



AURORA  
**AMERICAN LEGION**  
BAND

The Aurora American Legion Band enters its 87th year in 2024, the Band's second year under the leadership of Director Patty Sampson. Miss Sampson is concluding her 30th year of teaching this year, her 19th year at West Aurora High School where she conducted Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band.

The Band's assistant Director is Greg Hensel, band Director at West Aurora High School and a third-generation member of the Band.

The Band is a group of dedicated patriotic musicians—veterans and non-veterans alike—who have a common goal: perform good music and have fun doing it. The band performs a varied program and music styles to appeal to each listener: marches, avant garde, contemporary and classic band repertoire. One of the Band's strengths is its diversity, boasting student musicians, former high school players, former college players and music educators among its membership. Today, just as it was at its inception, the Band encourages student musicians to develop a lifelong love affair with music while providing adult musicians the opportunity to continue playing and performing, wherever they are in their musical careers.



*Patty Sampson*

The Aurora American Legion Band is self-supporting; it subsists entirely on donations, sponsorships and earnings from appearances.

### ***Aurora American Legion Band History***

The Band, originally sponsored by Roosevelt-Aurora Post No. 84 in Aurora, Illinois, was formed in 1937 as a Cadet Band when two World War I veterans invited Aurora-area high school bandmen to play. During World War II the Band's activities were temporarily halted, but in 1946 the Band reformed with veterans of both World War I and II. Later, veterans of Korea and Vietnam joined the ranks. The Band continues to be true to its patriotic roots, performing parades, concerts and other observances in and around the community and the Fox Valley.

To inquire about joining the Band, book the Band for an appearance, request a CD, make a donation, learn about sponsorship opportunities or find out more about the Band, contact the Band at [info@auroralegionband.com](mailto:info@auroralegionband.com).



**Band members:** please join the band's Facebook page (Aurora American Legion Band Members): [www.facebook.com/groups/auroraamericanlegionband](https://www.facebook.com/groups/auroraamericanlegionband).



**Friends of the Band:** Like our fan page at [www.facebook.com/auroralegionband](https://www.facebook.com/auroralegionband).