



2020-2021 Tri-City United Arts & Activities



TCU Band performs at the fall concert.

TCU Band

Conductor: Sarah Costello
Drum Majors: Arya Menk and Reese Tuma

Color Guard Captain: Whitney Thompson

Lead Center Snare: Jack Erickson

Highlights

We performed a Fall Band Concert in October. It was in the gym, students spaced out all in the bleachers, parents on the opposite side of the gym sitting in the audience. We had not given a concert in over 7 months, there were tears in the eyes of audience members. The point of making such wonderful music together, is to be able to share it with others. The students were so excited for that concert, we played a bunch of fun tunes, Drumline performed a handful of cadences, and we were able to feature and showcase our brand new group—the TCU Color Guard. They had been working on a routine, spinning and tossing flags, choreography that goes along with the music. It was a great evening and I was super proud of all the Band kids!

Challenges

The biggest challenge this year has been during hybrid. We only saw half of the band, as it was split into an A day and a B day. We are typically used to having band class 5 days a week. That was cut in half, and the instrumentation numbers weren't even—more trumpets on one side, more upperclassmen on the other side.

But overall, we are very thankful that we were able to rehearse in the Performing Arts Center being 12 feet apart.

Distance learning was especially tough for any of the more “hands-on classes.” Yes, we practiced music at home, fun Pep Band songs, solo literature, movie and pop tunes, but most kids join Band to play together, not to play by themselves at home.

We made it through distance learning doing virtual lessons, and we had students submit mini winter tunes for a virtual concert. We spliced together over 300 video submissions and mixed the audio. The virtual Winter Band Concert turned out pretty awesome with lots of Band students participating in it from grades 6-12.

Upcoming events

TCU's Annual Pops Concert is on Friday, May 14, starting at 6 p.m. The Pops theme is “Swingin’ Jazz.” The concert will be held outdoors at the high school stadium with students in the bleachers and audience members on the football field (so bring a lawn chair or blanket).

“The point of making such wonderful music together, is to be able to share it with others.”
 ~ TCU Band Instructor



TCU's Color Guard performs. Pictured (left to right): Ally Silda, Kathleen Pichota, Captain Whitney Thompson, Olivia Burns, and Bella Matchinski. Not pictured: Amanda Priggee and Molly Tuma.



Members of TCU's Drumline are pictured. Pictured (left to right): Front row - Mackenzie Holmbo, Captain Jack Erickson, Isaac Schroeder, Blake Prchal, and Josiah Turek. Back row: Eli Viskocil, Alex Watts, Emerson Fashant, and Will Bulger. Not pictured: Dylan Western and Miyu Kobayashi.

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2020-2021 Tri-City United Arts & Activities



TCU High School's Student Council members are pictured. Front (left to right): Nalia Wagner, Gaby Dahlke, Rhia Krautkremer, Alexis Neubauer, Savannah Squires, and Molly Closser. Back row: Ms. Erwin, Henry Schendel, Bailey Witte, Marco Reyes, Andra Sherman, Jack Erickson, Jess Dull, Kalyn Krautkremer, Lily Martin, Kaia Krocak, and Ms. Davidson. Not pictured: Nikaija Young, Michelle Ramirez, and Kacie Traxler.

Student Council stays motivated and active

Advisors: Jen Davidson Closser (junior) and Emily Erwin
Secretary: Savannah Squires (junior)
President: Jess Dull (senior)
Treasurer: Jack Erickson
Vice President: Molly (senior)

Senior members: Alexis Neubauer, Jorge Padron, and Kaija Young
Junior members: Andra Sherman, Kacie Traxler, and Michelle Ramirez
Sophomore members: Rhia Krautkremer, Marco Reyes, Henry Schendel, Kaia Krocak, and Bailey Witte
Freshmen members: Nalia Wagner, Gabriella Dahl-

ke, Elvis Eckman, Kalyn Krautkremer, Lily Martin
Events
 Red Cross Blood Drive, Adopt-a-Highway, Paint the Town, Mock Elections, Crush for Your Crush, and (upcoming) Safety Week
Challenges
 We haven't really been able to have a full meeting in person. Doing committee

work in our various models has proven to be challenging. **Successes**
 Despite the circumstances of the pandemic, we led a

successful blood drive in the fall. Everyone helped promote the drive and get donors signed up.

