



Savanna High School Rebel Band & Colorguard

301 N. Gilbert Street Anaheim, CA 92801

(714) 220-4270

www.savannaband.com

October 16, 2008

Company Name
Contact Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP

To whom it may concern:

My name is Brian Belski and I have been the Band and Colorguard Director at Savanna High School since 2003. Our music and dance program serves approximately 390 students out of a total student population of just over 2200 students at Savanna. Over 17% of the students at Savanna are involved in our program. We are the single most visible group on the entire campus and are recognized throughout southern California for our tradition of excellence. We represent Savanna High School, the Anaheim Union High School District, and the cities of Anaheim and Buena Park at over 35 events annually reaching an audience of over 75,000 people. We have performed with the UCLA Band at the Rose Bowl, with the University of Oregon Band, and have had members of our group perform at the Super Bowl, the Tournament of Roses Parade and even onstage with Shania Twain at the Arrowhead Pond (now the Honda Center). We have also performed for numerous corporate events and fundraisers for non-profit organizations and last fall performed at Disney's National Tour Kick-Off for all of their Disney's High School Musical branded products.

In order to keep our group moving, we have to do a tremendous amount of fundraising to pay for transportation; equipment repair and replacement; additional music and marching coaches for the woodwinds, brass, percussion, and Colorguard; uniform maintenance and replacement; office expenses; and supplies for the instrumentalists. 40 years ago, the band parents formed the Savanna Band and Pageantry Booster Organization to help raise funds and provide assistance to the band program. This organization is a California 501-c3 non-profit and each year raises over \$100,000 to fund our operations. Unfortunately, most of those funds come from student fees or from fundraisers which require the students to sell things in order for us to fund their program. Our school only gives us \$2000 per year and we have to raise the other 90-plus thousand. This year we won't even get that \$2000 because of the budget cuts in Sacramento. Essentially, we entirely self-funded and the funding has come out of the pockets of the students and their families.

It is with this in mind that I respectfully ask for the assistance of your company. We are asking for a donation from your company to help fund our program. This donation can come in many forms. The easiest method would just involve a pure donation to the organization, but there are other, more interesting ways to do it as well. The first and most intriguing idea is to sponsor our annual Field Tournament. Each year we host a marching band tournament that draws over 40 high schools from as far away as Utah and Arizona. We run the largest single-day band tournament in the Western United States and this year, we haven't yet secured our top level event sponsor. For \$2500, your company could be named the Chairman's Community Partner and would receive the following: a short announcer's segment throughout the event, the company logo on the cover and within the tournament program, complimentary back cover advertising space, a complimentary 10'

by 10' vendor booth, media mention on 102.7 KIIS-FM, My-FM 104.3, and Hot 92 Jamz who will be broadcasting live from the event, 20 complimentary tickets to the event, and an invitation to a company representative to present trophies at the awards ceremonies. This event is our single biggest fundraiser for the entire year and it would be an honor to partner with you in this year's event.

A second possibility is to have your company fund one of our instrument purchase annual payments. We just replaced the 20 year old drums in our drumline and the bill was over \$15,000. Our annual payment is about \$4500. The drumline attends every event throughout the year with the marching band and I would gladly add a small plaque to each drum that thanks your company for its assistance in the purchase of those instruments.

Another idea would be to help us fund our transportation costs. Each year, we spend between \$12,000 and \$16,000 just in bussing alone. We have a budget each year that just continues to increase as rising fuel and insurance costs get passed onto us by the school district. This year we will need to come up with an additional \$4000 above what we originally budgeted just to be able to attend our scheduled events. We can use any assistance your company can provide us toward these costs. Right now, it looks like if we qualify and are invited to the post season championships, we may not be able to attend simply because we can't afford to get there. It's sad but true.

I can go on and on about the needs for the students, but I'm pretty sure you have an idea of what it is that we need. Essentially, it is up to these students to raise over \$100,000 every year and it is every bit as difficult a task as it sounds. Your company has an impressive record of community partnerships and I thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide to these kids and their families.

Thanks you so much for your time and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Belski
Director of Bands
belski@savannaband.com