



Dear Directors,

We are pleased to invite you and your students to participate in USF's "HOT Day" on Saturday, September 28, 2019. 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. Since there is only so much room on a football field, we will be capping participation at 1,500 high school students, so directors are urged to submit their participant rosters as soon as possible.

At this time, USF Athletics and TV Broadcasting have not determined a kick-off time for the game against Southern Methodist University. In order for you to prepare logistics, we have temporarily put together three separate schedules based off of typical kick-off times (12:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm). Once we have been informed by Athletics of an official kick-off time, we will be sure to notify you and adjust a final schedule. You will find these three schedules in the remaining pages of this welcome packet.

The cost of "HOT Day" is \$32 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 postmarked by **Friday, September 13th**. A late fee of \$50 will be assessed if mailed after that date. A link to all required forms can be found on the front page of our website – herdofthunder.usf.edu. You will work directly with our Graduate Assistant, Trevor Butts, who will gladly assist with any concerns or questions. He can be reached at tbutts3@mail.usf.edu. We ask that you please not share his 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. Marc Sosnowchik
Associate Director of Bands
Director of Athletic Bands
msosnowchik@usf.edu

Lauren Gates
Assistant Director of Bands
(813) 974-3668
laurengates@mail.usf.edu

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Potential Schedules

12:00pm Kick Off Schedule - SAMPLE

5:00am - USF Rehearsal Begins
* High School students begin arriving at Fowler Field
* Directors check-in with Trevor Butts under the pavilion
5:30am - USF Run-through for HS Students
5:45am - Sectionals
6:15am - Set the Massed Band
7:00am - Distribute food
8:15am - Herd of Thunder Leaves for Raymond James
9:15am - Team Walk
9:30am - HOT Day Participants arrive at Raymond James with Instruments at Loading Dock B.
10:15am - Warm-up
10:45am - Road Show
11:40am - Pre-Game
12:00pm - Kick Off
End of First Quarter - High School students and directors begin moving down the ramps to the tunnels to get instruments.

4:00pm Kick Off Schedule - SAMPLE

9:00am - USF Rehearsal Begins
* High School students begin arriving at Fowler Field
* Directors check-in with Trevor Butts under the pavilion
9:30am - USF Run-through for HS Students
9:45am - Sectionals
10:15am - Set the Massed Band
11:00am - Distribute food
12:15pm - Herd of Thunder Leaves for Raymond James
1:15pm - Team Walk
1:30pm - HOT Day Participants arrive at Raymond James with Instruments at Loading Dock B.
2:15pm - Warm-up
2:45pm - Road Show
3:40pm - Pre-Game
4:00pm - Kick Off
End of First Quarter - High School students and directors begin moving down the ramps to the tunnels to get instruments.

7:00pm Kick Off Schedule - SAMPLE

12:00pm - USF Rehearsal Begins
* High School students begin arriving at Fowler Field
* Directors check-in with Trevor Butts under the pavilion
12:30pm - USF Run-through for HS Students
12:45pm - Sectionals
1:15pm - Set the Massed Band
2:00pm - Distribute food
3:15pm - Herd of Thunder Leaves for Raymond James
4:15pm - Team Walk
4:30pm - HOT Day Participants arrive at Raymond James with Instruments at Loading Dock B.
5:15pm - Warm-up
5:45pm - Road Show
6:40pm - Pre-Game
7:00pm - Kick Off
End of First Quarter - High School students and directors begin moving down the ramps to the tunnels to get instruments.

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Registration and Payments

Participation in HOT Day is **First-Come, First-Serve**. Once we have 1,500 participants registration will be closed. The registration form for HOT Day is located on the home page of the Herd of Thunder website (herdofthunder.usf.edu) and will be active starting Friday, August 2, 2019. Directors, not booster members or parents, are required 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/band booster check/money order (personal checks will not be accepted). **Please do not submit a second form.** If you need to submit additional participants and payments, please contact Trevor Butts directly and he will enter these students for you. All payments must be made payable to Kappa Kappa Psi and this is a non-refundable event. We must have your printed registration form and school/band booster check in order to guarantee a spot for your band. Directors are required to mail their registration and payment to the following address:

USF School of Music
ATT: Lauren Gates
4202 East Fowler Avenue - MUS 101
Tampa, FL 33620

Please remember that all registrations and payments must be postmarked by **Friday, September 13th**.

Important: At least one band director and one chaperone for each participating school must be present for the entire day. While at Raymond James Stadium, all students must be supervised by their director or chaperone at all times. **Students are not permitted to stay at Raymond James after halftime without adult supervision for any reason.**

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.

In the event of a HOT Day rehearsal being completely rained out, students, directors and chaperones will still receive a ticket to enjoy the game but students will not participate during half time.

Participation Fees

\$32.00 Student Participant Fee Includes:

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

\$32.00 Chaperone Participant Fee Includes:

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

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

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

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 Yuengling Center (previously known as 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: <https://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/documents/parkingmap.pdf>

Instrument and Equipment Transportation to Raymond James Stadium:

Each school will be responsible for their own instrument and equipment transportation. A representative of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office will inspect all instruments and equipment outside of Loading Dock B at Raymond James Stadium. **NOTE:** Equipment trucks and/or busses do not have access to the loading dock. Students and Chaperones must carry everything to this area by hand. 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 or school), parking is FREE. 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 (Lots 3 and 4 are the closest to Loading Dock B) Parking prices range from \$5-\$20 per car. Cash and credit are now being accepted for parking at Raymond James Stadium. Please refer to the stadium parking map on our website for further details.

Raymond James Stadium Security and Instrument Storage

All HOT Day participant instruments and equipment will be stored in a designated area underneath Raymond James Stadium by entering through security at Loading Dock B. Mrs. Gates will meet all Band Directors and participants at this location to get you through the security process (all students must be present in order to clear security). Once you have cleared security, Directors and their students will store instruments and equipment underneath the stadium (Chaperones and Parents are NOT permitted under the stadium any time. Signage will be posted in alphabetical order as to where you will store instruments and equipment. After you have safely stored your bands instruments/equipment, you will exit through Loading Dock B and observe our Game-Day Roadshow, located on the south side of Raymond James Stadium. Once Roadshow has completed, all participants will enter through normal security and gates as indicated on your Game-Day ticket (Directors will receive their game-day tickets when they check-in for the morning rehearsal). At the end of the first quarter, students will come down to the tunnels to get their instruments/equipment for our halftime performance. Please note that after the halftime performance students who are planning on staying for the remainder of the football game must store their instruments back underneath the stadium in the same locations. Raymond James Security will NOT allow any instruments or equipment into the main seating areas of the stadium.

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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 required 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 are to remain in their seats during this time, or walk over to the home side of the field to observe the performance (Chaperones and Parents ARE NOT allowed under the stadium). Students will line up according to their pre-set order, which will be set during the rehearsal, and will be lead onto the field by HOT Day Staff with help from High School Band Directors. The Herd of Thunder will perform one piece while High School students are being ushered to their field entrance positions. After that, all high school students will join us on the field to perform as a mass band.

Packing Checklist

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 as you never know what you’ll need! Music Showcase of Brandon will be onsite during rehearsal for emergency repairs.

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Music: Sheet music will be distributed via e-mail 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.

Flip Folders: Students will definitely want to have their music in these and are allowed to use them on the field.

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 appropriately named. Please make sure that you bring enough water to keep your students and chaperones hydrated throughout the day, especially for our rehearsal. Pop-up tents and coolers with snacks for the rehearsal session are also welcome.

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.

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