



770-288-3222

Ola High School Colorguard Interest Letter

On behalf of the Ola High School Band, I would like to thank you for your interest in the 2010-2011 OHS Colorguard. Hopefully this letter will provide you with some basic information for your consideration, and if you should have questions that are not addressed through this information, please do not hesitate to contact me, or the assistant director, Mr. Sodders.

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What is the Colorguard?

The flag corps and drill teams of the 70's and 80's have evolved into what we now call colorguard. This group represents the visual portion of the marching band half time/contest show. Its members perform dance routines while using flags, rifles, sabers, and a wide range of other pieces of equipment. This group performs with the marching band, and its members are subject to the same rules, expectations and procedures as the winds and percussionists.

When are the tryouts?

Tryouts will be held **April 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th** from **4:00pm to 6:30pm** at **OLA HIGH SCHOOL!** The students will learn an audition routine and perform it for the instructors and staff on Friday, April 30th for acceptance into the OHS Colorguard. There will be a meeting of the girls selected for the colorguard and at least one parent of each girl on **Tuesday, May 4th at 6:30pm in the OHS Band Room** to explain the handbook and the requirements for the colorguard. We will continue rehearsals throughout the spring at OHS on select dates in May and even some in June.

Do I need previous colorguard or dance experience?

No. Even though past dance or colorguard experience would be beneficial, it is not necessary. Good attitude, a willingness to work hard, and a positive demeanor are qualities that we look for in future colorguard members. If you currently play a wind or percussion instrument, but you would rather become a member of the colorguard, you are more than welcome to audition for the team. If you do not make the colorguard team there will still be time to join the band for the upcoming marching season.

If I am selected what is the time commitment?

1. Summer Band/Guard Camp (Mandatory for all team members) starting in mid-July
2. All rehearsals once school starts: The marching band will rehearse on Tuesdays from 4:00 – 6:30 and on Thursdays from 6:00 – 8:30. The colorguard will have regular Monday and Saturday practices throughout the fall. That schedule will continue until the end of October.

3. All Football Games: The band performs at all varsity football games both home and away.

4. Marching Competitions and Parades: TBA

A detailed calendar is available at our website: www.olahighschoolband.com (Please note that the calendar is tentative and is subject to minor changes).

If I am selected, what is the financial commitment?

The marching band is funded completely by its membership. The band receives no funding from the county for the operation of the marching band.

1. Initial deposit due at the Tuesday, May 4th, parent meeting - \$150.00
2. May 27th - \$150.00
3. July 30th - \$200.00

**It should be noted that there are also incidental costs that are associated with the colorguard such as wind suits, marching shoes, makeup, etc. When we meet with the girls in May, we will discuss the expectations of every guard member.

How many will be selected for the guard?

There is no set number for the guard. We intend to select as many qualified girls as possible. The bigger the guard, the better!! Every girl must audition including returning members. It is our expectation that ALL girls earn the privilege to become a member of the OHS Marching Mustangs.

What to bring to tryouts?

1. Please wear comfortable shorts and a T-shirt or other appropriate athletic type clothing. Socks and appropriate tennis shoes (NO SANDALS or FLIP-FLOPS).
2. Students may wish to bring a water bottle to each day of tryouts.

We look forward to meeting everyone interested in joining the 2010-2011 colorguard on **Monday, April 26th!!**