



Happy December!

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving break. I would like to take a moment to congratulate the Blue Raider Marching Band along with Mr. Marshall and the Marching Band staff on their outstanding season. Their hard work resulted in the USBands 2016 Massachusetts State and overall New England States Division 1A Championship, NESBA Division 1 second place finish as well as the NESBA Platinum medal and the USBands Division 1A Finals Silver Medal finish in Allentown, PA where they also received the prestigious Division 1A Esprit de Corps Award.

Congratulations also to the following students who auditioned for and were selected for the 2017 Senior Southeast Music Festival in January:

William Medeiros – Tuba in Concert Band

Catherine Botelho – Violin in Orchestra

David Rausch – Baritone Saxophone in Jazz Band plus an All State recommendation!

As I tell many people, although March is Music In Our Schools Month, December actually has more overall performances. Please check the attached calendar carefully for the most up to date performance information. I look forward to seeing you at one, or many, of these performances.

Wishing everybody a happy holiday season and a great new year!

Ira M. Schaefer

Coordinator of Fine and Performing Arts

P.O. Box 242, Somerset, MA

02726

Dear Parents & Friends,

I trust that you all enjoyed the memorable performances during our 43<sup>rd</sup> Musictown Festival. It is unfortunate that Mother Nature was not on our side for the Parade however; the NESBA Field Show competition took place as scheduled later that evening. All participating Bands did an amazing job considering -the weather conditions were not ideal. It was truly an enjoyable evening for all who participated and supported these talented students.

As we look ahead to the Holiday Season, it is important to recognize all of the SBRHS and Somerset School Department Music Educators for their tireless efforts working with all our music students. It's a true testament to their dedication and evident by the many accomplishments of the Somerset and Berkley music students. It's their hard work and love of the arts that makes our community Musictown.

Please join us in celebrating the Holidays with performances by our many music groups. We also welcome back the Ornament Band to the SBRHS Performing Arts Center. These events are sure to put even the Grinchiest of Grinches into the Holiday Spirit!

Warm Regards,

Jennifer Lazaro

President, Somerset Friends of Music

## FALL NEWSLETTER

### CONTENTS

- Performing Arts Calendar
- Fundraisers/Save the Date
- Marching Band and Color Guard
  - Show Choir Updates
  - Upcoming Meeting
- Contact us, Follow us, Join us!

*Performing Arts Calendar*

**Saturday, December 3** – Fall River Christmas Parade - SBRHS Marching Band

**Sunday, December 4** – Taunton Christmas Parade - SBRHS Marching Band

**Friday, December 9** - Middle School students perform at Festival on Town Green

**Saturday, December 10** – 1:30 pm (approx) SBRHS Chorale performs for Berkley Council on Aging

**Saturday, December 10** – Stoughton Parade of Lights - SBRHS Marching Band

**Sunday, December 11** – 2:30 pm – SBRHS Vespers Concert at SBRHS Performing Arts Center - we will again be collecting canned food items to donate to local food pantry

**Tuesday, December 13** – 6:00 pm - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Concert at Somerset Middle School

**Tuesday, December 13** – 7:15 pm – 7/8 Grade Winter Concert at Somerset Middle School

**Thursday, December 15** – 7/8 Grade Chorus perform for Senior Housing

**Friday, December 16** – Middle School Select Strings perform at Somerset Ridge and Clifton Assisted Living

**Friday, December 16** – 7:00 pm – “Ornament”- Trans-Siberian Orchestra tribute band – SBRHS Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$12 and are available at <http://ornamentband.com/tour-dates> and through Mr. Schaefer at SBRHS

P.O. Box 242, Somerset, MA

02726

**Tuesday, December 20** – 7:00 pm – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Strings perform at Silver City Galleria,  
Taunton

**Wednesday, December 21** – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Strings Concerts: 10:15–Chace Elementary,  
1:00–North Elementary, 2:00–South Elementary

*Save the Date...more information coming soon...*

January – Music Department Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser

February – Paint Night Fundraiser

March – Music in our Schools Month

May – Sister Act the Musical

P.O. Box 242, Somerset, MA

02726

*Congratulations to the SBRHS Blue Raider Marching Band on another award-winning season!!!*

**USBands New England Championships  
October 29, 2016 - New Britain, CT**

**2016 USBands Division 1A  
MASSACHUSETTS and NEW ENGLAND STATES CHAMPIONS**

1st Place Overall in Division 1A

Caption Awards for Best Music, Best Percussion, Best Color Guard, Best Visual, and Best Overall Effect

---

**USBands National Championships  
November 5, 2016 - J. Birney Crum Stadium - Allentown, PA**

**2016 USBands Division 1A  
NATIONAL SILVER MEDALIST**

2nd Place Division 1A

Caption Award for Best Color Guard and winner of the Esprit de Corps Award for Pride, Professionalism and Patriotism

Show Choir Updates from Sam Bianco

*Electrify* - 45 piece mixed group

Theme: First Date

All choreography was completed the end of October. The Group is way ahead of schedule for their competition season.

*Amplified* - 40 piece all girls group

Theme: Mean Girls

Finishing touches being done and they sound fantastic!

Show choirs 2017 competition schedule:

02/04 - Shepherd Hill Central Massachusetts Show Choir Festival

02/14 - Lowell Mill City Show Choir Festival

03/18 - Windsor Lockes Nutmeg Festival

03/25 - Andover New England Show Choir Showdown

04/08 - Waltham Easter Show Choir Finals

Give our regards to Broadway....

This year's musical is SISTER ACT. It's based on the movie of the same name about a lounge singer put into witness protection as a nun. It is a fun and flashy comedy with plenty of heart. Auditions were held Wednesday November 30th after school. Mark your calendars; the show is the weekend of May 12th.

The 3rd annual SBRHS music department Broadway trip is on May 20th. We will be heading to NYC to see Waitress and to have a workshop with a member of the cast. This has become a yearly favorite! There are only a few spots remaining on the trip.

Contact Mr. Bianco at BiancoS@SBRegional.org for more information!

**Have a difficult person on your Holiday shopping list??**

The show choirs will once again be selling "Dinner For Two" discount books for the holiday season. Each book is \$30 and contains thousands of dollars in savings. See a show choir member or email Mr. Bianco at BiancoS@SBRegional.org to purchase a book!

*Somerset Friends of Music*

We invite ALL interested parents or members of the music community to join us at our meetings!

The next scheduled meeting is:

December 6th, 6:30 pm in the SBRHS Library.

- Have questions about Somerset Friends of Music?  
Drop by a meeting or contact us through our website - <http://www.friendsofmusic1972.com>
- Want to get involved in the Musictown planning committee?  
Contact - [jelazaro@yahoo.com](mailto:jelazaro@yahoo.com)
- Want to become a member of Somerset Friends of Music?  
Membership forms can be found on our website! <http://www.friendsofmusic1972.com>

Stay Connected!!!!

Visit our Somerset Friends of Music website: <http://www.friendsofmusic1972.com>

Like our Facebook page: Somerset Friends of Music

Follow us on Twitter: Friends of Music @SFOM1972

Contact Us, Follow Us, Join Us!