



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL BAND



The Tuscaloosa County School System

Presents:

Hillcrest High School

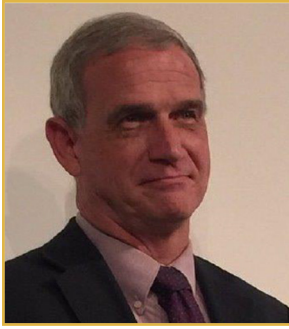
Wind Ensemble

Kevin D. Thomas, Director of Bands

Daniel V. Cubas, Associate Director of Bands

**2018 Alabama Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference
Birmingham -Jefferson Convention Complex – Concert Hall
Birmingham, Alabama**

**January 19, 2018
1:15 PM**



Dr. Walter E. Davie
SUPERINTENDENT

November 2, 2017

Alabama Music Education Association
Alabama Bandmasters Association
Montgomery, AL

Dear Music Educators:

The Alabama Music Educators Association State Conference is well known for its contribution to the world of music and the support and continuing education provided to those who work with our students on a daily basis. The networking of music professionals, sessions of professional development, and resources made available to our music educators and schools are of the highest quality and represent the best in music education.

We are very excited to share with your group the musical talents of the Hillcrest High School Wind Ensemble. The instrumental music program at Hillcrest High has always been one of excellence and now under the direction of Mr. Kevin Thomas, Director, and Mr. Daniel Cubas, Assistant Director, the program is only growing stronger. The program enjoys the support of Mr. Jeff Hinton, Principal, and the entire school administration and staff. Through the dedication of the students who have been engrained with the joy and inspiration of music and the parents who whole-heartedly support all efforts on their behalf, the Hillcrest High Wind Ensemble has positioned itself as an exemplary program and a model for others.

It is my sincere wish that this year's conference is one of the very best. I applaud you for the work that you do on behalf of our students and promoting music as a key ingredient in the soul of our educational process as well as for our way of life. Again, thank you for this opportunity for our students and I am confident that you will be pleased with the example set and the performance provided by the Hillcrest High School Wind Ensemble.

Sincerely,

Walter W. Davie, Ed.D.
Superintendent

<http://www.tcss.net>

Tuscaloosa County Schools, where students learn, grow, and achieve!



Dr. Allison Mays
SENIOR DIRECTOR
OF HUMAN RESOURCES



Alabama Music Educators Association
Professional Development Conference Performer Selection Committee
1600 Manor Drive NE
Cullman, AL 35055

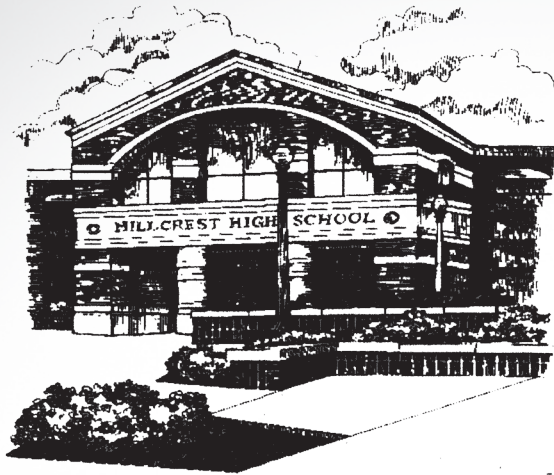
Dear Selection Committee:

It is a distinct honor for the Hillcrest High School Wind Ensemble to have been selected to perform at the 2018 Alabama Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. Under the direction of Mr. Kevin Thomas, assisted by Mr. Daniel Cubas, the ensemble continues to set a high standard for musical excellence. Its talented students dedicate long hours and put much effort into each performance. The beautiful music they create makes Hillcrest High School and its surrounding community a better place.