"They have done an amazing job staying motivated and active despite frequent learning model shifts. They are dependable, and always have ideas of what we could be working on next."
 ~ Advisor Jen Davidson

"When many have lost motivation during COVID, this group continues to push on and wants to make a difference."
 ~ Advisor Emily Erwin

Speech during the pandemic is challenging



Photo courtesy of TCU Schools

Speech is an activity that relies on speaking - without face coverings or masks due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, (from left) Alexandria Watts, Alex Matchinski, and Sadie Fossum participated in the high school activity without masks, because the meets were held virtually.

Advisor(s): Amy Alberg (Head Coach), Sean Benz (Assistant Coach)
Members: Alexandria Watts (12), Alex Matchinski (11), Sadie Fossum (7)
 How has TCU Speech helped its members this school year? We have met virtually and in person, depending on the school learning model and student circumstances, while working to be supportive through all of the challenges.
 What contests has Speech held or participated in this year? The team went to six invitational, virtual meets, as well as Subsections, and Sections, which were also held virtually.
 Biggest challenge? Having a mostly virtual season has been a challenge this year.
 Success? This year, our biggest success is really just getting through the season. We had two students place fifth at our Subsection contest, who then competed at Sections.



Submitted Photo

Members of TCU's German Club are pictured. Front row (left to right): Alex Soukup, Cheyenne Stephens, Jess Dull, Kyra Newman, Nalia Wagner, Alejandra Montes de Oca, Evon Kuchelmeister, and Aidan Miland. Back row: Mason Dietz, Aidan Takada, Gavin Roemhildt, Nate Leonard, Aven Prigge, Levi Scofield, Janik Wagner, Nolan Readmond, and Elvis Eckman. Not pictured: Patrick Fossum, Karen Ruiz, Alex Watts, Madelyn Huber, Brianna Nichols, Landen Brown, Harrison Factor, Dylan Fox, and Aidan Murphy.

German Club

Advisor: Mary Dooley
President: Jess Dull
Secretary: Nalia Wagner
Treasurer: Levi Scofield
Members: Alex Watts, Jess Dull, Patrick Fossum, Madelyn Huber, Nathaniel Leonard, Kyra Newman, Brianna Nichols, Aven Prigge, Nolan Readmond, Karen Ruiz, Levi Scofield, Janik Wagner, Alex Watts, Landen

Brown, Mason Dietz, Elvis Eckman, Harrison Factor, Dylan Fox, Evon Kuchelmeister, Aidan Miland, Alejandra Montes de Oca, Aidan Murphy, Gavin Roemhildt, Alex Soukup, Aidan Takada, and Nalia Wagner.
Highlights
 We celebrated Oktoberfest, German Harvest Fest, Christmas traditions (in-

cluding making gingerbread houses on St. Nikolaus Day), Easter, and enjoyed a German dessert called spaghettiis.
Upcoming Events
 German Club is planning to host a giant chess event, a soccer event, and an authentic German breakfast event.

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Best wishes to TCU students!

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2020-2021 Tri-City United Arts & Activities



Photos courtesy of Tony Barnack

Members of TCU's National Art Honor Society are pictured.

National Art Honor Society

Advisor: Tony Barnack
2020-2021 NAHS Officers:

Reagan Gaul - President
Rachel Way - Vice President
Isabella Hennen - Secretary
Sydney Whiteis - Treasurer

Activities
TCU Art Night, Annual Student Show was held April 22 - May 15th at the Montgomery Arts and Heritage

Center. Students also participated in the Section Art Festival.

