



Sound of the South
Troy University Bands

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soundofthesouth.org

Greetings from the “Sound of the South!”

We are thrilled that you will be joining us for the 2026-2027 marching season as we carry on the many traditions of performance excellence the “Sound of the South” has established over the decades while continuing to push our artistry and musicality to the next level.

The “Sound of the South” offers one of the most entertaining and energetic performance opportunities on campus, and we are proud to represent students of all majors.

If you are returning, welcome back! We will continue to look to you for leadership and guidance as we welcome our newest members.

If you are new to us, WELCOME! We look forward to you joining what will hopefully be one of the most memorable, challenging, and rewarding experiences of your college life. You are joining the ranks of thousands of band members who have come before to set the stage to be a part of one of the most well-known and spirited performance ensembles in college, and we are so glad you are here!

We are very excited to announce that the “Sound of the South” has been invited to march in the 2027 London New Year’s Day Parade and perform at the Gala Concert in London! More information can be found in the following documents.

Blow SOTS!

Dr. Mark Walker, Director of Bands
Dr. Jerianne Larson, Assistant Director of Bands

“SOUND OF THE SOUTH” DRUM MAJORS



Welcome to the “Sound of the South!”

We know many of you have been counting down the days, and it's finally that time, Band Camp is right around the corner. We hope you've had an amazing summer! As we get ready to kick off another incredible season together, we couldn't be more excited to welcome everyone back, especially our newest members, to the “Sound of the South.”

As always, our goal is simple: grow together, support one another, and work hard daily to create an environment where every member feels proud to wear the “SOTS” uniform. Get excited to learn new music, meet friends, and set the standard for the years to come.

The SOTS will perform outstanding tunes, from technically challenging charts to exciting hits that are sure to get crowds engaged. It will take a lot of work, but we are excited to get it done. Here's how you can help make this happen: stay hydrated before and throughout band camp, and start getting acclimated to the heat as soon as possible. We are confident that doing the small things now will make the band better in the long run.

While band camp marks the beginning of something special every year, we are most excited for the changes to come for this season! As a team, we strongly agree that friendships begin during band camp, but they blossom throughout the season. To aid in this, the Leadership Team aims to hold monthly socials that will encourage band members to engage with one another and have fun within the “SOTS” Family.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to your section leaders or drum majors. We're all here to help you and make this the best experience possible. We can't wait to see everyone back soon, and as always, BLOW SOTS!

Your Drum Majors,

Cam, Peter, & Caden





Welcome!

Welcome to the “Sound of the South”! We are so excited about this upcoming season and cannot wait for you to join us!

In this packet, you will find what you will need to have for band, 2026 band camp schedule, the tentative schedule for the upcoming marching season, welcome letters, and information about our London trip. Please make sure to follow the “Sound of the South” Facebook page, our Instagram page (@official_sots), and check out the “Sound of the South” website. Once you get to campus, we will add you to our BAND App group.

During the marching season, every member (instrumental) is issued a uniform that includes pants, a jacket, and a medallion. Information regarding upkeep and distribution will be explained during camp. Some uniform items not provided by the “Sound of the South” must be purchased from Southern Performances, Trojan Threads Co., and/or other vendors. The items you must purchase are black marching shoes, a helmet, tall black socks, black gloves, and the official SOTS T-Shirt. **If you already own a helmet, you MUST purchase the correct brush used by the “Sound of the South”.** Sousaphone players do not wear helmets, instead, they wear berets that will be purchased through their section leaders. A member exclusive t-shirt for the uniforms can be purchased online from Trojan Threads Apparel Co. and will be distributed during camp. Members who will use a university-owned instrument are responsible for supplying their own reeds, mouthpieces, and any maintenance that is needed while the instrument is in your possession. Auxiliary members will receive separate communication about what they will need.

The trojan helmet will need to be purchased through www.southernperformances.com:

- ❖ Trojan Helmet - \$100.00

The following items are required and can be purchased through Southern Performances or a vendor/website of your choice (prices listed are through Southern Performance and items will be delivered to the university):

- ❖ Black Viper Marching Band Shoes - \$58.95
 - Any *matte black* marching shoe will do if you already have a pair
- ❖ Black Marching Band Gloves
 - Brass & Saxophone - \$4.60
 - Piccolo & Clarinet (fingerless) - \$5.95
 - All gloves should be long in length, so they cover your wrist completely
 - Many of our students prefer gloves that have Velcro around the wrist area

Items needed to be purchased through Trojan Threads Apparel <https://www.trojanthreads.com/s/shop>