The Tuscaloosa County School System is committed to fine arts education, and we are fortunate to have dedicated board members, administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and community members who provide much time and support to our instrumental music program. On behalf of our school system, thank you for recognizing the hard work and musical talents of our students by allowing the Hillcrest High School Wind Ensemble to share its music with you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Allison Mays
Senior Director of Human Resources



Hillcrest High School

300 Patriot Parkway

Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

205-342-2800

Fax 205-247-4178

www.hillcresthigh.net

Jeff Hinton, Principal

Cheryl Morrow, Assistant Principal

Steven Sims, Assistant Principal

Brad Armstrong, Assistant Principal

November 17, 2017

Alabama Music Educators Association
Professional Development Conference
1600 Manor Drive NE
Cullman, AL 35055

Dear Music Educators:

We are very excited and honored to have the Hillcrest High School Wind Ensemble selected to perform at the 2018 Alabama Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. Under the guidance of Mr. Kevin Thomas, Director, and Mr. Daniel Cubas, Assistant Director, the ensemble continues to hone their skills and grow their talents. It is always a pleasure to see our student achieve such a high level of recognition for their hard work and dedication.

Hillcrest High School is committed to developing students beyond academics, and our band program is at the forefront of giving students this opportunity. This is a collective effort. Our feeder programs lay the foundation for these students and continue to support them as they grow in the program. In addition, there is strong showing from the community at all band performances. We are very pleased with the direction of the program and the support from the Tuscaloosa County School System.

Sincerely,


Jeff Hinton
Principal



About the Tuscaloosa County School System

The Tuscaloosa County School System was established in 1871. Composed of nineteen elementary, eight middle and six high schools, the school system serves well over 18,000 students across a 1,351-square mile area. With over 2,100 employees, the Tuscaloosa County School System is the 4th largest employer in Tuscaloosa County. Our mission is to educate and empower all students to be college and career ready graduates – prepared to make positive contributions to our global society.

Hillcrest High School

Hillcrest High School is a fully accredited secondary school for students in grades nine through twelve with a student body of approximately 1,330 served by 75 faculty members. Located in a rapidly growing community, it draws students from various ethnic, socioeconomic, and demographic backgrounds. We have extensive advanced placement courses giving students the opportunity to complete college level work and earn college credit hours while still in high school. The school also provides career technical options that allow students to prepare for work in highly skilled jobs required of the 21st century employees. The strongest testimony to the effectiveness of our academic programs lies in the successes of our students. More than 80% of our students pursue some post-secondary education. The opportunities to grow socially come from a wide array of activities and clubs which are available to all who wish to participate. Service and social clubs, such as Key Club, Interact, and Junior Civitan actively promote community involvement in our students.





HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM PERFORMANCES OF NOTE:

The University of Alabama Honor Band Festival

Music for All National Concert Band Festival

Alabama Music Educators Association

Southeastern Percussion Festival

College Band Directors National Association

Music for All National Concert Band Festival

Alabama Music Educators Association

Midwest Clinic

TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA 2014

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 2013

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 2012

AUBURN, ALABAMA 2012

OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI 2010

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 2009

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 2009

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 2009

*Hillcrest High School
Wind Ensemble*

**Friday, January 19, 2018
1:15 PM
BJCC Concert Hall
Kevin Thomas, Conductor**

Xerxes

John Mackey
(b. 1973)
Osti Music Inc.

Perseus

Satoshi Yagisawa
(b. 1975)
De Haske Publications

Marche Slave

Daniel Cubas, Conductor

Peter Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)
Carl Fisher Inc.

Paceline

WORLD PREMIER
Dr. Jonathan Whitaker
Professor of Trombone, The University of Alabama

Tyler Grant
(b. 1995)
TSG Musicworks

Ye Banks and Braes O'Bonnie Doon

Daniel Cubas, Conductor

Percy Grainger
(1882-1961)
G. Shrimmer Inc.

To Walk with Wings

Julie Giroux
(b. 1961)
Musica Propria



Program Notes

Xerxes is John Mackey's first concert march. Mackey began writing a march along the lines of the Ives *Country Band March*, but after working on his idea, he felt like he was reinventing the Ives March. He then tried to decide between a patriotic or British themed march. While vacillating between the ideas, he decided to use an angry theme. His plan was "going to be a march about somebody who is bad news." Essentially, he tasked himself with writing a march with an unconventional sound and out came Xerxes. The name of the piece came later. The history behind the name Xerxes, comes from a man who "was the kind of the Persians from 485 b.c. until his assassination in 465 b.c. He is famous for being a brutal tyrant and for having fought and beaten a force of 300 Spartans at Thermopylae in Greece. This scenario was most recently fictionalized in the film, *300*." Mackey finalized and published *Xerxes* in 2010.