Challenges

We have not been able to go on any field trips or host the Section Art Festival because of COVID-19. It has also been challenging for the seniors working on the 2021 Senior Mural to find time to work on the mural because of

the hybrid learning model.

Successes

TCU Art Night was a BIG Success this year! We filled all of our spaces with high school students and had a great evening!

Upcoming Event

We will have 18 students who will have their artwork judged for the Section Art Festival.

Members of the Sumi Ink Club creating beautiful artwork.



Submitted Photo

Members of TCU's Concert Choir are pictured. Front row (left to right): Anna Patock, Katelin Mulville, Damien Winterfeldt, Baldomero Rodriguez, Aiyana Meeks-Burlingame, Julia Drobnik, and Jade Wald. Second row: Olivia Hammac, Chloe Grunow, Jack Sembauer, Juan Reyes, Devin Pulls, Danessa Buckingham, Arya Menk, and Daniel Barnett. Back row: Cheyenne Stephens, Nicole Sorenson, Mecca Nightingale, Alex Bass, Owen Block, Michael Keltgen, Kellen O'Keefe, and Lucas Holicky. Not pictured: Austin Testerman, Ryan Borchardt, Mariana Garza, and Ethan Tadaka.

Concert Choir: Making music during an interesting year

Director: Sean Benz

Members: Daniel Barnack, Alex Bass (Men's Section Leader), Owen Block, Ryan Borchardt, Danessa Buckingham, Julia Drobnik, Mariana Garza, Chloe Grunow, Olivia Hammac, Lucas Holicky, Mikey Keltgen, Aiyanna Meeks-Burlingame, Arya Menk (Alto Section Leader), Katelin Mulville, Mecca Nightingale, Kellen O'Keefe, Anna Patock, Devin Puls, Juan Reyes, Baldomero Rodriguez, Jack Sembauer, Nicole Sorenson (Soprano Section Leader), Cheyenne Stephens, Ethan

Tadaka, Austin Testerman, Jade Wald, and Damien Winterfeldt

Highlights

The fact the students were able to continue to build on their prior knowledge of sight reading and picking up the music with relative ease was a huge highlight! Even through COVID-19, they came to class each day and were ready to work!

Challenges

Quite honestly, it was difficult having the group split in half over the year due to the hybrid school model. The students had to learn their

parts and then have a day where they could forget it, so we had to review the next time we would see them.

Successes

The greatest success that the students have had this year is completely learning all of their music in a timely fashion before the concert. The students were very excited to see each other again and it showed!

Upcoming Event

Due to the pandemic, we were not able to have a usual year, but we look forward to singing for the public on May 14!

Despite hard year, FFA pulls off some normal events

Advisors: Randy Kral, Hayley Sowieja

Members of TCU's FFA: There are 50 TCU FFA Members

Events

This fall our FFA chapter made and delivered meals to local farmers during harvest.

This winter our FFA participated in fruit sales.

We had seven teams compete in Career Development Events (CDE) this year. The following teams made it to the state competition: Small Animals, Farm Business Management, Agricultural Mechanics, Dairy Evalu-

ation, Meat Evaluation, & Fish & Wildlife.

We celebrated National FFA Week in February with a staff breakfast, bean bag tournament for the high schoolers, trivia for the Middle Schools, and a coloring contest in the Elementary Schools.

Challenges

This year we were not able to travel to regional contests, National or State Convention, or plan many of the fun activities we normally have, which really didn't give our younger members the true FFA experience they would

have in a normal year.

In addition to that, our senior members missed out on a lot of experiences as well.

Successes

Despite a hard year, we were able to pull off some of our normal events. Our members came together to help pull off these events. We have still been able to create great experiences for our members. TCU FFA is a great organization to be in to help you develop leadership skills, explore different career paths, meet new people, and have fun doing it!



