

Frequently Asked Questions



How do I register for the YSU Marching Pride?

First, complete the [YSU Marching Pride membership form](#). Then, when you're able, register for the course (MUEN 0006).

Do I have to know how to play an instrument to join the Marching Pride?

Not if you want to be a Penguinette, feature twirler, or member of the color guard. Experience playing an instrument *is* required for participation as a brass, woodwind, or percussion players, however.

Do I need marching experience?

No, but we strongly recommend it. The Marching Pride strives for excellence in all that we do, and that includes marching technique. If you are a fast learner and highly attentive to detail, you can succeed without previous marching experience, but it will be challenging.

Do I need to be a music major?

No, students from all majors are welcome! In fact, 70% of the band members and 33% of the Marching Pride leadership team are studying in fields other than music.

Do I have to audition?

No audition is required to join the band as an instrumentalist. All musicians will be evaluated for part placements early in the season but will not be denied membership based on the results of these evaluations. Only for the Penguinettes, feature twirlers, and color guard.

Does the Marching Pride have a front ensemble?

Not at this time. Students who played in a front ensemble in high school are encouraged to join the Marching Pride drumline. The Dana School of Music also includes a percussion ensemble which may be of interest to such students. Contact Glenn Schaft (gschaft@ysu.edu) for more information.

Can I still join if I have a class that conflicts with rehearsal?

Yes! While we would *strongly* prefer that you make arrangements to attend 100% of rehearsals, we are willing to work with you in exceptional cases (such as classes that are required for your major and cannot be taken at a different time).

How many shows do you do during the season?

We normally learn two to three general halftime shows, with possible additions for special events.

Do you travel with the football team?

The Marching Pride usually travels to one away game each season. We also travel to high school band nights for exhibition purposes, and have performed at Heinz Field at a Pittsburgh Steelers game.

Is there a band camp in the summer preseason?

Yes! A week before classes start, we host band camp for the Marching Pride. During this week, you'll learn drill and music to prepare for the season. You'll be allowed to move in to your dorms a week early and you'll have time to find your way around campus with the members of the band. More information about band camp will be sent out in the summer to those that have completed the [YSU Marching Pride membership form](#).

Other questions? Feel free to contact us at bands@ysu.edu!