Program notes by Jasen Douds, Senior Clarinet.

Perseus was composed in December 2005 for the Kyoto Prefectural Momoyama Senior High School Wind Band, which is one of the bands that Satoshi Yagisawa has engaged a good relationship with since his debut. The band director, Toshio Yasuhara, and his students love chorales. They traditionally put original lyrics to the music they perform every summer and sing along, thus creating a warm atmosphere. The composer was asked to write a work that would make the most of this singing tradition, and to use a dreamy theme related to space or stars. He chose Perseus as a theme. This famous Greek hero saved Princess Andromeda, who was to be sacrificed to the sea monster Kraken. Satoshi Yagisawa was inspired by the movie *Clash of the Titans*, directed by Desmond Davis and produced in the UK in 1981. He hopes that many bands will enjoy the dramatic music.

Paceline - In the world of road cycling, a paceline is one of the most foundational forms of group riding. It provides a unique social experience as the riders travel for long distances under intense conditions while collectively pushing through the wind in an effort to promote acceleration.

Paceline is a 4-minute show piece designed to feather the virtuosic range of skills of a trombone soloist while accompanied by developing musicians in a scholastic ensemble. The opening of the work is a "warm-up" of sorts – introducing basic rhythms and ideas which are tossed back-and-forth between the band and soloist. As the piece develops, the rhythms and melodic motives become more complex while also settling into a steady groove that propels the soloist and ensemble forward. Sudden bursts from the ensemble represent the shifting of gears as the road becomes unsettling through many inclines, bends, and other obstacles. In short, the work encompasses the physical challenges of riding the paceline while also portraying the euphoria and thrill that comes from this intense activity.

Paceline was commissioned by Jon Whitaker and a consortium of bands from all over the United States.

Ye Banks and Braes – Percy Aldridge Grainger first composed the folk song for "chorus and whistlers" in 1903, but *Ye Banks and Braes O' Bonnie Doon* was originally written as a poem in Scotland. The melody was published in 1788, by Neil Gow, as *The Caledonian Hunts Delight*. In 1792, the melody was paired with a poem of Robert Burns, *The Banks of Doon*. The pairing created, what we today call, *Ye Banks and Braes O' Bonnie Doon*, which describes a love story that took place around the River Doon, in Scotland.

Program notes by Jeremy Douds, Senior Trumpet.

Program Notes

Marche Slave – The deep-rooted feud between the Turks of the Ottoman Empire and the Slavic nations, Serbia and Bulgaria, fashioned a conflict in the form of war during the summer of 1876. The Russians shared discontent with the Ottoman tyranny, and supported the Serbs in their insurgency. The head of the Moscow Conservatory, Nikolai Rubinstein, approached the already renowned composer, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, to commission a piece that captured the tragedy and nature of the conflict at hand. With vehemence for the Turkish atrocities, Tchaikovsky composed the entire march in only five days.

The opening section describes the subjugation of the Serbians by the Turkish in the style and “movement of a funeral march.” It is followed by a folk song which is brighter in tone and in a different style entirely. Tchaikovsky implements full orchestration to reach an impressive climax, at the height of which fortissimo trumpets (representative of the Serbs in war) “cry for help”. The turbulent mood subsides giving way to the subsequent section which describes the Russians assembling to aid the Serbs. It eventually gives way to a solemn statement of the Russian national anthem. The third segment of the piece is a replication of the previous climax, reiterating the desperate Serbian cry for help. The final portion describes the Russian volunteers marching to assist the Serbians with the unmistakable Russian anthem “God Save the Tsar” evident in the melody.

Eventually in 1878, the Turks negotiated armistice and the Serbs proved to be the victors. At its premier, *Marche Slave* proved to be an instant success. Anti-Turk sentiment rose among the people of Moscow and the Slavonic Sympathizers “rose to their feet, jumped up onto their seats, and cried ‘bravo’ and ‘hurrah’” in the name of this eternal classic of Tchaikovsky repertoire.

Program notes by Tyler Dempsey, Principal Baritone Saxophone.

