Winter Success

The Marching Sound of Class, Viking Pep Band, and Symphonic Wind Ensemble returned from winter break to prepare for a host of performances locally and abroad. The Marching Sound of Class performed in the 2nd Annual HBCU Experience Battle of the Bands, in Wilmington, NC on January 18-19, 2015. The Viking Pep Band performed at Winter Open House on February 7, 2015 at several locations throughout the campus. The performance was in support of the ECSU recruitment initiative. The Viking Pep Band also supported the Lady Viking and Viking Men’s Basketball Teams at home games throughout the months of January and February, and traveled to Charlotte, NC at the end of February for the annual CIAA Tournament. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble, University Choir, and ECSU Orchestra had several students to represent ECSU and the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, at the 55th Annual IMA Conference at Norfolk State University, which was held February 5-7, 2015.
For the second year in a row, the ECSU Marching Sound of Class was invited to participate in the HBCU Experience College Fair and Battle of the Bands, which is held in Wilmington, NC. In 2013, the Marching S.O.C. faced the St. Augustine’s University Marching Band. Due to the popularity and growth of the event in 2013, the venue was moved to Cape Fear Community College, and this year the S.O.C. went head to head against the North Carolina Central University Marching Sound Machine on Sunday, January 18th.

This year’s participation was very special for the S.O.C., because two freshmen members are from the Wilmington “Port City” area. Both students, Aaron Williams (euphonium) and Adrian Frazier (trombone), are graduates of North Brunswick High School in Leland, NC. In addition, the S.O.C. was also able to make history as the first college band to ever participate in the Wilmington Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade, which was held on Monday, January 19th. Hundreds of people lined the streets for the parade, as the S.O.C. marched by, stopping briefly at City Hall to perform for the judging panel and city officials.
For the 3rd year in a row, the ECSU Viking Pep Band utilized their trip to the CIAA Tournament as an opportunity to perform a recruitment tour. Prior to departure for Charlotte, NC, the Pep Band traveled with the University Choir to T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria, VA, to perform on their Black History Month Program. Both groups did an outstanding job and gave excellent performances. The performances resulted in increased interest in ECSU from high school juniors and seniors that were present at the performances. On Tuesday morning, the Pep Band departed for Charlotte, NC, and between games at the Time Warner Cable Arena, the band performed at local high schools in the Charlotte area. Notable visits included Vance High School, West Mecklenburg High School, West Charlotte High School, and Rocky River High School.

Since the “tours” began in 2013, the ECSU band program has successfully recruited 45 members from the Charlotte area.

As an annual wrap up, the Pep Band performed at the annual Chancellor’s Breakfast, held at the Omni Hotel.

The staff and students of the ECSU Viking Pep Band would like to thank Ms. Gwen Bowser and all alumni who supported and contributed donations towards meals for the band during the trip to the CIAA Tournament.
The ECSU Band program is actively recruiting woodwind, brass, and percussionists, and auxiliary members for the 2015-2016 academic year. Students interested in joining the ECSU band program must be admitted to ECSU. Those interested in receiving a General Band Scholarship, must successfully complete an audition consisting of the following elements:

- Major Scales
- Prepared Piece
- Sight-reading

In addition, they will need to provide two letters of recommendation, and one must come from a current or former high school band director. Students do not have to major or minor in music to be eligible for the General Band Scholarship; however, we are also looking for students that are interested in majoring in any of our five degree concentrations: Music Education, Music Performance, Music Business, Sound and Recording Technology, or Music Composition. If a student is interested in majoring in music, they can obtain more information regarding entrance requirements by calling (252) 335-3359.
Support the ECSU Band Program!

Would you like to be featured in *The Downbeat*, a monthly newsletter of the ECSU Band Program? This will be a great opportunity for you to support the ECSU Band Program and at the same time enhance marketing your business or featuring your personal message and showing your Viking Pride. The cost of each personal message or advertisement is as follows: (1) **full page** --$200.00, (2) **half page**--$100.00, and (3) **one-fourth page** --$50.00. Please make all checks or money orders payable to the **ECSU Foundation** and notate **ECSU Band Resource Fund** in the check memo section along with your class year. Also enclose a note of your years of participation in the ECSU Band Program and your role as a band member.

Credit card payments can be made online at the following link: [https://www.applyweb.com/publice/contribute?s=ecsucont](https://www.applyweb.com/publice/contribute?s=ecsucont). Under Area of Giving, please select **Viking Band**. Or you may send your donation to: **The ECSU Foundation, P. O. Box 1467, Elizabeth City, NC 27906**.

Please submit a **camera-ready copy of a personal message** or a **business advertisement** to be placed in the newsletter by email to **Dr. Shirley Turnage** at **rc14@comcast.net**. You may also contact **Ms. Gwen Bowser @ (443) 618-7766** for assistance in creating your message or advertisement.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the ECSU Band Program.