Submitted Photo

The TCU FFA Chapter includes, (front, from right) Jack Saemrow, Rachel Rynda, Kendra Blaschko, (row two) Jacey Saemrow, Samantha Tiede, Alexis Hoefs, Lexi O'Connell, Nikaija Young, Tara Larson, Isabella Hennen, Brianna Schroeder, (row three) Jayden Novotny, Marty Malecha, Cole Franek, Isaac Rynda, Cole Walters, Elizabeth Odenthal, (row four) Taylor Stepka, Tyler Kaldrick, Brendan O'Keefe, Austin Rutt, (row five) Billy Jirik, Tim Tiede, Zac Jabas, and Bryce Blaschko.



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2020-2021 Tri-City United Arts & Activities



Submitted Photo

TCU's One-Act Play Team is pictured. Front row (left to right): Julie Meyer, Sydney Whiteis, Jack Erickson, Nicole Schweitzer, Danessa Buckingham, and Will Bulger. Back row: Alex Bass, Lily Capaul, Haley Wasiloski, Olivia Skluzacek, Tahlia Buckingham, George Watts, Dez Gibbons, Alex Matchinski. Not pictured: Cristian Mejia, Suazanna Huffins, and Tyler Glockner.

One-Act Play

Advisor: Elise Lundeen
Play title: Suspense - Murder Through the Looking Glass
Cast members: Julie Meyer, Haley Wasiloski, Jack Erickson, Olivia Skluzacek, Tahlia Buckingham, Lily Capaul, Dezirae Gibbons, Nicole Schweitzer, Will Bulger, and Danessa Buckingham.
Foley artists: George

Watts and Sydney Whiteis.
Crew: Alex Bass, Tyler Glockner, Suazanna Huffins, Alex Matchinski, and Cristian Mejia.
Highlights
 We placed third in our Section! We decided to perform in person as opposed to producing a virtual play — with masks and social distancing. We got to perform for a live

audience in the TCU Performing Arts Center.
Challenges
 Our biggest challenge was, of course, Covid, and performing in masks and losing performers to the illness off and on.
Successes
 Our success was pulling it off after switching shows last minute to satisfy MSHSL rules on masking and distancing and also the ability of students to step in when someone had to go into quarantine.

"We were very fortunate to place third and to perform in front of our friends and family members during this unprecedented time!"
 ~ Advisor Elise Lundeen



Submitted Photo

Members of the TCU Knowledge Bowl include (front, from left) William Trcka, Thomas Bulger, Reese Tuma, Cristian Mejia, Lily Capaul, Haley Wasiloski, Sydney Whiteis, Mr. Peter Kuriger, Math/Science Instructor, (back) Patrick Fossum, Arthur Devine, Lucas Budin, Caleb Holicky, and Alex Matchinski.

A knowledgeable bunch

Advisor: Peter Kuriger
Members: Alex Matchinski, Haley Wasiloski, Sydney Whiteis, Cristian Mejia, Reese Tuma, Arya Menk, Reese Tuma, Patrick Fossum, Lily Capaul, Arthur Devine, Thomas Bulger, Caleb Holicky, Jayson Macho, Ashton Matejcek, William Trcka, Lucas Budin
Activities
 We were able to participate in four meets. In Subregions, one team qualified to compete in Regions this year.
Challenges
 This year we were only able to participate in Virtual

Meets. As meets are usually in-person, this was a challenge. We started the season trying to figure out how to have Knowledge Bowl virtually, and after working out some of the bugs, we were able to create a competitive season in spite of the initial difficulties.
 Our goal was to make sure that students could participate, compete, and enjoy the season in spite of the many challenges we faced in the pandemic this year.
Success
 We started the season with a third place finish and finished the season sending a team to the Regional event.
Final comments
 This was my first year coaching Knowledge Bowl at TCU. I'm looking forward to an in-person season next year! The students I get to work with have been wonderful.
 It would not have been possible to compete as we did without a lot of flexibility on their part. We'll miss the seniors, but the rest of us will be back and ready to compete again next year.

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Final comments
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 It would not have been possible to compete as we did without a lot of flexibility on their part. We'll miss the seniors, but the rest of us will be back and ready to compete again next year.