- ❖ “Sound of the South” Member Shirt - \$30.00
 - Click the “Sound of the South” category option to get to the SOTS swag
 - Listed as PO: SOTS 2026
 - SOTS members must select “Store Pickup” for the delivery option
 - Family and friends may have their shirts shipped

You will also need these required items:

- ❖ Long black pants that you can wear outside
- ❖ Black belt
- ❖ Long black socks
- ❖ Khaki pants

Optional Items (through Southern Performance or Trojan Threads Apparel):

- ❖ **Black** Bandana - \$5.00
- ❖ SOTS Logo Duffle Bag - \$40.00
- ❖ SOTS Cap- \$30.00
- ❖ SOTS Bookbag- \$47.00

We spend the majority of our time outside exposed to the sun during band camp. With this being said, please make sure you are taking care of yourself. Good health is essential on and off the field. You will need these things for band camp: large water bottle, sunscreen, sunglasses and/or a hat, and **closed-toe tennis shoes**. Do not forget your instrument essentials such as valve oil, slide oil, cork grease, etc. We recommend you bring a small backpack to keep all of these items on you during practice. Many members wear fanny packs while marching to keep their essential items on them during rehearsal.

The “Sound of the South” is going digital for all our music and drill needs! We are very excited to be using UDB and BEAM this upcoming season. Members and staff will be using their phones to view music and their drill; paper flipbooks will not be available. With this technological upgrade, students will need a well charged phone each day of camp, during rehearsals, and on game day. **Each student should bring a charging block and charging cable** to each of these events as the staff will not have communal chargers available. UDB and BEAM are applications that we will assist students in navigating through once they get to campus. The university is covering the fees associated with using these apps, but members will need to obtain eFlips through Tonal Innovation (or something similar for their instrument) to hold their phones. Specifics for each instrument are below:

- ❖ Piccolo: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/eflip-model-f-version-2-0>
- ❖ Clarinet: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/the-original-eflip-version-2-0>
 - Will also require a clarinet lyre
- ❖ Saxophones: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/the-original-eflip-version-2-0>
 - Will also require a saxophone lyre (thin or thick stem depending on your instrument brand)
- ❖ Trumpets: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/eflip-model-t-version-2-0>
 - An original eFlip, plus a trumpet lyre, would also work
- ❖ Mellophone: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/eflip-model-t-version-2-0>
 - An original eFlip, plus a thin stemmed mellophone lyre would work
- ❖ Trombone: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/eflip-model-t-version-2-0>
 - Does not work on bass trombones
- ❖ Baritone: <https://tonalinnovation.com/products/the-original-eflip-version-2-0>
 - Will also require an extra-long, thin stemmed lyre

Alternate products may work for your instrument from Amazon or other vendors. Regardless of which vendor, the product must fit on your instrument securely and hold your phone just as well.

A recap of everything you will need to get prior to band camp:

- ❖ Trojan helmet (Southern Performance)
- ❖ eFlip (or similar items) and lyre if needed
- ❖ 2026 SOTS Marching Band shirt (Trojan Treads)
- ❖ Matte black marching shoes
- ❖ Black marching gloves
- ❖ Tall black socks
- ❖ Long black pants
- ❖ Black belt
- ❖ Khaki pants

Things you will need to bring to band camp daily:

- ❖ Water bottle
- ❖ Charged phone
- ❖ Charging block and charging cable
- ❖ Closed-toe tennis shoes

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to email troyband@troy.edu. Additionally, please stop by the interest meeting at your IMPACT session to speak with band members!

Again, welcome to Troy University and welcome home to the “Sound of the South”!

Purchasing Items from Southern Performances

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS **MIDNIGHT AUGUST 6th, 2026**

<https://southernperformances.com/collections/troy-university>

All items purchased prior to the deadline will be sent in bulk to Troy University and distributed during Band Camp. You must order from the “Troy University INSTRUMENTAL/BAND” section. Items will not be sent to the home address unless ordered after the deadline. Some items are not available after the deadline.

ALL ITEMS PURCHASED FROM THE WEBSITE BEFORE THE DEADLINE WILL BE SENT IN BULK TO TROY UNIVERSITY

*****PLEASE PUT STUDENT NAME UNDER SHIPPING INFORMATION, ITEMS WILL NOT BE SENT TO THE SHIP TO ADDRESS BUT THE STUDENT’S NAME IS NEEDED FOR DISTRIBUTION*****

FAQ:

1. Can I have the items sent to my home?

All items will be sent in bulk to TROY UNIVERSITY and distributed at a time designated by your director. Late orders (only) will be shipped directly to the "ship to" address and will be charged regular shipping rates. We do not ship to Post Office boxes. If your apartment building accepts packages, be sure to offer a PHYSICAL address.