To Walk with Wings, Fanfare & Overture, is a beautifully complex piece symbolizing many steps in man’s fight for flight. At the beginning, it introduces the beautiful idea of being able to defy gravity in ways of flying. It then introduces the “Cloth and Wood”, the many accidents and mistakes that were made in the early time of flight. We then encounter “First Flight”, which tells the story on how the first flight was, indeed, beautiful: but as the piece becomes “brute” with the use of staccatos and marcatos, signaling the multiple issues that rose from the first flight. After “First Flight”, we encounter “Wood and Metal,” which signalizes how humans want to improve on the invention of flight but still has its issues. We then encounter “Contraptions,” with humans introducing many complicated things that make the piece have a mechanical/mystery feel, as if we are contemplating “will this work?” Next, we encounter “Computers and Plastic,” it introduces a mechanized feel already introduced in “Contraptions,” but gives a heavy-like feel that planes are becoming increasingly complicated. Then as we continue on our quest to improve flight, we encounter “Progress and Sacrifice” and “In Remembrance,” which symbolize as we make progress on our quest to improve flight, comes immense sacrifice. We then are introduced to the “Vivo” section symbolizing “Celebration,” that we have successfully completed our quest for flight, achieving this feat of flight makes us want to accomplish more.

Program notes by Ryan Lovell, Principal Euphonium.

BUILDING EXCELLENCE, ONE PATRIOT AT A TIME.



Wind Ensemble

FLUTES:

Nancy de la Torre
Elaine Doyle
Nicole Malinverni
Alexandra Meadows
Makenzie Taylor*
Tamia Walton

CLARINET:

Jasen Douds
Jada Johnson
Kerrington Kennedy
Marcus Peebles*
Emily Robbins
Cassie Sanders
Keona Williams

BASS CLARINET:

Tyler Newton
Haley Wooddell

OBOE:

Daniel LaFave*

BASSOON:

K'Ten Gidley
Lacey Martin
James Smelley*

SAXOPHONES:

ALTO

Jayln Dantzler
Peter Shim
Evan Branson*

TENOR

Jasmine Walker*

BARITONE

Tyler Dempsey*

TRUMPETS:

Liam Andrus*
Jeremy Douds
Blake Ivy
Connor Langford
Abbey McClendon
Peyton McColl

FRENCH HORN:

Marley Hobbs
Megan Lao*
Ashley Nelson

TROMBONE:

Tevin Field
Russell Garayanala*
Josh Helms

TUBA:

William Smith*
Clayton Woods

PERCUSSION:

Luke Hinton
Carson Hubbard
Wynn Marchend
Josh Rhodes
Christopher Thomas*
Jaylin Wilkerson

EUPHONIUM:

Jacob Hinton
Ryan Lovell*

STRING BASS:

Brett Buchheit*



* Denotes principal player

Flute, Double Reed, and Clarinet Sections



FLUTES:

Nancy de la Torre
Elaine Doyle
Nicole Malinverni
Alexandra Meadows
Makenzie Taylor*
Tamia Walton

CLARINET:

Jasen Douds
Jada Johnson
Kerrington Kennedy
Marcus Peebles*
Emily Robbins
Cassie Sanders

Keona Williams

BASS CLARINET:

Tyler Newton
Haley Wooddell

OBOE:

Daniel LaFave*

BASSOON:

K'Ten Gidley
Lacey Martin
James Smelley*

Saxophone, Trumpet, and Horn Sections



SAXOPHONES:

ALTO

JayIn Dantzler
Peter Shim
Evan Branson*

TENOR

Jasmine Walker*

BARITONE

Tyler Dempsey*

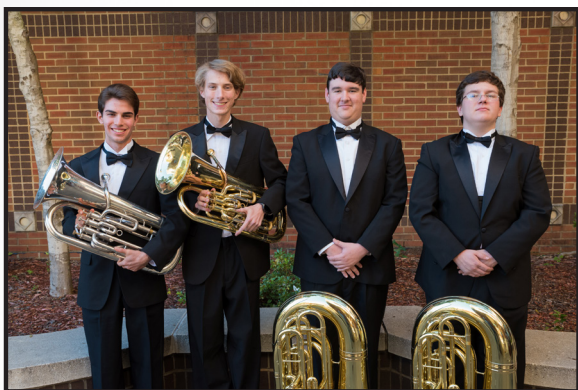
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Jeremy Douds
Blake Ivy
Connor Langford
Abbey McClendon
Peyton McColl

