your participation to assist with general operations, production, development and fundraising, publicity and marketing, program advertising, ticket sales, CD sales, etc. All members are asked to help with rehearsal set-up. We value your time and trust that you will consider MSCB worth the gift of your time and energy. Please complete the Volunteer Section of the Registration Form and return it to the Office.

The following are MSCB volunteer positions:

**Sandi Shirts, MSCB Personnel Coordinator:** Maintains roster of performers and forwards as changes occur to MSCB section leaders and CFBA Managing Director for update to web site. Monitors and records attendance. Tracks and collects membership dues and forwards to CFBA Managing Director. Updates concert roster and forwards to CFBA Managing Director. Maintains all new member inquiries and forwards list to CFBA Managing Director. Responsible for hospitality of new members. Other duties as assigned.

**Sandi Shirts, MSCB Librarian:** Working closely with the MSCB Conductor and CFBA Librarian, responsible for compiling all music for the MSCB ensemble. Places orders for music with the CFBA Librarian. Organizes folders for rehearsals and concerts. Distributes and collects music folders at rehearsal and maintains sign out sheet. Coordinates transportation of music to rehearsal and performances. Forwards performance repertoire to CFBA Managing Director for concert programs and rights management. Other duties as assigned.

**MSCB Production Coordinator:** Working with the MSCB Conductor, CFBA Production Manager and CFBA Managing Director, responsible for all production requirements of the MSCB rehearsals and concerts. With the assistance of members and volunteers, sets up rehearsal room with chairs, stands, percussion equipment, etc. prior to and following rehearsals. Oversees the load in and out of all equipment for offsite rehearsals, dress rehearsals and performances. Coordinates any necessary cartage to and from storage when necessary. Ensures rehearsal rooms and concert venues are reset to standards. Communicates production requirements to CFBA Managing Director as necessary. Other duties as assigned.

**Additional MSCB volunteer positions will be available. MSCB are encouraged to volunteer for committee and board service.**

## COMMUNICATION

The MSCB communicates to members through weekly emails and the association's website ([www.fairfaxband.org](http://www.fairfaxband.org)). Please confirm that we have your updated email messages. Alert your section leader if you do not have an email address.

To access membership information on the website, enter the members only section.

User Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Password: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the website to keep up-to-date with the latest information.

Important MSCB announcements are made at rehearsals. Association announcements are also distributed to members.

Inclement weather: In case of changes or cancelations to rehearsals or performances, an email announcement will be sent. Changes are also noted on the Association's office line at (703) 757-0220 that is answered by the Association's Volunteer Administrator. Performance cancelations are noted on the web site.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Staff and Organization:

City of Fairfax Band  
P.O. Box 1306, Fairfax, VA 22038-1306  
PH/FAX: (703) 757-0220  
[office@fairfaxband.org](mailto:office@fairfaxband.org)  
[www.fairfaxband.org](http://www.fairfaxband.org)

MSCB Conductor:

Geoffrey Seffens  
[rxseffens@aol.com](mailto:rxseffens@aol.com)  
PH: (703) 273-9194

MSCB Personnel Coordinator:

Sandi Shirts  
[virginiacanuck@cox.net](mailto:virginiacanuck@cox.net)  
PH: (703) 261-6599 (h); (406) 698-0203 (c)

CFBA Managing Director:

Jeanne Mellish  
[office@fairfaxband.org](mailto:office@fairfaxband.org)  
PH: (703) 328-8036

CFBA Board of Directors:

William Schmidt, Chair  
John Flahive, President  
Al Miller, Vice President  
Jay Berkenbilt, Treasurer  
Ruth Bandler, Secretary  
Libby Fike, PR Coordinator  
Robert Pouliot, Music Director  
Rick Parrell, Associate Conductor  
J. P. Auffret, Director  
David Bulova, Director  
Joan Cross, Director  
Patrice Winter, Director  
Jane Woods, Director

## **DIRECTIONS**

Below are directions to MSCB rehearsal and performance venues.

### **Fairfax High School (FHS), 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA**

*From I-495:* Exit at Route 236, Little River Turnpike, WEST. Continue about 4 miles; street name changes to Main St. Turn RIGHT at light on Old Lee Highway. At sign for FHS, turn LEFT on Rebel Run. Pass the front of the school, then turn LEFT into parking lot. Continue straight and Entrance 11 will be on your LEFT. We rehearse in the choir room, straight down the hall on your LEFT.

*From I-66:* Exit at Nutley St SOUTH. Turn RIGHT at light on Lee Highway. Turn LEFT at light on Pickett Rd. Turn RIGHT at light on Old Pickett Rd. Turn LEFT at light on Old Lee Highway. At sign for FHS, turn RIGHT on Rebel Run. Follow directions above.

