

CRSA New Horizons Band Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

What is a New Horizons Band?

New Horizons Bands are part of a nationwide organization of music groups designed for participants who are 50 years of age or older. These groups include bands, choirs, orchestras, jazz bands - you name it. More about the history and purpose of New Horizons groups can be found online at www.newhorizonsmusic.org.

I have never played a musical instrument before. Does that matter?

Not at all! The motto of New Horizon's groups nationwide is "Its Never Too Late". Regardless of prior musical experience - whether you have never played before, or played a little here & there and would like to revisit your musical talents - you can participate in the CSRA NHB.

When and where does the CSRA NHB meet?

Starting on Tuesday, January 11, the band will rehearse each week on Tuesday nights from 5:00-7:00 PM. Beginner band is from 5-6, and intermediate band is from 6-7. All meetings & rehearsals will be held in room 125 of the Etherredge Center on the USC Aiken campus.

How much does participation in the CSRA NHB cost? What is this money used for?

Membership dues are \$150/semester for the first two semesters; thereafter, dues are \$100/semester. This money pays administrative and private lesson fees and pays for music (including the method books used by members).

What are my choices of instruments to learn to play?

The CSRA NHB is a concert band, and uses the following instruments: flute, oboe, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, and drums/percussion.

How do I get an instrument and how much do they cost?

At the kick-off meetings, you will have the opportunity to try any and every instrument you wish. Professional music teachers will be there to assist you in choosing an instrument that you like and one that provides you the best opportunity for success. Pecknel Music, a Columbia music store, will be on hand to assist you in renting/purchasing an instrument. Costs vary depending on instruments chosen, but most are very reasonable and run about \$30-\$40 per month.

I work during the day - can I still participate?

Yes! Just get to class as quickly as you can after work, so you don't miss out on valuable lesson time. Please let the director know if you will routinely be late.

Are there opportunities available for private lessons & individual instruction?

Yes! There will be opportunities for private instruction available. More information will be provided at the kick-off meetings.

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

Please feel free to contact Jo Whitson, Program Coordinator, at 803-641-1200 or 803-645-7060. Email is preferred: joze@bellsouth.net.