FRENCH HORN:

Marley Hobbs
Megan Lao*
Ashley Nelson

Trombone, Tuba and Euph and Percussion Sections



TROMBONE:

Tevin Field
Russell Garayanala*
Josh Helms

TUBA:

William Smith*
Clayton Woods

PERCUSSION:

Luke Hinton
Carson Hubbard

Wynn Marchend

Josh Rhodes

Christopher Thomas*

Jaylin Wilkerson

EUPHONIUM:

Jacob Hinton

Ryan Lovell

STRING BASS:

Brett Buchheit



Kevin Thomas, currently the Director of Bands at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, graduated from The University of Alabama in the spring of 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. While at the Capstone, Thomas served as baritone section leader in the “Million Dollar Band”, principal euphonium in the Alabama Wind Ensemble, principal euphonium in the Alabama Symphonic Band and was a member of the student teaching staff in his last two years with the “Million Dollar Band”. While at The University, Thomas was a member of the Alabama Tuba Quartet that won the Colonial Tuba Euphonium Institute International Quartet competition. Mr. Thomas won a euphonium audition with The United States Air Force Heritage of America Band stationed in Langley, Virginia in 1997, and was a finalist for

The United States Army Band “Perishing’s Own” stationed in Washington D.C. in 1998. After leaving the University he taught for two years at West Limestone High School in rural Limestone County, Alabama. Following his time in North Alabama, he accepted the Associate Band Director position at Shades Valley High School and Gresham Middle School in Birmingham, Alabama. He returned to The University of Alabama in 2003 as a graduate teaching assistant with University Bands under the direction of Dr. Ken Ozzello. While there, Mr. Thomas was responsible for assisting in the production and teaching of half-time shows, and assisted with pep rallies and appearances of the “Million Dollar Band.” Thomas was also the director of the basketball pep bands overseeing performances on ESPN, CBS and performing at the NCAA men’s basketball tournament. From 2005 to 2014 Mr. Thomas served as music consultant and instructor for The University of Alabama “Million Dollar Band.” He has also served as the assistant announcer for the “Million Dollar Band” at bowl games and appearances around the country. Mr. Thomas served as the Director of Bands at Fayette County High School in Fayette, Alabama from 2005 to 2015. His bands consistently received superior ratings at contests and festivals. In July 2015, Mr. Thomas accepted the position as Director of Bands at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Alabama Music Educators Association, The Alabama Bandmasters Association, the National Band Association, the National Association for Music Education and the International Tuba Euphonium Association. Mr. Thomas resides in Northport, Alabama with his wife, Sabrina and daughter, Kendall.



Daniel Cubas is the Associate Director of Bands and Percussion Director at Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, AL. He directs the Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble and assists with the Patriot Marching Band and Wind Ensemble. He also serves as a battery technician for Southwind Drum and Bugle Corp. Previously, Mr. Cubas served as a percussion instructor for Kennesaw Mountain High School Band, which was named the Bands of America Grand Nationals 3A champions in 2014. Groups he has worked with have received numerous superior ratings and have performed in DCI Open Class Finals and BOA Grand Nationals. Mr. Cubas graduated Cum Laude from Reinhardt University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education. While at Reinhardt, he studied under the direction of Dr. David Gregory and was a member of the

Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds, Percussion Ensemble, Marching Band, and Orchestra. As a performer, he has been a previous member of the Alabama Winds, Georgia Wind Symphony, Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corp (2014), and Blue Knights Drum and Bugle Corp (2013). He is an Innovative Percussion education artist and is active as an adjudicator, clinician, and music arranger. His professional affiliations include the National Association for Music Educators, Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, and Sigma Lambda Honor Society.



