

The logo features the word "HOT" in large, bold, green letters with a gold outline. The letter "O" is replaced by a green square containing a white and gold "USF" logo with a flame-like design. Below "HOT" is the text "HERD OF THUNDER" in green, and "MARCHING BAND" in gold.

# HOT

## HERD OF THUNDER

### MARCHING BAND

Dear Directors,

I am pleased to invite you and your students to participate in USF's 10<sup>th</sup> annual "HOT Day" on Saturday, September 2, 2017. Our goal is to make "HOT Day" an experience that is second to none, and to show your students how much fun it is to participate in a college marching band. In addition to attending the USF football game, students will join the Herd of Thunder Marching Band on the field during halftime and play alongside us with for our "Welcome Coach Strong" show. Since there is only so much room on a football field we will be capping participation at 1,000 high school students, so directors are urged to submit their participant rosters as soon as possible.

We are fortunate this year to already know that kickoff for the game will be at 4:00, which helps all of us with planning for the day. Please see the full schedule on the next page.

The cost of "HOT Day" is \$30 per student and chaperone. This fee includes a game day ticket, t-shirt, and meal. Head directors and their spouses will receive complimentary tickets and meals. Registration forms and payment must be received by Friday, August 18. A link to all required forms can be found on the front page of our website – [herdofthunder.usf.edu](http://herdofthunder.usf.edu). You will work directly with our Graduate Assistant, Christi Durham who will gladly assist with any concerns or questions. She can be reached at [cdurham@mail.usf.edu](mailto:cdurham@mail.usf.edu). I ask that you please not share her information with your students or band parents. All correspondence should come from the directors.

Expectations are high around the university for an outstanding football season, and the students and staff of HOT Band would be thrilled if you and your students can join us for a day full of music, football, and fun.

Dr. Matthew McCutchen  
Associate Director of Bands  
Director of Athletic Bands  
[mccutchen@usf.edu](mailto:mccutchen@usf.edu)

## **Process for Registration and Payment**

Participation in HOT Day 2017 is FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED. Once we have 1,000 participants registration will be closed. We must have your printed registration form and school or booster check in order to guarantee a spot for your band. Directors may submit forms and payments throughout the summer months, however, please note that the deadline for receiving registrations and payments is 5:00pm on Friday, August 18. Please check our website frequently as we will post when we have closed registration.

The registration form for HOT Day 2017 is available on the Herd of Thunder website ([herdofthunder.usf.edu](http://herdofthunder.usf.edu)). Directors are asked to fill in the online form with accurate numbers for instrumentation, t-shirt sizes, chaperones, meals, and bus information. Each school is required to submit ONE printed registration form and ONE school or booster check/money order. All checks must be made payable to Kappa Kappa Psi and this is a non-refundable event. The final deadline for receiving registrations and payment is 5:00pm on Friday, August 18.

PLEASE NOTE: At least one band director and one chaperone for each participating school must be present for the entire day. Also, this event is specifically intended to get as many high school students involved as possible. While we certainly recognize that you will need some chaperones, we ask that you bring no more than one chaperone for every ten students (unless required by your school/district). Tickets for additional family members are easy to acquire through the USF Athletics website at [www.gousfbulls.com](http://www.gousfbulls.com).

## **HOT Day Schedule**

9:00 – USF Rehearsal Begins

- HS students begin arriving at Fowler Field

- Directors check in with Christi Durham

9:30 – USF Run-through for HS Students

9:45 – Sectionals

10:15 - Set the Massed Band

11:00 - Distribute food

12:15 – USF Leaves.

1:15 – Team Walk

1:30 – HOT Day Participants bring their instruments in the stadium.

2:15 – Warm-up

2:45 - Road Show

3:40 - Pre-Game

4:00 – Kick Off

End of first quarter – High School students and directors begin moving down the ramps to the tunnels to get instruments.

## **Student, Chaperone and Director Fees**

\$30.00 Student Participant Fee Includes:

- HOT Day T-Shirt (specify sizes on registration form)
- Lunch (please specify vegetarian meals on registration form)
- Game day ticket (USF vs. Stonybrook)

\$30.00 Chaperone Participant Fee Includes:

- HOT Day T-Shirt (specify sizes on registration form)
- Lunch (please specify vegetarian meals on registration form)
- Game day ticket (USF vs. Stonybrook)

\$0.00 Director Complimentary Fee (Maximum of 2) Includes:

- HOT Day T-Shirt (specify sizes on registration form)
- Lunch (please specify vegetarian meals on registration form)
- Game day ticket (USF vs. Stonybrook)

## **Parking and Instrument Transportation**

**Rehearsal at USF:** The HOT Band rehearses at Fowler Field, which is located on the corner of USF Bull Run Drive and Alumni Drive (across from MOSI on Fowler Avenue). Visitors should enter from Fowler Avenue and USF Bull Run Drive. Parking will be available in the parking lot attached to the Sun Dome located directly across from Fowler Field (lot 22D, 22E, and 22F). A campus map can be found on our website for further details.