### **Frost Middle School (FMS), 4101 Pickett Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032-1298**

*From I-495:* Take exit 52A-B for Little River Tnpk/VA-236 toward Fairfax. Merge onto Little River Turnpike/VA-236. Turn left at Pickett Rd.

*From I-66:* Take exit 64 to merge onto I-495 S toward Richmond. Take exit 52A-B for Little River Tnpk/VA-236 toward Fairfax. Merge onto Little River Turnpike/VA-236. Turn left at Pickett Rd.

### **Sidney Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030-4931**

*From I-495:* Take exit 52B-A to merge onto Little River Turnpike/VA-236 toward Fairfax. Continue to follow VA-2363. Slight right at Main St. Turn right at Jermantown Rd

*From I-66:* Take exit 57A to merge onto Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy/US-50 toward Fairfax. Turn left at Jermantown Rd.

### **Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Rd, Vienna, VA 22181**

*From I-495:* Take exit 49C to merge onto I-66 W toward Vienna/Front Royal. Take exit 62 for Nutley St/VA-243 toward Fairfax/Vienna. Keep left at the fork, follow

signs for I-66. Keep left at the fork to continue toward Country Creek Rd. Keep right at the fork to continue toward Country Creek Rd. Turn left at Country Creek Rd. Turn left at Sutton Rd.

*From I-66:* Take exit 62 for Nutley St/VA-243 toward Fairfax/Vienna. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for I-66. Keep left at the fork to continue toward Country Creek Rd. Keep right at the fork to continue toward Country Creek Rd. Turn left at Country Creek Rd. Turn left at Sutton Rd.

**Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Arlington, VA 22202**

TBD

**Veterans Amphitheater, 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax, VA 22030**

*From I-495:* Exit at Route 236, Little River Turnpike, WEST. Continue about 4 miles; street name changes to Main St. Turn LEFT at light on Chain Bridge Rd/VA-123. Turn left at Armstrong St. Parking is in the rear parking lot.

*From I-66:* Take exit 60 for Chain Bridge Rd/VA-123 S toward Fairfax. Continue about 1.5 miles. Turn left at Armstrong St. Parking is in the rear parking lot.

**W. T. Woodson High School (WHS), 9525 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031-4099**

*From I-495:* Take exit 52A-B for Little River Tnpk/VA-236 toward Fairfax. Merge onto Little River Turnpike/VA-236. Turn left at Pickett Rd.

*From I-66:* Take exit 64 to merge onto I-495 S toward Richmond. Take exit 52A-B for Little River Tnpk/VA-236 toward Fairfax. Merge onto Little River Turnpike/VA-236. Turn left at Pickett Rd.



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### 2010 FALL SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to changes and additions.

Wed Sep 8, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Sep 15, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Sep 22, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Sat Sep 25, 2010	8:20am & 10:16am	Performance	Reagan National Airport
Wed Sep 29, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Oct 6, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Sat Oct 9, 2010	TIME TBD	Performance	City of Fairfax Fall Festival
Wed Oct 13, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Oct 20, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Oct 27, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	LOCATION TBD
Sun Oct 31, 2010	8:00am	Performance	Marine Corps Marathon
Wed Nov 3, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Nov 10, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Nov 17, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Nov 24, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	NO REHEARSAL	
Wed Dec 1, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Sun Dec 5, 2010	4pm – 5pm	Performance	Woodson Auditorium
Wed Dec 8, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Dec 15, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Dec 22, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	NO REHEARSAL	
Wed Dec 29, 2010	7:45pm – 9:45pm	NO REHEARSAL	

### 2011 WINTER SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to changes and additions.

Wed Jan 5, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jan 12, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jan 19, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jan 26, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Feb 2, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	LOCATION TBD
Wed Feb 9, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Feb 16, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Feb 23, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	LOCATION TBD
Wed Mar 2, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	LOCATION TBD
Wed Mar 9, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Mar 16, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Mar 23, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	LOCATION TBD
Fri Mar 25, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Dress	FHS Auditorium
Sat Mar 26, 2011	8pm – 9:30pm	Performance	FHS Auditorium

## 2011 SPRING SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to changes and additions.

Wed Mar 30, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Apr 6, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Apr 13, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Apr 20, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Apr 27, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed May 4, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed May 11, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed May 18, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Fri May 20, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Dress	Woodson Auditorium
Sat May 21, 2011	8pm – 9:30pm	Performance	Woodson Auditorium

## 2011 SUMMER SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to changes and additions.

Summer Concerts are TBD.

Wed May 25, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 1, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 1, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 8, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 15, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 22, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jun 29, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jul 6, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jul 13, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jul 20, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room
Wed Jul 27, 2011	7:45pm – 9:45pm	Rehearsal	FHS Chorus Room