Robotics

Advisor: John Head
Members: Cole Walters, Ben Ballman, Jameson Fonseca, Alex Matchinski, Hayden Arndt, Riley Bogue, Dawson Drentlaw, Devin Filter, Stuart Schatz, Caleb Holicky, Cristian Mejia, Reese Tuma, Haley Wasiloski, Alexandra Watts, Sydney Whiteis, Tyler Glockner, Julie Meyer, Aidan Miland, Ryan Schroeder, Josiah Turek, Patrick Fossum.
Highlights
 The State Competition. Attending were Gear Train members Hayden Arndt, Riley Bogue, Dawson Drentlaw, Devin Filter, Stuart Schatz, and Caleb Holicky. It

was held at St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center on April 17. TCU got 15th place out of 34 teams. They were knocked out of the bracket in the first round of eliminations.
 The robotics' game at the competition tested students' abilities. They had to design a specific robot for the event. This year was a tic-tac-toe game with nine baskets laid out in a three-by-three grid in the arena. Each team's goal is to have their robot place balls on the top of the basket creating rows, while knocking away their opponents' balls. The team with the most rows gets the highest score.

The competition includes a 15-second round of autonomous robot driving using the student-built program, and the other is 45 seconds with a human driver.
 Gear Train is one of TCU's most competitive teams and has entered the robotics state tournament every year they've competed.
Challenges
 The biggest challenge has been the design phase.
Final comment
 It might surprise you that anyone can be in Robotics and do it. So why not give it a try?



Submitted Photo

Some of the TCU Robotics Team members at a competition at Windom.

Business Professionals of America members advance to State

Advisors: Stacy Lindblom and John Head
Members: Connor Antony, Zachary Balma, Richelle Brokl, Jordyn Brownlee, Lucas Budin, Thomas Bulger, Isabelle Factor, Haley Goettl, Katilyn Goettl-Rutt, Lauren Houn, Dylan Hunt, Madeline Kempenich, Natalee Korbitz, Natalie Lundahl, Keira Meyer, Rachael Pagen, Michelle Ramirez, Gabe Robinson, Ava Rud, Henry Schendel, Andra Sherman, Samantha Simonette, Payton Singleton, Savannah Squires, Kacie Traxler, Caleb Whipps, and Nikaija Young.
Activities
 The club has tried to carry on in spite of covid. It has been a tough year and a half. Our Region 3 decided to go ahead and host Regions virtually. The State BPA did the same. Students were able to compete in Regions and earn spots at the state leadership conference in March - virtually. Four of those students advanced to Nationals: Kacie Traxler in advanced office procedure, Katilyn Goettl-Rutt in banking and finance, Connor Antony in computer programming C#, and Andra Sherman in fundamentals of



desktop publishing.
Challenge
 We were unable to open the school store like we wanted. However, we offered a competition in Mr. Langer's class of Introduction to Graphic Design. Winners were Brianna Harper, who developed the snow globe image, and Grant Spencer and Julie Meyer who designed the logo. Both images will be used on clothing next year.
Comments
 We had several students advance to State this year. I was very proud of our team events.
 - Presentation Management Team: 1st Rachael Pagen, Michelle Ramirez, Lucas Budin, and Kacie Traxler
 - Financial Analysis Team 2nd Haley Goettl, Lauren Houn, Nikaija Young, and Madeline Kempenich
 - Global Marketing Team 1st Place Andra Sherman, Connor Antony, and Savannah Squires
 Most of all, the students made a commitment to their organization and did not give up this year when it became hard. That was the biggest takeaway!



Brianna Harper designed this image in the Introduction to Graphic Design class. It will be put on long sleeve shirts.
This logo designed by Grant Spencer and Julie Meyer will be put on a windbreaker and sold next year.

Good Luck TITANS!

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We applaud all the TCU students!

Josh Farm, Deb Skluzacek, Stacy Hunt, Coley Selly

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