



Aurora American Legion Band

2024 Conductor Letter

Dear Aurora American Legion Band,

I am so excited to be writing you as I look to the upcoming 2024 season! It really is a joy to create musical moments with all of you! Our dedicated board is working hard behind the scenes to line up some great gigs. I am, along with Greg Hensel, working on getting together a list of literature that should be a bit challenging and fun to learn and play.

Some of the gigs we have already added to our calendar are the Memorial Day Parade in Aurora, the Pleasant Hill concert, the Warrenville 3rd of July parade, the Aurora 4th of July parade and the Historical Society concert. And speaking of parades, our drumline will be happy to know that we are working on buying new bass drums, snare drums and cymbals! This will also include new harnesses!

*This summer I anticipate working on, and performing, some great concert music, as well as our traditional selections. Our programs will include both music of a more serious nature as well as lighter fare for the sake of entertaining our concertgoers. Our first rehearsal is **Thursday, May 16, at 7 p.m. at West Aurora High School**. All subsequent rehearsals will take place at Herget Middle School.*

I anticipate having fun but productive rehearsals. The Board and I understand and appreciate that many of you have summer plans and obligations. Please communicate conflicts with your section leader well in advance of any performance so we can prepare accordingly.

I also hope we can count on your continued participation and contributions as marching members of our ensemble. As a member of our band, please know that parade marching is important and must be treated as any other performance of our ensemble. We strongly desire to have every member who is physically able participate in parades to properly represent the band. We will have marching rehearsals on both May 23 and June 27 in preparation for our parade commitments on May 27 and July 3 & 4. We understand that some members, especially high school students, may have previous performance commitments on Memorial Day weekend.

I am very much looking forward to seeing all the returning members, meeting our new members and having fun making great music together!

Here's to a great summer ahead!

Sincerely,

Miss Patty Sampson