Dr. Jonathan Whitaker joined the faculty of the University of Alabama in the fall of 2009. At Alabama, Whitaker's students have been tremendously successful in national and international solo competitions as well as being placed in some of the nation's top summer music festivals. The University of Alabama Trombone Choir has given performances at the 2010 Eastern Trombone Workshop, the 2011 International Trombone Festival in Nashville, TN and the 2013 International Trombone Festival in Columbus, GA. Whitaker has also appeared twice as a performer and clinician at the Eastern Trombone Workshop and two International Trombone Festivals. Whitaker is in great demand as a guest artist and has appeared at some of the most prestigious music schools in the country including The Juilliard School, New England Conservatory,

Yale University, Indiana University and many more. As a soloist, Whitaker can be heard on numerous recordings including the 2013 release of his debut solo recording entitled "Nature's Gift" with pianist Kevin Chance. He is a featured soloist on two recordings with the University of Alabama Wind Ensemble that include Anthony Barfield's "Red Sky" and David Maslanka's Concerto for Trombone and Wind Ensemble. These recordings are available at www.jonathanwhitaker.com. Whitaker has been very active in commissioning new works for the trombone. In 2016, he gave the world premiere of Nicola Ferro's Mega for solo trombone and wind ensemble. In 2013, Whitaker gave the world premiere of Jim Stephenson's Three Bones Concerto commissioned for the University of Alabama Wind Ensemble along with Joseph Alessi and Peter Ellefson. He also performed the work at the 2013 Eastern Trombone Workshop with the United States Army Band "The Pershing's Own", again with Alessi and Ellefson. He is also responsible for the commissioning of Eric Ewazen's Visions of Light. In 2012, Whitaker made his Carnegie Hall debut as a soloist at the New York Wind Band Festival. He has appeared as a soloist with all of the wind groups at Indiana University, the Augustana College Symphonic Band, the Purdue University Symphony Orchestra, the Henderson State University Wind Ensemble and performed a premier performance of John Mackey's Harvest: Concerto for Trombone with the University of Alabama Wind Ensemble in the fall of 2010. He also performed the American premier of Johan de Meij's T-Bone Concerto with the Murray State University Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Whitaker has performed with the New York Philharmonic on three separate occasions including the orchestra's 2012 Opening Gala that was broadcast on Live from Lincoln Center on PBS with music director Alan Gilbert. Whitaker is currently Principal Trombone of the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra. He performs regularly with the Alabama Symphony and has also held positions and performed with the Harrisburg Symphony (PA), Mobile Symphony (AL), Arkansas Symphony, Pine Bluff Symphony (AR), Shreveport Symphony (LA), South Arkansas Symphony, Duluth-Superior Symphony (MN), Owensboro Symphony (KY), Evansville Philharmonic (IN), Richmond Symphony (IN), Jackson Symphony (TN) and the Paducah Symphony (KY). As a chamber musician, Whitaker can be heard on Dee Stewart's CD entitled D+ (Dee Plus) performing with the Indiana University Trombone Faculty and on two recordings by the Stentorian Consort Trombone Quartet. Whitaker serves on the faculty of the Alessi Seminar. In 2005, he was selected as one of 16 participants for the Seminar and was a featured soloist twice that year. From 2005-2015, Whitaker served as the chief administrator for the Seminar and is honored to now be on the faculty. Whitaker holds degrees in trombone performance from Murray State University and the University of Minnesota and the Doctor of Music degree in Brass Pedagogy at Indiana University where he served as Associate Instructor of Trombone from 2001-2004. Dr. Whitaker's primary teachers include Ray Conklin, Tom Ashworth, M. Dee Stewart, Peter Ellefson and Joseph Alessi with additional studies with Arnold Jacobs, Edward Kleinhammer, Michael Mulcahy, Charlie Vernon and Douglas Wright. Jonathan Whitaker is a Conn-Selmer clinician and performing artist.

Acknowledgments

*Gadsden Music Company
for their continued support of the
Hillcrest Band Program.*

GADSDEN
Music

GADSDEN MUSIC COMPANY
607 Broad Street
P.O. Box 132
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1-800-264-7228

*Super Sports of Tuscaloosa
for their support of the
Hillcrest And Duncanville Bands.*



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Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405
205-758-9555

*A special thank you to our amazing band parents,
without your love and support none of what we do is possible.*

