

Celebrating over four decades of providing music enjoyment and enrichment to the performers, the community, and beyond.

The Waunakee Community Band (WCB) was founded in 1985 by Janet M. Tweed. Mrs. Tweed served as an instrumental music instructor in the Waunakee Community Schools from 1969 through 1993. She was a Program Associate with the Wisconsin School Music Association for 11 years following retirement.

The WCB is currently led by director Tobin Shucha, Associate Director Michael Wathen, and Director Emeritus Jan Tweed. The concert season begins with practice in early April and concerts are performed June through July. Membership in the band has grown from 30 to 100 members and musicians of all ages are encouraged to continue life-long musical participation. The musicians and conductors are all volunteers and the band considers itself a service organization in and for the village of Waunakee and surrounding communities. As a 501 C3 non profit, the band depends on financial support through donations from individuals, clubs, businesses, professional people in Waunakee and grants.

In 1987, three Waunakee civic groups built a gazebo for the band in the Village Park on Division Street. The band performs its free, family-friendly concerts during the summer months at this site. The performances include a Patriotic Concert honoring all active service people and all veterans, a Holiday Concert and many community events and celebrations throughout the year. The music repertoire includes marches, jazz, pop, show tunes, excerpts from musicals as well as traditional and classical selections. Very talented soloists are often chosen from the band and our community to enhance the performances. Local civic groups provide refreshments during the concerts making it a "picnic in the park" atmosphere which preserves the rich cultural heritage of the American Concert Band.

From 2009 to 2025, the audience at our summer performances has been tracked through a Button system for all people outside of the community of Waunakee. We have given buttons to people from 96 Wisconsin towns and Cities, 46 states and 32 foreign countries. Our concert attendance includes not only people from our community, but also a diverse audience from all over the world. We are proud of the outreach of our community band, sharing music with everyone.

The WCB has performed in many cities in the state of Wisconsin, including Madison, Oregon, DeForest, LaCrosse, and several towns in Door Co. This outreach raises awareness of this aspect of community life. The Waunakee Community Band holds the reputation as one of the finest community bands in this part of the State.

The WCB has also performed in countries overseas and in other States. In the summer of 1997, the group took a trip to Germany and Austria, performing concerts in Neustadt, Diedesfeld, Duttweiller, Innsbruck, Reith bei Seefeld, and Leutasch. In the summer of 2000, the band visited Ireland and Scotland, playing concerts in Killarney and Dublin, Ireland and Oban, Scotland. In the summer of 2005, the band traveled to Norway, with concerts in Trondheim, Voss, and Loen.

The band traveled to Washington, DC in the summer of 2007. Highlights from the trip were playing at the Congressional Cemetery at the gravesite of John Philip Sousa, and performing at the Armed Forces Retirement Home for distinguished veterans. In October 2010 the band performed at the Monona Terrace in Madison as part of the Wisconsin Music Educators' Conference. The Rocky Mountain Concert Tour in 2013 took the band from the high altitudes of Estes Park and the Rocky Mountain National Park down to Breckenridge, CO. Concerts were played in Grand Lake, Steamboat Springs, and Winter Park.