2. When will I receive my order?

Orders will arrive together a few weeks prior to the first band performance, regardless of when the order is placed. The band will announce when will be arriving or you can check back on the website.

3. I did not receive a confirmation of my order, what do I do?

If you do not receive a confirmation of your order, please contact [800-342-2022](tel:800-342-2022)

4. What's the last day to order?

MIDNIGHT AUGUST 6th, 2026

GO TROJANS!!

Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity – the Zeta Upsilon chapter



KKΨ is a co-educational service organization of opportunity, quality, and well-developed leadership, focused on serving their fellow musicians and striving for the highest.

Membership Requirements: Participation in SOTS in the Fall and a concert band in the Spring, minimum 2.5 GPA and strong leadership and service qualities.

Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority – the Epsilon Xi chapter



TΒΣ is a co-educational service organization dedicated to providing exceptional service to collegiate bands and developing leadership and musicianship in its members.

Membership Requirements: Participation in SOTS in the Fall and a concert band in the Spring (auxiliaries are welcome, we will work with you!), minimum 2.5 GPA, and a willingness to serve, lead, and grow!

Sigma Alpha Iota – the Delta Zeta chapter



ΣAI is an all-female international music fraternity whose mission is to encourage, nurture, and support women in music.

Membership Requirements: Open to women, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people with a sincere interest in music, must have completed or be enrolled in one or more courses in music, and a minimum 2.5 GPA.

Phi Mu Alpha – the Iota Nu chapter



Since 1960, the Iota Nu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha at Troy University has worked to build true fraternal spirit, support the welfare of musical students, promote the value of music in lives of others, and uphold loyalty to our Alma Mater, Object, and Ideals.

Membership Requirements: Open to any individual who identifies as male, has a sincere love of any music, and has a 2.5 GPA.

Phi Boota roota- National Percussion Fraternity- the Alpha Zeta chapter



ΦΒr is a co-educational percussion fraternity that offers service, social, and educational opportunities centered around percussion. They accept all students interested in percussion, regardless of primary instrument and major.

Membership Requirements: Must play a percussion instrument in public performance once a semester (opportunities are provided), minimum 2.5 GPA.

2026 “Sound of the South” Marching Band: Band Camp Schedule

All dates, times, and locations are subject to change. (updated 5/13)

Friday, July 31 – Leadership Workshop

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Move-in**
Lunch ON YOUR OWN

Afternoon-Evening **Leadership Workshop Events** – Location TBD
Dinner

Saturday, August 1 – Percussion, Auxiliaries, Leadership, and New Members

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Registration** – Long Hall 104 (Band Room)
Move-in (after registration)
Lunch ON YOUR OWN

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM **Meeting** – Band Room (Long Hall 104)

1:45 PM – 5:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned locations

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM **Dinner** – Dining Hall

6:30 PM – 10:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

Sunday, August 2 – Percussion, Auxiliaries, Leadership, and New Members

Breakfast and Lunch ON YOUR OWN – No AM Rehearsals

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM **Dinner** – Dining Hall

6:30 PM – 10:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

Monday, August 3 – All Members

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM **Breakfast ON YOUR OWN**

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Returning Members – Registration** – Band Room

8:00 AM – 11:15 AM **All other members – Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **Lunch** – Dining Hall

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM **Full Band Meeting** – Band Room (Long Hall 104)

2:15 PM – 5:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM **Dinner** – Dining Hall

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM **Marching Rehearsal** – Band Field

9:00 PM – 11:00 PM **Music Reading Session** – Band Room (Long Hall 104)

Tuesday – Friday, August 4-7

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM **Breakfast ON YOUR OWN**

8:00 AM – 11:30 AM **Marching Rehearsal** – Band Field

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **Lunch** – Dining Hall

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM **Rehearsal** – Assigned Locations

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM **Band – Music Rehearsal** – Location TBD
Auxiliaries – Sectional Rehearsal – Assigned Locations

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM **Dinner** – Dining Hall

6:30 PM – 10:00 PM **Marching Rehearsal** – Band Field
Thurs. – Kickball Tournament – Band Field

***Theme Days:** Tuesday (Hawaiian Day)/Wednesday (Character Day)/Thursday (Section Color Day)/Friday (Western Day)/Saturday (Troy Day)/Sunday (Twin Day)