With Viking Pride,

Dr. Shirley Turnage,
’67

James W. Cherry,
II,’96

Ms. Gwendolyn Bowser,
’69

Mr. Ervin Simons, ‘71
Mr. Timothy Rodgers, ‘83
Mone’t Basnight Earle, 05
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VIKINGS MARCHING BAND
Of
Elizabeth City State University
LEADERS, INNOVATORS, VISIONARIES
“Make a Decision Today to Create a Better Tomorrow”

William “Red” and Bertha Bryant
Graduate of the Class of 1968 & 1970

“Our Beautiful Family”

TO BE THE BEST...CONNECT WITH THE BEST!!!
Dear Fellow Viking Alumni and Friends:

My name is Linda Davenport-Sanders. I am a 1978 graduate of Elizabeth City State University. I was a member of the ECSU Marching Band and Concert Band during the years 1974 through 1977, under the direction of Dr. Floyd L. Robinson. I played the clarinet in the marching band and the oboe in the concert band. As a Viking Alumni Band member, I am seeking your support to help raise funds to increase the members in our band and strengthen the band’s performance and appearance. By making a donation, you will be giving back to your alma mater, helping to elevate the Viking spirit at athletic games and other events, and also assisting the ECSU Band Program return to its proud tradition of excellence.

As I reminisce about my involvement with the band, I think about the vast opportunities the band afforded me. During that era, the marching band was comprised of more than 150 members and the concert band had 60 members. In addition to performing at events on campus, we participated in many community parades and events. On many occasions, the members of the concert band traveled all over the country to perform at various affairs. One of the most memorable events for me was the time the ECSU Marching Band performed during halftime at the NFL Super Bowl in New Orleans. It was an awesome experience!

In expression of appreciation for my great experiences as a band member, I have established the Linda Davenport-Sanders Band Scholarship Fund to assist with the recruitment of new members and to expand the size of the band. The scholarship will be awarded annually to ECSU students who meet the criteria set by the Linda Davenport-Sanders Band Scholarship Fund. (I feel very fortunate to have received a band scholarship each year I attended ECSU).

*I hope we can count on your support of this effort through your generous tax-deductible donations.* Please make your checks /money order payable to ECSU Foundation and reference the Linda Davenport-Sanders Band Scholarship Fund. Please send your check to the ECSU Foundation, P.O. Box 1467, Elizabeth City, NC 27906. You make contact Ms. Gwen Bowser, with your questions or comments at 443-618-7766 or by e-mail at msvingpride@gmail.com. All donors will receive a thank-you letter/receipt from the ECSU Foundation.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

Linda Davenport-Sanders, ’78
Melrese Battle Barnes
Independent Beauty Consultant

301 523 8389
stmetjb6@gmail.com
melodious@marykay.com
www.marykay.com/melodious

God First, Family Second, Career Third
Anthony Swain ‘82

CAPT USN (ret)
President, DC Metro Chapter, ECSU, NAA INC
Manager, Government Marketing & Sales, Electronic Services Division, Northrop Grumman

“Let the music play on”, I love my ECSU band, Viking Pride!

Tony
Congratulations!
ECSU’s Band Directors & Band Members (Concert & Marching).

Viking Pride!

Calvin Worsley ’74

Emeritus Trustees
Greensboro, N.C.
ECSU Band (Tenor Saxophone, ’73 – ’77)

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Congratulations!
ECSU’s Band Directors & Band Members (Concert & Marching). Viking Pride!

Jessie Jr. & Almeka M. Graham
Decatur, Georgia

Jessie Jr. (Kappa)
(Band Member, Clarinet & Saxophone, 1971 – 76)

Almeka (Delta)
CONGRATULATIONS!
To ECSU’s Band Directors & Band Members
Dr. Shirley Turnage & Grandchildren

Dr. Shirley M Turnage, ’67
ECSU Band (Flute/Piccolo, ’63-’67)
Head Majorette (’66)
Glenn Dale, MD

RC, Sarah & Reuben Walbrook

Zeta Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Sorority, Inc.
Elizabeth City, NC
Supports ECSU’s Bands

Sponsored by Dr. Shirley M. Turnage, ’67 and Photograph by Lloyd T. Porter, ’64
The First Band at ECSU

In memory of:
Prof. James A. Clark, Great Uncle
Ms. Nettie Beverly Clark, Great Aunt
Ms. Edith Holley Battle, Mother of Melrese
Master James A. Clark, Jr. Mascot, Cousin

In honor of
Ms. Amelia Clark Mebane
William and Melrese Barnes
Elizabeth City State University
National Alumni Association, Incorporated

William T. Bowser, Sr. Alumni Chapter of Maryland

5th Annual Scholarship Gala

Semi-Formal Attire or Sunday’s Best
Scrumptious Buffet
Conversation
Music & Dancing
Silent Auction
Door Prizes

For ticket information call:
Charlotte Brown (301) 257-8801
Elma Brandon (240) 447-3399
Sheryl Ganus (240) 388-1922
William Barnes (240) 462-0302

Save the DATE:

Friday, August 28, 2015
8pm-12am
Camelot by Martin’s
13905 Central Avenue
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774
Donations: $55.00
Dinner * Dance*
Support the ECSU Band Program

We would like to thank each of you for your continued support of the Elizabeth City State University Band Program. The following list represents the current needs of our program:

- Reeds (Bb Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, Soprano Sax, Bari Sax, Oboe)
- Alto Saxophone and Tenor Saxophone Mouthpieces and Neck Straps
- Melodic Percussion Mallets
- Sanitizer Solution and Spray
- Trombone, Trumpet, Baritone, and Tuba Mouthpieces
- Clarinet Mouthpieces and Ligatures
- Valve Oil
- Monetary Donations for Instrument Repairs and Uniform Cleaning
- Auxiliary Uniforms