

Executive Summary

University Bands is a unique organization that serves the musical and academic needs of undergraduate and graduate students of all academic majors while also providing service to the University through a variety of musical performances. Service to the general student population who do not perform in the bands includes performances at fall and spring commencements, Freshman Family Day, home football games, home men's and women's basketball games, pep rallies, Mountain West and NCAA basketball tournaments, community concerts, and the presentation of approximately 10 concerts per year on campus in Popejoy Hall and Keller Hall. The total number of performances per year is approximately 80.

University Bands provide an important component of the musical education of all music majors as well as students majoring in other disciplines across campus. For students majoring in music the bands establish performance standards, inform students about repertoire, and develop understanding and performance skills in their field. For students not majoring in music, the bands provide an opportunity to perform and experience music and provide a means for meeting other students from other academic majors. Groups like the Marching Band provide an important social structure for students and assist the University in building a loyal alumni component.

We are active in the recruitment of outstanding undergraduate students from the Western United States and graduate students from across the United States as well as internationally. A significant portion of I&G funds are dedicated to providing talent based scholarships and assistantships for band members with a required minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. All members of the Marching Band and basketball pep bands receive stipends for their service to the Athletic Department. These resources not only make us nationally competitive for outstanding students, they form an important source of educational funding for UNM students by reducing student debt and the need to work part-time jobs.

SFRB funds have historically been used to provide materials and services and purchase a portion of musical instruments. SFRB funds remain an important source of shared band funding that includes resources from the Provost, Department of Music, Office of Graduate Studies, Athletics, Executive Vice President for Administration, and self-generated funds.

University Bands most closely collaborates with the Department of Music. Our resources are combined with music department resources to strengthen the recruitment capability of both departments. The Associate Director of Bands meets regularly with members of the Athletic Department to coordinate the services our students provide for athletic events and the Director of Bands communicates with the University Secretary for commencement and Freshman Family Day activities.

Application Questions

- 1. Describe the history and mission of your unit, and how its services support the mission of the University. Please address each of the following bullet points in your answer.**
 - a. What services does your unit specialize in that are not offered in a similar form elsewhere within the University?**

elsewhere within the University:
b. How does your unit serve the University's commitment to diversity?

Concert Groups

University Bands have received national acclaim through their invited performances at professional music conferences, commissioning of new repertoire by renowned contemporary composers, five commercial recordings, and performances with world class soloists, including two with the New York Philharmonic. Recordings by the UNM Wind Symphony have been broadcast across the United States and Europe and have received critical acclaim in *Fanfare* magazine and the *American Record Guide*.

Our mission for this portion of the program is to continue projects that attract national attention, enhance the reputation of the University and College of Fine Arts, and provide our students with the finest professional performance opportunities that will prepare them to be competitive in the field of music.

Athletic Bands

UNM had its first uniformed marching band in 1915 when it made its first public appearance at the State Fair. Basketball band was founded in 1970 to play for men's games shortly after the team moved to The Pit. Women's basketball band was started in 1998 and expanded in 2000 to include all home games and post season tournaments.

The mission of this portion of the program is to provide students with a meaningful musical and social experience as members of the University community through spirited performances in the Marching Band and Sound Pack. The athletic bands provide inspiration for students and student athletes, alumni, and Lobo fans at athletic events and maintain and promote University traditions associated with being a Lobo. In addition, these bands assist the University in the recruitment of students who are academically outstanding and service-minded.

Service

At the center of our philosophy is the desire for University Bands to provide service to our University, our general student population, our community, and the Music Education profession through various performances at ceremonies, on and off campus public performances, outreach events, and the sponsorship of the Zia Marching Band Fiesta for high school bands across the Southwest.

We are the only unit that provides these services. While we specifically target students with experience playing a band instrument rather than target specific ethnic groups, we are open to all students with the qualifications to perform in bands.

2. Briefly describe each program/project in your unit that is funded specifically by student fees. What are the outcomes, so far, of each program/project?

SFRB funds are used to support the overall program rather than specific projects.

3. Describe any increase in SFRB funding you are requesting, and provide justification detailing how raising student fees will improve your unit's impact on the student population.

We are seeking no increase.