2026 “Sound of the South” Marching Band: Band Camp Schedule

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Saturday, August 8

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM	Breakfast ON YOUR OWN
8:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Marching Rehearsal – Band Field
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch – Dining Hall
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Odyssey Rehearsal/Music Rehearsal – Trojan Arena <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If this event does not occur, this time will be used for rehearsal.
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Rehearsal – Assigned Locations
5:15 PM – 6:15 PM	Dinner – Dining Hall
6:30 PM – 10:00 PM	Marching Rehearsal/Alumni Preview Show – Band Field

Sunday, August 9

Breakfast and Lunch ON YOUR OWN – No AM Rehearsals

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Band – Music Rehearsal – Location TBD
	Auxiliaries – Sectional Rehearsal – Assigned Locations
5:15 PM – 6:15 PM	Dinner – Dining Hall
6:30 PM – 10:00 PM	Marching Rehearsal – Band Field

Monday, August 10 & Tuesday, August 11

Concert Ensemble Auditions – Assigned time slots from registration

Wind Auditions: Backstage Crosby Theater

Percussion Auditions: Band Room (Long Hall 104)

Tuesday Evening (potential) Odyssey Freshman Convocation Performance
– Trojan Arena

Uniform: Odyssey Shirt, Khaki shorts/pants, belt, tennis shoes

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Click [HERE](#) for the required forms for registration. These include the Intent to Participate, SOTS Health Forms, and Talent Release. It is recommended to fill these forms out BEFORE registration rather than during. Forms can be found by going to the “Sound of the South” website and scrolling down to the Forms and Files section.

CONTACT US

Please contact the Band Office with questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you!

Phone - 334.670.3281

Email - troyband@troy.edu



Sound of the South
Band Program



@official_sots

Important SOTS 2026 Summer Dates

Friday,
July 31

Leadership
Move-In

Aug 10-11

Concert
Band
Auditions

Saturday,
Aug 1

New Member
Move-In/Band
Camp (see the
full band camp
calendar for
more info)

Wednesday,
Aug 12

First Day of
Classes

Monday,
Aug 3

Returning
Member
Move-In/Band
Camp

Thursday,
Aug 20

First
Thursday
Night
Rehearsal in
Veteran's
Stadium

Thursday,
Aug 6

Last Day or
Order
Southern
Performance
and Trojan
Treads Items



AUG 2026

SOTS BAND CAMP THEME DAYS

04

TUES

HAWAIIAN DAY
WEAR YOUR HAWAIIAN
SHIRTS

05

WED

CHARACTER DAY
THINK HALLOWEEN IN
AUGUST

06

THURS

**SECTION COLOR
DAY**
KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

07

FRI

WESTERN DAY
COWBOY HATS AND
BANDANAS

08

SAT

TROY DAY
WEAR YOUR TROY GEAR
FOR OUR PREVIEW SHOW

09

SUN

TWIN DAY
WE'RE SEEING DOUBLE

2026-2027 Troy University Bands: Performance Calendar

All dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Check the Band App for updates. (updated 5/13)

Summer 2026

June

Jun. 7-11 (Sun-Thurs)	"Sound of the South" Summer Concert Band Camp
Jun. 12-14 (Thurs-Sun)	"Sound of the South" Drumline Percussion Camp
Jun. 14-18 (Sun-Thurs)	"Sound of the South" Summer Music & Leadership Camp

August

Jul. 31-Aug. 9 (Sat-Sun)	"Sound of the South" Band Camp
	Jul. 31 – Registration: Auxiliary, Percussion, Section Leaders
	Aug. 1 – Registration: New Members
	Aug. 3 – Registration: Returning Members
Aug. 10-11 (Mon-Tues)	Fall 2026 Large Ensemble Auditions
	Crosby Theater
TBD	Odyssey Convocation
	Trojan Arena

Fall 2026

August (cont.)

