

MMB Leadership Responsibilities

graduate student instructors and Staff assistants

Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs) and Staff Assistants are responsible for instructional and administrative roles in the areas of music, marching/drill, show production, and ensemble logistics. They contribute their knowledge and experience to the year-to-year development and improvement of the MMB. Staff Assistants have the same basic role as GSIs but are typically 5th year undergraduate students who may have previously marched in the MMB.

STUDENT LEADERS

Section Leaders

Section leaders provide musical leadership, in sectionals and on the field, and are responsible for their section’s sound, performance, and music memorization.

Rank Leaders

Rank Leaders work together with the Directors, administrative staff, GSIs and staff assistants to set high performance and educational standards for the MMB. On the field, they are responsible for teaching drill charts and ensuring that their rank is ready for each performance. During Band Week, they help demonstrate and teach the marching fundamentals to new and returning members.

Drum Major

The Drum Major of the Michigan Marching Band serves as a field leader, a representative of the MMB, and a symbol of excellence. The privilege of wearing the white uniform is conferred by the MMB upon the member best able to lead, uphold the traditions of this position, and demonstrate sound marching and spinning technique. This person is also available for individual instruction of music or visual elements.

Student Staff

Business/Library Staff

The business element of this position attends to many of the daily logistical needs of the MMB. These include: recording attendance, making sure the Band roster information is complete, updating locker assignments, bus packets for all away trips, and maintaining the rehearsal hall scoreboard. They also copy and distribute the drill charts, forms, and itineraries used by the MMB. The library element of this position is responsible for copying and distributing all sheet music along with replacing missing items (broken folder backs, windows, rings, and lost music.) At the end of the season, they collect all traditional music and file it in the library. As new arrangements are added to the collection, they file parts and scores, update the computer files and keep master copies of each part. All athletic band music is maintained and copied by this staff.

Equipment Staff

The equipment staff is responsible for all the uniforms, instruments, and equipment used by the Band. They handle checkout, turn-in, maintenance, and inventory of University-owned instruments and uniform parts. They set up chairs for music rehearsals and take care of the day-to-day equipment, as well as making sure that everything is available and in the right place when needed. The equipment staff also handles special needs such as oversee the loading of the truck and plane with all necessary items for away trips and the bowl trip, building halftime show props and acquiring instruments for the Alumni Band.

Athletic Band Managers

The Hockey Band, Basketball Band (2), and Volleyball Band each have a student manager. The managers are responsible for coordinating with the equipment and library staff, as well as recording attendance for their respective band.

Fanfare Band

This group consists of players from each wind section of the MMB who are selected by chair placement auditions during Band Week. Ensemble instrumentation typically consists of:  2 piccolos, 3 clarinets, 2 alto saxophones, 1 tenor saxophone, 4 horns, 9 trumpets, 5 trombones (which may include 1 bass trombone), 2 euphoniums, and 3 tubas. The Fanfare Band conductor is selected by the Directors from a list of interested band members who audition during Band Week.