In July 2017, Purdue Bands & Orchestras announced an alumni-only week-long trip to Hawaii for May 2019. Along with the announcement was a survey to gauge interest amongst our alumni regarding the trip. The response was overwhelming! A full 98% (over 500 people) of the survey respondents said they are interested in traveling with Purdue Bands & Orchestras on this unique trip. Alumni will also be invited to participate in the Indianapolis 500 Alumni Band experience before departing for Hawaii. Alumni will have the opportunity to perform in the 500 Festival Parade in downtown Indianapolis and march down the straightaway at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Race Day. In 2019, Purdue Bands & Orchestras will be celebrating several incredible anniversaries including Purdue University’s 150th, the Purdue “All-American” Marching Band’s 100th year at the Indy 500, and the 100th anniversary of the Big Ten Flags. Stay posted for more information regarding the alumni trip to Hawaii, the Indy 500, and other upcoming celebrations.

PURDUE “ALL-AMERICAN” MARCHING BAND PREPARES FOR TRIP TO IRELAND

The Purdue “All-American” Marching Band will travel to Ireland in March 2018, continuing the department’s rich tradition of international travel. The trip will allow students the opportunity to explore Ireland’s rich history and perform in the internationally famous St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Dublin. The group will also visit the Cliffs of Moher, Galway City, and Kilkenny Castle. This is the second time in five years the marching band will have performed in Ireland. While the band is there, the Purdue President’s Council will also be taking its own trip to Ireland, which will intersect with the band several times.

Help the Big Bass Drum travel to Ireland! In 2013, the Big Bass Drum made its first international trip by flying over to Ireland for the “All-American” Marching Band’s most recent European travel experience. Due to the incredible response on our previous trip from the people of Ireland, the Big Bass Drum is hoping to make a return appearance in the St. Patrick’s Day parade in Dublin. Stay tuned for your opportunity to help fund the Big Bass Drum’s trip to Ireland and be a part of something truly bigger than yourself!
I am a junior from Indianapolis, Indiana in the college of Health and Human Sciences. I am currently majoring in HHS Pre-Professionals in hopes of becoming a Physician's Assistant. While here at Purdue University, I have been a soprano, tenor, and baritone saxophone player in the Purdue Jazz Band. I chose to attend Purdue University because of my love for science and its stellar science programs. While I have a passion for music, science has always perked my interest. I decided to continue pursuing music in college, not only because I invested so many years into it, but because I truly love building on my skills with fellow jazz members and watching them play with the utmost passion. It's very eye opening, especially since Purdue does not offer the opportunity to major in music. I have rekindled old friendships and sparked new ones all throughout my three years of being in the Purdue Jazz Band, and I could not be more grateful.

My involvement in the medical field here at Purdue includes my participation as an Emergency Medical Technician in Purdue University’s Rescue Squad. This group patrols the home football games, taking charge in any medical emergencies that may arise throughout the event. Since I have joined this team, I believe I have grown even more confident in my patient management, care, and communication skills when handling troubling situations.

As for other organizations here at Purdue, I am the Entertainment and Programming chair for Purdue University’s American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Organization. Each year we coordinate and host a 5k called the Out of the Darkness Walk in support of those who struggle/have struggled with mental illness and/or have lost a loved one to death by suicide. This organization is very important to me, for I too have been affected by suicide and mental illness. I strive to support others on their journey of self-healing and show them that they are not fighting this battle alone.

After graduation, I plan to further my education in hopes of becoming a Physician's Assistant and attend PA school, focusing on different types of PA studies. Primarily, I have been considering pursuing either cardiothoracic surgery or obstetrics/gynecology as fields of focus for my future. While I have chosen a scientific career field, I will always be grateful to Purdue Bands & Orchestras for all the wonderful friendships and memories I will be able to cherish forever.
I am a sophomore from Warsaw, Indiana studying Industrial Engineering Technology, Organizational Leadership, and minoring in Business Finance. I play mellophone in the “All-American” Marching Band, G.A.B.S., and Boiler Box Band. I have also played in the percussion ensemble and play French Horn in one of the many spring concert bands.

I always knew that Purdue was where I was meant to be. My dad graduated from Purdue and in 2004, he took me to my first football game, Purdue vs. Georgia. As a five year-old, what caught my eye was the band. That was my first time seeing the “All-American” Marching Band, and I HAD to get a picture with one of the “people with the cool hats.” So I did. While it was a small act for the three bandsman in that picture, it changed my course forever.