**Instrument and Equipment Transportation to Raymond James Stadium:** Each school will be responsible for their own instrument and equipment transportation. A representative of the Tampa Police Department will inspect all instruments and equipment outside of Raymond James Stadium. Directors are asked to ensure that their students' instruments and equipment are clearly labeled (on the outside) with their name and school.

**Student Transportation to Raymond James Stadium:** Directors and chaperones are responsible for the transportation of their students to Raymond James Stadium. Students will not be permitted to ride the USF busses with the HOT Band members. If you are transporting your students to Raymond James by bus (charter of school), parking is FREE with a valid bus pass. Please be sure to indicate on your registration form how many buses you will have, as well as if you will have an equipment truck. If you are transporting students in cars, you will pay for general parking at Raymond James Stadium. Parking prices range from \$5-\$10 per car. We cannot guarantee admission to the games for bus drivers. Please refer to the stadium parking map on our website for further details.

## **Raymond James Security and Instrument Storage**

Schools will receive their tickets when they check-in for the morning rehearsal. Tickets will indicate which gate your group will enter from as well as your seat assignments. Everyone going into Raymond James must have a photo ID (Drivers License or School ID) with him or her at all times. Directors are asked to please handle this with your students in advance to avoid any security complications.

All HOT Day participant instruments and equipment will be stored in a designated area underneath Raymond James Stadium. Students will come down to the tunnels to get their items at the end of the first quarter. Please note that after the half time performance students who are planning on staying for the remainder of the football game must store their instruments back underneath the stadium in the designated storage area. Raymond James Security will NOT allow any instruments or equipment into the main seating areas of the stadium.

## **Instrument and Equipment Specifics**

**Woodwind & Brass:** All wind students are required to provide their own instruments and accessories. USF will not loan instruments to students.

**Percussion:** Unfortunately the logistics of this event prohibit us from facilitating a front ensemble section. These musicians are encouraged to participate as battery drums or cymbals. Percussionists must provide all instruments, sticks, and mallets.

**Colorguard:** Due to the difficult nature of learning a choreographed routine, participants will learn a “pom” routine during rehearsal. Participants must provide their own “poms”.

**Twirlers/Majorettes:** We invite these students to either participate in the colorguard “pom” routine or create your own choreography with batons. If you choose a baton routine, please be aware that you will have limited personal space in which to perform.

## **Uniform Requirements**

Students are required to wear the following uniform for their halftime performance.

- USF HOT Day T-Shirt (directors will receive these shirts at rehearsal check-in)
- Khaki shorts (students should abide by their school dress code regarding length)
- Sneakers or Athletic shoes (no flip flops or sandals)
- Hats and/or sunglasses are NOT permitted during the halftime performance but are encouraged during rehearsal at USF

Directors are asked to please wear a polo with your high school’s name clearly visible.

## **Halftime Performance**

At the end of first quarter students and directors will make their way down to their instruments underneath Raymond James Stadium. Chaperones will remain in their seats during this time. Students will line up according to their pre-set order (will be set during the rehearsal) and will be lead onto the field by HOT Day Staff. The Herd of Thunder will perform one piece with the high school student participants watching from the sideline. After that, all high school students will join us on the field to perform as a mass band.

## **Packing Checklist**

Print this document to check-off items as you pack

\_\_\_ Instruments: Yes people have forgotten these before. USF does not loan out instruments or equipment.

\_\_\_ Instrument accessories: Reeds, Cork Grease, Valve Oil, Cleaning Swabs, Mouthpieces, Brass Mutes, Ligatures, and Percussion Sticks/Mallets. Bring it all – you never know what you’ll need!

\_\_\_ Music: Sheet music will be distributed via email to all participating bands as soon as they register. It is the Band Directors responsibility to distribute this music to their students. Music will NOT be available when you arrive at USF. You will be performing two tunes from our “Welcome Coach Strong” show.

\_\_\_ Flip Folders: Students will definitely want to have these for their music.

\_\_\_ Uniform: Be sure to refer to the requirements listed in the prior pages of this packet. Students are encouraged to wear casual clothing for the morning rehearsal and then change into their HOT Day t-shirt BEFORE entering Raymond James Stadium.

\_\_\_ Water, water, water. This is a wonderful day, but is aptly named.. Please make sure that you bring enough water to keep your students and chaperones hydrated throughout the day.

\_\_\_ Poncho/Sunscreen: The weather in Florida is unpredictable, so be prepared for anything. Umbrellas are NOT permitted into Raymond James Stadium so you are advised to bring a pocket poncho with you. Please check the daily forecast as we get closer to the event.