



Stratford High School Band Boosters

951 Crowfield Boulevard
PO Box 1665
Goose Creek, SC 29445

Greg Priest & Josh Artz, Band Directors

Dear Music Supporter,

As a member of the Stratford and Berkeley County community, you are receiving this letter on the behalf of the Stratford band program. The Bands of Stratford have a rich history of excellence and have impacted the lives of thousands of students. Participation in the band program not only educates students in music performance, but cultivates crucial soft skills and provides performance opportunities on local, regional, and national levels.

Whether you're a Stratford graduate, parent, or community supporter of the performing arts, our students need your support! It takes approximately **\$250,000 per year** for the Stratford band program to operate at its current level. Funds received from the school district are in the form of salaries and facilities, and student fees make up around half of the annual income--the rest comes though fundraising and generous donors like you. It is not our intention to ask for a handout, but for an investment in our greatest asset: our youth. We are not only teaching these students to play music, but are preparing them to becoming extraordinary students and citizens.

Our band program continues to thrive, making history time and again:

- In Spring of 2023, the Stratford Wind Orchestra competed in the National Concert Band President's Cup in Washington, D.C., and our Trumpet Ensemble was a Semi-Finalist ensemble at the National Trumpet Competition in Boulder, Colorado.
- In Fall of 2023, the Stratford Marching Knights participated in a Bands of America regional competition, the first time any BCDS school has participated, and placed 8th place out of 23 of the most competitive ensembles in the region. The Marching Knights placed 6th at SCBDA State Finals among the 22 largest high schools in South Carolina.
- In 2024, the Stratford Wind Orchestra was selected as a feature performer at the USC Honor Band Clinic and the Stratford Jazz Orchestra was a featured perform at the SC Music Educators Association Conference. The band program had school- and district-record numbers of students who earned seats in auditioned honor bands, such as the All-County, Region, All-State, and All-State Jazz bands.

We need you on our team! Your tax-deductible donation will assist us in purchasing new instruments and uniforms, which are currently borrowed from other schools. As our program continues to grow, donations like yours are instrumental in providing students with performance opportunities to enrich our school and community. In return, we will acknowledge your sponsorship and advertise your generosity, as outlined on the attached Sponsorship Form.

Your support will allow the proud students of the Stratford Band to grow their love of music and achieve their performance goals. Thank you for consideration our request, and we hope to welcome you as a supporter of the Bands of Stratford!

Sincerely,

Crystal Ledbetter
Booster President

Greg Priest
Director of Bands

Josh Artz
Director of Bands

Sponsorships and Donations

How does your donation support the band program?

Donations are used to purchase new instruments, purchase new music and performance equipment, cover transportation costs, purchase uniforms, cover registration fees, and pay for expenses related to camps, clinics, and other performances.

As a sponsor you can choose to:

- Donate an instrument or specific piece of equipment (list available upon request)
- Donate funds to be used for a specific purpose from the above list
- Sponsor a meal with a non-monetary food donation to feed members and staff at one of our mini-camps or on a competition day (dates available upon request)
- Select a sponsor level as outlined below

General Donations and **Angel Fund Donations** are accepted in any amount and may be made at any time. Donations to the Angel Fund are used to support students in need of financial assistance.

Sponsor a Student

Sponsor a specific student by donating half of or the full amount of one student's band fees.

- **Patron (full sponsorship) \$530**
- **Friend of the Band (half sponsorship) \$265**

Student sponsors will receive recognition on the band website and at the annual Band Banquet.

Supporter (\$500-\$999)

- Receive tax-exempt letter and thank you from Booster Club
- Receive Band Supporter decal
- Sponsorship announced at one home football game this season
- Recognition at annual Band Banquet

Crusader (\$1,000-\$2,499)

- All Supporter benefits plus:
- Business name/logo/link on band website for 12 months
- Recognition in Winter and Spring concert programs for the school year*
- Sponsorship announced at all home football games this season
- Recognition of sponsorship on social media once during the year

Sponsorships are valid for one school year, unless otherwise indicated.

*Sponsorships must be submitted prior to Winter (December) and Spring (May) dates in time for printing. Sponsors at any level can choose to remain anonymous.

Coat of Arms (\$2,500-\$4,999)

- All Supporter benefits plus:
- Business name/logo/link on band website for 12 months
- Recognition in Winter and Spring concert programs for the school year*
- Sponsorship announced at all home football games this season
- Recognition of sponsorship on social media twice during the year
- Name/logo displayed at all home football games this season

Heart of a Knight (\$5,000-\$7,499)

- All Supporter benefits plus:
- Business name/logo/link on band website for 12 months
- Recognition in Winter and Spring concert programs for the school year*
- Sponsorship announced at all home football games this season
- Recognition of sponsorship on social media twice during the year
- Name/logo displayed at all home football games this season
- Name/logo displayed on band trailer this season
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Knight of the Round Table (\$7,500-\$9,999)

- All Supporter benefits plus:
- Business name/logo/link on band website for 12 months
- Recognition in Winter and Spring concert programs for the school year*
- Sponsorship announced at all home football games this season
- Recognition of sponsorship on social media twice during the year
- Name/logo displayed at all home football games this season
- Name/logo displayed on band trailer for the season
- Large printed check and photo with Band Representatives, posted on social media and website

Excalibur (\$10,000+)

- All Supporter benefits plus:
- Business name/logo/link on band website for 12 months
- Recognition in Winter and Spring concert programs for the school year*
- Sponsorship announced at all home football games this season
- Recognition of sponsorship on social media twice during the year
- Name/logo displayed at all home football games this season
- Name/logo displayed on band trailer for the season
- Large printed check and photo with Band Representatives, posted on social media and website
- Jazz or Pep Band performance (depending on season) at your office or event