To innovate and create are some of the most privileged skills we have as human beings. I love the fact that I am creating new emotions on and off the stage and recreating the thoughts of the composer through music. Being in an environment where I have always been blessed with the opportunity to express myself with the universal language, I could not imagine not pursuing music in college. Purdue Bands & Orchestras department has given me a community I can always depend on, the leadership development in and out of the orchestra room and the opportunity to play in various venues I would have never imagined to play in, like Lucas Oil Stadium!

I think Purdue Bands & Orchestras provides an opportunity that is unlike any other. The community and support that the program gives its students is unparalleled. I love how the students are all aware of each other’s love and curiosity for music. Even if we may not know each other personally, I love how the program accentuates the fact that the beauty of music can be created instantaneously through impromptu jam sessions or playing opportunities. I also love the passion of the faculty for their jobs.

I worked at the IU Health Bloomington Hospital this past summer as a pharmacy intern in their inpatient pharmacy. I am also involved in a couple pharmacy organizations at Purdue such as the Academy of Managed Care and Phi Lambda Sigma, a Pharmacy Leadership Society. After Purdue, I hope to teach, research, and clinically practice my profession in an academic hospital.
In September, the Purdue Alumni Band took the field for the first sold out Purdue football game since 2008. A crowd of 60,042 attended the Homecoming game vs. Michigan with the Alumni Band numbering over 500.

Despite the intense heat, the Alumni Band put on a spectacular halftime show that got the crowd grooving in the stands!

Following Friday night’s music rehearsal for Homecoming weekend, alumni had the opportunity to attend a Purdue Bands & Orchestras alumni reception in the Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering.
The reception featured hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, and a Purdue student jazz combo. Throughout the evening, alumni had the chance to bid on pieces of the old “Band Cheer” Board in a silent auction which raised over $3000.

Our next Alumni Band will be held on October 12th, 2019 as Purdue University celebrates its Sesquicentennial. Mark your calendars for Purdue’s 150th as one of the University’s largest celebrations yet. This is an Alumni Band Homecoming experience you will not want to miss!
I was born and raised in Lafayette, Indiana, so I grew up being familiar with Purdue University. I graduated from Purdue in 2007 with a B.S. in chemistry. I feel like I was into pretty much every musical outlet at Purdue, except marching band. I was fortunate enough to play under Jay Gephart in the Wind Ensemble as well as the Purdue Jazz Band under Dr. Mo Trout. During my senior year, I decided to learn how to play the trumpet and auditioned for the women’s basketball pep band. I predominantly played alto/soprano saxophone and clarinet.

I actually started at Indiana University in 2003, studying saxophone performance. When I dropped that pursuit in my second year, I found that I didn’t really have a musical home anymore. It was honestly pretty soul-crushing, so I emailed Professor Gephart and asked if I would have a place if I came to Purdue for the spring semester. He was incredibly kind and welcoming. I still remember my first day in the Wind Ensemble. He introduced me to the group and had me take my seat as principal clarinet, right as they were about to read through a section with a generous clarinet solo.

I gained so many opportunities from being a student with Purdue Bands & Orchestras. I was part of the 2006 Wind Ensemble debut at Carnegie Hall, and that was not only one of my favorite memories of college — it has been a highlight of my life. Dr. Mo Trout also blessed us with so many great guest performers for the jazz festivals that we would do every year. Following college, I jumped right into the hardest venture of my life.

I started medical school at Indiana University School of Medicine, where I spent my first two years at the Purdue University campus. Dr. Trout was kind enough to allow me to stay in the jazz band, and that was a necessary and welcome escape from the daily grind. After medical school, I did my residency in Internal Medicine at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and subsequently completed a fellowship in Hematology Oncology.

As of July this year, I started my first fulltime position at Tripler Army Medical Center as a staff hematologist/oncologist and an active duty major in the Army. I now spend my time seeing active duty patients, retirees, or family members of retirees/active-duty who have cancer or blood problems. I’m the one that determines who needs chemotherapy and what type of anti-cancer therapy is indicated.

Most of my family is still in West Lafayette, but my wife and I currently live in Kailua, Hawaii, and I’m not going to lie, it’s awesome.

