

North Georgia HOMESCHOOL BAND & CHOIR



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Toys for Tots Capitol Trip

This year NGHBC's choir was again invited to sing at the Georgia state capitol at the 'Toys for Tots Kick-off.' This was our third time participating in the prestigious event, but that doesn't mean any less preparation went into the performance. All the pieces were rehearsed beforehand in the practices leading up to the ceremony. Mrs. Fenn, our choir director, even scheduled several extra rehearsals and every minute of each one was utilized, crammed with perfecting all aspects of tone, pitch, parts, singing with confidence, knowing what to sing when and where. The final rehearsals seemed more than a little hectic; we did however manage to learn the songs thoroughly and were ready to perform when the time came.

The event itself took place on November 3, 2015. We carpoled to the capitol building and after some confusion found the right entry doors and made our way to the marble staircase from which we would perform throughout the ceremony. For openers we sang the National Anthem while a Marine Color Guard presented the flags. Then the First Lady, who was standing in for Governor Deal, said a few words, read a proclamation, and welcomed the Marine Colonel in charge of the the Toys for Tots program in Georgia. The Colonel ushered in Santa who gave first toys for this year's toy campaign. Our choir sang in between speakers and closed the ceremony.

All in all it was a good performance and an honor to support the Marines in their mission to bring their message of hope to less fortunate children.



Prep Two Ball Ground Parade



Prep Two by Obie Blanton

I love Prep Two because I have class with two very nice teachers. Mrs. Fenn and Mrs. Gray make a fabulous team. They teach us how to keep the beat, stay in rhythm, play the correct notes, and sing. My favorite thing is when we play drums. I also love the great songs we play on the recorder and the boomwhackers. Prep Two is great!



Ball Ground Christmas Parade by Joel Thornton

For the third time, the North Georgia Homeschool Band & Choir participated in the Ball Ground Christmas Parade. This year we played alone, without the help of college students. We played a jazzy version of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" while marching through Ball Ground. We had to memorize the music and learn how to march, which some of us already knew how to do. The baritone player used a concert baritone, not a marching baritone. The French horn section used French horns instead of a mellophone, which is a marching French horn.

This year we decorated a float with lights and seasonal items. The General Music and Prep Program students rode on the float in the parade. There were also students that walked along giving candy to the spectators. Finally, when the parade was over, the choir sang in the Ball Ground City Park, where kids could get a picture with Santa or tell him what he or she wanted for Christmas.

Toys for Tots Kickoff, 2015 by Emalyn Sharp

Singing at the Georgia State Capitol for the Toys for Tots kickoff in November was a really great opportunity to get out and share our music with the community around us. Not only could we use our musical gifts to serve others, but it provided a great learning experience for all of us. We learned how to listen to how sound echoes, and adapt to it. We learned how to sing in front of an audience full of strangers, and we learned that no matter what, we must always keep our eyes on Mrs. Fenn, our choir director. It didn't matter if the Marines were practicing a drill behind her, we had to keep our focus or the whole thing would derail. I am very thankful to all who made this possible. It is a day I shall never forget.



Shorter Band Day by Oliver Shaw

Every year the North Georgia Homeschool Band goes to Shorter University to play music at a football game with the other college band students. This year there was a little rain, but that didn't stop any of us. By the time the football game had started and we got our music and instruments sorted out, the rain had stopped. It was a very unique and fun experience to get to play with the older college students; they were very welcoming. We played a lot of short cheer music that was very energetic, and while the music was pretty difficult, it was extremely fun to play. During the beginning of the event, we were given matching t-shirts, then at half time were given a lunch of pizza and soda. Lunch time was fun because we got to sit down and talk with friends and other Shorter band students. All in all, it was a really fun day and if I had the opportunity to do it again I definitely would.

New Location by Stephanie Huffman

North Georgia Homeschool Band and Choir had a fantastic fall semester! In August, we settled into our wonderful new location at Cherokee Presbyterian Church in Canton. It has been a great facility for us, and we are very grateful for the church's hospitality. We also have two new classes this year. Mrs. Reams directs our new Jazz Band. Our new General Music class, taught by Mrs. Fenn, is for children as young as four years old. We are excited to see what the future holds for NGHBC!



Our Mission:

Working together to provide a quality, well-rounded music education to homeschooled students and their families in our community.

Our Vision:

Creating a Community of Musicians that spans generations.

Visit us on the web at NGHBC.org or follow us at facebook.com/NGHBC/

Friends of NGHBC

2015-2016 Friends of NGHBC

Judy Alden, Frank & Lori Anderson, Karen Bedford, Dale Blanton, Doris Bozeman, Mr. & Mrs. Brame, Marilyn M. Buenning, Judy Carpenter, Lou Carpentier, GG & Grandpa Clark, Babo Cwiekalo, Aunt Linda, Bill & Liz Creel, Margie Creel, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Darnell, Gloria Dixon, Lee Ralph Evans, Charlie & Teresa Fednander, Jean & Joseph Formato, Sr., Drew Grimm, Jean & Robert Haverstraw, Rusty & Karen Holland, Gram & Pop Pop, Rhonda & Joe Lawrence, Jo Anne Medlin, Dave & Donita Mouret, Patricia Prevey, David & Jane Reams, Jim & Eileen Rozeboom, Glenda Satterfield, Chuck & Cheri Schwab, Greg Sharpton, Tommy & Susan Smiley, Grandpa Pete & Grandma Judith Smith, Rachel Jones-Sybor & Jimmy Sybor, Sally Thompson, The Toft Family, Yvonne Trudeau, Anne M. White, Regina Woodard.

Through the generosity of Friends of NGHBC, we raised \$2882. Thank you for supporting our musicians!

Messages to our Musicians

Nathan & Nicholas Alden:

Enjoy your music boys! Love, Gram

Jacob & Jack English:

Keep up the good work! We love you, Gram & Pop Pop
Happy Music! ~Rachel Jones-Sybor & Jimmy Sybor
Music opens a whole new world for you! Keep at it, Aunt Linda
Keep up the good work! Love you both, Babo Cwiekalo

Ryan & Joseph Formato:

We're proud to support your love of music, and wanting to participate in a band. Enjoy! ~Jean & Joseph Formato, Sr.

Peyton Franco:

Keep up the good work! ~Jo Anne Medlin
This is a wonderful program and we're glad that you enjoy it so much. ~ Mr. and Mrs. William A. Darnell

Alli Grimm:

So proud of you! ~ Karen Bedford

Alexis, Seth, Danielle, & Mackenzie Hanenburg:

We're so glad you are able to use your God-given abilities in music! ~Jim & Eileen Rozeboom

Sarah & Garrett Huffman:

We are very proud of both of you! Keep up the good work. Love, Nana & Grand-daddy
I am very proud of you both! Love, Great Grandmother

Abigail Reams:

Abigail, we are so proud of you and thank God for your love of music. Love, Mama Jane & Papa

Caden & Greyson Sanders:

Praying for a successful year for the NGHBC. ~Lou Carpentier
Best of luck for a great year! ~Chuck & Cheri Schwab

Emalyn & Colton Sharp:

Looking forward to your concert. We know how hard you and the others have worked.
Proud of you. Love, Charlie & Theresa

Silas Thomas:

Good Job! ~Frank & Lori Anderson