



Marching in the Footsteps of Valor

The Oakville Tiger Band has a long tradition of excellence in symphonic, marching and chamber music. This rich history is attributed to founding principles of continuous improvement and individual student development. Our goals have consistently focused on surpassing our personal bests to achieve new heights through the collaborative efforts of our parents and community.

Oakville Tiger Band's commitment to excellence has provided our students with an opportunity that is both awe-inspiring and humbling. We are proud to announce we are the only high school band from Missouri invited to participate in the 75th Anniversary D-Day Memorial Day Parade and Musical Salute to the Veterans in Normandy, France. This is an incredible honor and opportunity for our students to pay tribute to the soldiers who fought so valiantly during WWII, and to learn firsthand the cost of that service for so many. Over a five day period, the band will have four public performances in Normandy.

Throughout 2018-19 our band members will have an extensive curriculum that will include learning about the history of our armed forces, World War II, the D-Day invasion, and French culture. This will allow students to deeply connect textbook learning to real life experience. They will honor both those who lost their lives and those veterans who are still with us in very real ways. At the conclusion of their time in Normandy, the students will travel to Paris, France for a final performance and a whirlwind tour of some of the notable sights including The Eiffel Tower.

We will need the assistance of many partners between now and June 2019. For example, our curriculum could be supplemented by military veterans or organizations, as well as those familiar with WWII and French culture. We are trying to raise awareness through the media and local politicians and use their influence to reach out to the community. Finally, in addition to organizing students' flights, housing, and meals we are planning fundraisers and seeking corporate and private sponsorships.

If you are able to assist in any of these ways, or would like to make a donation, please contact Julie Elking, pivotjulie@hotmail.com, or by phone (314) 397-5333.