I’m from Columbus Indiana, though I spent five years in England between ages 8 and 13. I graduated from Purdue with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2012. I played Violin in the Purdue Orchestra and competed in the annual concerto competition. I grew up recognizing Purdue as a highly reputable University because many of my family members had previously attended there and loved it. I also loved Purdue’s strong focus on science, and very well-rounded Bachelor degrees. I was honored to serve as concertmaster for the Purdue Symphony Orchestra. I really enjoyed our multiple concert opportunities as well as the times that we dressed up in costumes and played for children at the Halloween concert. I remember our conductor, Andy, asking us to laugh our way through a piece by singing the entire section using the words “hahaha!” The entire orchestra was laughing so hard by the end of this exercise. After Purdue, I attended IU School of Medicine, and I’m now a family doctor in Zionsville, Indiana.

I work part-time in family practice seeing patients and teaching medical students. I also enjoy teaching residents at the St. Vincent Family Medicine Residency program for Refugee care. We see refugees from around the world and help coordinate their medical care when they arrive to the United States. That is one of my favorite aspects of my job!

I was blessed to be able to use my violin skills to perform weekly concerts at Riley Children’s Hospital while I was in my 2nd year of medical school. We had a group of three violinists, and we would go over during our lunch time and meet up with some very sick patients. That was a really unique experience in which I was able to use my medical and musical backgrounds. I was also excited about going on medical mission trips to Haiti and Ecuador. I was able to visit one special little girl twice on trips to Haiti. The first time we met, she was only 5 days old and extremely dehydrated because her mother had passed away in childbirth. After helping her get set up with a host family, I was able to visit her again two years later and see her as a healthy thriving child.

Now that I am a mother of two children, I love being able to expose them to a lot of different music. It is not always easy to balance home life and work life, but I do my best on a day-to-day basis. Currently, my two-year-old wants to learn to play violin someday!
I was born in St. Louis, Missouri, then moved to Pittsburgh, PA, and then to South Bend, IN in 1992. I graduated in 2002 with a double-major in Chemical Engineering and Biochemistry. I played trumpet in the Purdue “All-American” Marching Band for three years and the spring concert band for two years. I chose Purdue for its excellent engineering and science programs, and to be a part of the Purdue “All-American” Marching Band. After graduating from Purdue, I moved to Indianapolis to start medical school at Indiana University School of Medicine. After graduating in 2006, I moved to Los Angeles, CA to start general surgery residency at UCLA. I completed five years of general surgery training and two years of bench research studying liver transplantation, and finished residency in 2013. Then I moved to Las Vegas for a Trauma/Critical Care fellowship at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. I have been on faculty here in Las Vegas since completing fellowship in 2015.

I am currently Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Department of Surgery at UNLV School of Medicine in Las Vegas, Nevada, and work primarily at University Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. We are the only Level 1 trauma center in Nevada, and the only stand-alone trauma center west of the Mississippi River. I am the Chief of our Trauma Research and Outcomes group, Associate Program Director for our Surgical Critical Care Fellowship, and the Associate Medical Director for the Nevada Donor Network, which is our organ donation organization. I am also a volunteer tactical physician with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and I serve as medical support for the Search and Rescue and SWAT Teams.

I chose trauma surgery because it is challenging, unpredictable, and offers opportunities to intervene in people's lives in a big way. When I show up for work in the morning, I often have no idea what I am going to be dealing with that day. In the wake of the tragic mass shooting in Las Vegas, Nevada, I worked with several of my partners in treating some of the victims. This led to a unique and unforgettable experience of meeting the President of the United States. I was struck at how gracious and friendly he was.

Being in the band can be a lot of hard work, but it shows how the hard work of a group with good leadership can accomplish something extraordinary. Marching in the Rose Bowl Parade was a highlight of my time at Purdue. It was exciting to see the football team doing so well, and going to the Rose Bowl was like a dream come true. I don't have much time to play the trumpet anymore, but the skills I learned in the band have transcended into my professional life and have helped me throughout my career.
Thank you for your past support of Purdue Bands & Orchestras. We truly would not be the program we are today without our generous alumni and friends. As you plan your year-end philanthropic giving, please consider continuing your support. For your convenience, you may go to purdue.edu/bands/donate to complete your gift.

Purdue Day of Giving will be April 25, 2018. Your past support has helped us win many hourly challenges which provide even more opportunities for our students. Below are some items which were made possible from Purdue Day of Giving 2017:

- AAMB Drill Towers
- Purchase of instruments
  - “All-American” Marching Band
  - Concert Bands
  - Orchestras
- Ensemble Travel
- Scholarships

Can we count on you for Purdue Day of Giving 2018? With your help, Purdue Bands & Orchestras will come out on top!

Visit www.purdue.edu/bands on April 25th to participate.