Aug. 12 (Wed)	First Day of Classes
Aug. 20 - Dec 3 (Thurs)	Thursday Night Rehearsal (7pm - 9pm)
	Veterans Memorial Stadium

September

Sept. 5 (Sat)	Football: Home v. Sam Houston
	Veterans Memorial Stadium
Sept. 7 (Mon)	Labor Day (<i>no school</i>)
Sept. 12 (Sat)	Football: Home v. Alabama State
	Veterans Memorial Stadium
Sept. 19 (Sat)	Football: Away v. Missouri (<i>no band events</i>)
Sept. 26. (Sat)	Pheonix City Marching Band Exhibition
	Football: Away v. Utah State
Sept. 29. (Tues)	Concert Band Performance (7pm)
	Crosby Theater
Sept. 30 (Wed)	Symphonic Band Performance (7pm)
	Crosby Theater

October

Oct. 3 (Sat)	Folley Marching Band Exhibition/Andelusia Marching Band Exhibition
Oct. 5 (Mon)	Symphony Band Performance (7pm)
	Crosby Theater
Oct. 6 (Tues)	Football: Home v. Southern Mississippi
	Veterans Memorial Stadium
Oct. 10 (Sat)	Bye Week (<i>no band events</i>)
Oct. 17 (Sat)	Football: Away v. Louisiana (Pep Band to Louisiana)
Oct. 24 (Sat)	Football: Home v. University of Louisiana Monroe
	Veterans Memorial Stadium
Oct. 29 (Thurs)	Football: Away v. James Madison University

2026-2027 Troy University Bands: Performance Calendar

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October (cont.)

Oct. 31 (Sat) **SEUS Marching Band Competition**
Veterans Memorial Stadium

November

Nov. 7 (Sat) **Troy University Homecoming Parade**
Football: Home v. Louisiana Tech
Veterans Memorial Stadium

Nov. 11 (Wed) Veterans Day (*no school*)

Nov. 14 (Sat) **Football: Away v. South Alabama (FULL BAND TRIP)**
Hancock-Whitney Stadium – Mobile, AL

Nov. 17 (Tues) Concert Band Performance (7pm)
Crosby Theater

Nov. 18 (Wed) Symphonic Band Performance (7pm)
Crosby Theater

Nov. 19-20 (Thurs-Sat) Middle School SEUS Honor Band and Clinics

Nov. 20 (Fri) Symphony Band Performance (7pm)
Crosby Theater

Nov. 21 (Sat) **Football: Home v. Georgia Southern (High School Band Day)**
Veterans Memorial Stadium

Nov. 23-27 (Mon-Fri) Fall Break (*no classes*)

Nov. 28 (Sat) **Football: Away v. Arkansas State (Pep Band to Louisiana)**

December

Dec. 2 (Wed) Dead Day

Dec. 4 (Sat) **Football: Sun Belt Championship (TBD)**

Dec. 7-8 (Mon-Tues) Spring 2027 Large Ensemble Auditions
Crosby Theater

Dec. 7 (Mon) Troy Christmas Parade
Downtown Square

Dec. 7 - Jan. 10 Bowl game obligation (**FULL BAND TRIP – TBD**)

THIS IS A REQUIREMENT OF ALL SOTS MEMBERS NOT GOING TO LONDON, REGARDLESS OF THE BOWL GAME DATE. KEEP YOUR SCHEDULE OPEN DURING THIS TIME.

Dec. 28 - Jan. 4 2027 London New Year's Day Parade Trip

Spring 2027

January

Jan. 7-11 (Thurs-Mon) Symphony Band Camp

Jan. 13 (Wed) Classes Begin

Jan. 18 (Mon) Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (*no classes*)

Governor's Inauguration Parade (FULL BAND)
Downtown Montgomery

Jan. 21-23 (Thurs- Sat) AMEA Conference

2026-2027 Troy University Bands: Performance Calendar

All dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Check the Band App for updates. (updated 5/13)

February

Feb. 4-6 (Thurs-Sat) High School SEUS Honor Bands and Clinics

Feb. 5 (Fri) Symphony Band SEUS Gala Concert (7pm)

Crosby Theater

Feb. 19 (Fri) Symphony Band NBA Induction Concert (7pm)

Crosby Theater

March

March 2-8 (Tue-Mon) Sun Belt Conference Basketball Tournament (TBD)

Pensacola Bay Center – Pensacola, FL

March 10 (Wed) Symphonic Band Performance (7pm)

Crosby Theater

March 11 (Thurs) Concert Band Performance (7pm)

Crosby Theater

March 15-19 (Mon-Fri) Spring Break (no classes)

April

April 17/24 (Sat) T-Day Spring Game (TBD)

April 21-24 (Wed- Sat) Alabama All-State Band Conference

April 27 (Tues) Symphonic Band Performance (7pm)

Crosby Theater

April 28 (Wed) Concert Band Performance (7pm)

Crosby Theater

April 29 (Thurs) Symphony Band Performance (7pm)