4. Describe student participation in your unit, and any plans to improve it, addressing each of the following bullet points.
a. How are students involved in the governance/decision making of your unit?
b. How many students do you employ (including graduate assistants, interns, etc.)?

Traditionally, several systems are in place to include students in the decision making process.

Section leaders in the Marching Band for each instrument type assist the Associate Director of Bands with decisions relating to leadership, morale, retention, and the recruitment of new members. All members of the Marching Band provide input to the selection of drum majors based upon a live audition before the entire marching band, musicianship, and knowledge of the candidate as a leader.

Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band members provide feedback through course surveys that provide the Director of Bands and Associate Director of Bands input about course content, repertoire, and effectiveness of rehearsals and performances. Section leaders from each instrument group lead biweekly small group rehearsals and provide feedback to the directors about student progress and needs.

The band currently employs six graduate assistants.

5. Describe specific improvements your unit has made in the last fiscal year to the visibility/accessibility of its services, and any plans to further improve visibility/accessibility.

UNM Bands have always been accessible to all students who play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. While some bands are open by audition only, Marching Band requires no audition.

Band staff members attend all freshman orientation meetings during the summer to inform incoming students about their opportunities to perform in the bands.

In the past year we have been building a more visible social media presence as well as using technology such as email services to better reach and inform students of the opportunities provided by the bands. (Updated mobile-friendly website, increased student interaction with Facebook, use of Mail Chimp)

6. How does your unit collaborate with other campus units and/or off-campus entities?

UNM Bands most closely collaborates with the Department of Music. UNM Bands provides a significant portion of scholarship resources for undergraduate and graduate music majors. Our resources are combined with music department resources to strengthen the recruitment capability of both departments. We also combine resources for the purchase of concert instruments, provide all of the music used in live performances, and provide the majority of the instrument maintenance budget thus reducing the amount of course fees the Department of Music would otherwise need to charge for day-to-day operations.

Band staff regularly meets with members of the Athletic Department to coordinate the services our students provide for athletic events. We also maintain close contact with the University Secretary regarding Commencement and Freshman Family Day ceremonies.

UNM Bands provides service to high school bands and music educators throughout the region through sponsorship of the Zia Marching Band Fiesta, performances by the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and graduate Brass and Woodwind Quintets in the public schools, and our faculty frequently donate their time to provide workshops and clinics for music teachers and their students.

7. What methods have been used in evaluating your unit's impact on the student population and how effective have those methods been?

Band faculty use self-designed or IDEA course evaluations to determine effectiveness of instruction. We evaluate effectiveness of instruction, communication, content, and student leadership structures, along with soliciting input for improvement. We believe these are effective methods of evaluation.

- 8. What are your unit's current non-SFRB sources of funding, and if applicable, what additional funding sources are you seeking this year?**
- a. What increases or decreases from non-SFRB funding sources do you anticipate compared to your budget from last year?**
 - b. Please complete Budget Form C for non-SFRB income.**

Funding comes from several sources including I & G, Athletic Department, and self-generated revenue from the Zia Marching Band Fiesta. We anticipate stable funding for the next year.

- 9. What are your unit's current plans to address the recommendations of last year's SFRB?**

We received no recommendations from SFRB.

- 10. Provide any other information or a narrative that will assist the SFRB in making its decision to fund your unit.**

University bands are most often associated with those groups that perform at athletic events, as these are the most visible part of the program. In reality, these groups represent only a portion of the band program. UNM has two concert bands that meet the needs of different groups of students.

The Wind Symphony numbers 58 students majoring in music (29 graduate students/29 undergraduate students). The Wind Symphony is internationally recognized as an outstanding performing organization through its recordings, invitations to perform at professional music conferences including the College Band Directors National Association, Society for Composers, Inc. National Conference, and North American Saxophone Alliance Conference, and participation in national consortia for the commissioning of new music.

The Symphonic Band numbers 52 students majoring in music and other disciplines from across campus (50 undergraduate students/2 graduate students). The Marching Band numbers 145 students from all academic majors and the basketball pep bands, Sound Pack, is formed from a pool of approximately 100 students. Students frequently perform in more than one band in any given semester. Total number of students participating in bands is 224.

The use of student fees to support UNM Bands dates back to 1953 and has been continuous since 1985. We are grateful for the continued support provided by the SFRB.