Crosby Theater

May

May 5 (Wed) Dead Day

May 14 (Fri) Spring Commencement

OFFER OF PERFORMANCE TOUR

Troy University Alabama, Bands



London’s New Years Day Parade 2027

Information Sheet

December 28, 2026-January 4, 2027

Dates:

- Depart from US December 28, 2026; Arrive in UK December 29, 2026
- Depart from UK January 4, 2027; Return to US January 4, 2027

Itinerary:

- Day 1: Monday, Dec. 28, 2026 – Fly out of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) to London Heathrow Airport (LHR)
 - Flight time is approx. 8 hours
- Day 2: Tuesday, Dec. 29 – Arrive in London (morning)
 - Free time
- Day 3: Wednesday, Dec. 30
 - Tours/outings
 - Free time
- Day 4: Thursday, Dec. 31
 - Tours/outings
 - Free time
- Day 5: Friday, Jan. 1, 2027
 - Parade Day!
 - London New Year’s Day Festival
 - Free time
- Day 6: Saturday, Jan. 2
 - Tours/outings
 - Free time
- Day 7: Sunday, Jan. 3
 - Tours/outings
 - Free time
- Day 8: Monday, Jan. 4 – Fly from London to Atlanta
 - Depart in the morning, arrive in the afternoon
 - Flight time is approx. 10 hours

Troy University “Sound of the South”
London’s New Years Day Parade 2027

What’s Included:

- All airfare, hotels, and transportation
- Food– 6 breakfast, 6 dinner (3 are more formal occasions, 3 are out-and-about/casual), lunch on parade day (for parade participants only)
- Meals on planes (1 dinner meal and 1 breakfast meal, depending on estimated departure time)(some plane snacks)
- Entrance and participation in London’s 41st New Year’s Day Parade and Festival
- Freighting of oversized instruments
- Tours/outings (West End, Tower of London, Crown Jewels, River Thames, Windsor Castle, Oxford University)
- London Parade group photo (parade participants only)
- London Parade medal (parade participants only)
- All tips and taxes
- All transportation to and from the Atlanta airport from Troy University/group transportation for parade and group outings
- 1 checked bag, 1 carry-on item, 1 personal item
 - Carry-on items include, but are not limited to size approved carry-on bag, instrument case, etc.
 - Personal items include, but are not limited to instrument cases, backpacks, crossbody bags, etc.
- Some travel insurance
- Some instrument insurance
 - All freighted instruments must be in a hard-shell case.
 - It is highly recommended that all carry-on or personal item instruments be in hard-shell cases.
- Baggage insurance

What’s Not Included:

- Food– food prior to departing Atlanta, all lunches (except on Parade Day), snacks, alcoholic beverages
- Spending money (souvenirs, excursions on your own, etc.)
- Individual travel (ex: taxi/Uber/etc. with a small group of people sightseeing outside of the planned group outings)
- Passport fees

Instruments:

- Piccolo/Clarinet/Alto Sax/Trumpet–Carry-on/personal item for the plane ride
- Tenor Sax/Bari Sax/Mellophone/Trombone/Baritone/Sousa/Percussion–Freight separately prior to trip departure
- Hard shell cases are *required* for freighted instrument. Hard shell cases are *highly recommended* for carry-on and personal item instruments.

Troy University “Sound of the South”
London’s New Years Day Parade 2027

Passports:

- 6-week processing time (get it sooner rather than later)
- Documentation:
 - Passport photo taken at an approved location (CVS/UPS/USPS/etc)
 - Proof of citizenship
 - Application form
 - Payment
- <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html/>

Packing/Things to Bring:

- Appropriate daytime clothing (tourist vs. locals... try not to look like a tourist)
 - Coat/jacket (it will most likely be in the high 40s/low 50s)
 - No fur/fake fur... it rains in the UK
 - Street shoes vs. athletic shoes
 - Bring layers
- 3 nicer dinner outfits
- Marching Uniform and Helmet/gloves/shoes/medallion
- Driver’s License and Passport
- Cash and Credit/Debit Card (Visa/Mastercard/etc.)
 - Hint: tell your bank and/or credit card company that you will be abroad in the UK on the designated dates
- Toiletries
- Any prescription medications
 - Over the counter medications (Tylenol/Advil/etc.)
- Phone charger/battery pack/cables & blocks/etc.
 - The UK has different plugs, so you’ll need an adapter from Walmart/Target/Amazon
- Hint... don’t over-pack. Your checked bag can only weigh 50lbs.

What Not to Bring:

- Weapons/Knives
- Overly large amounts of cash
 - Hint... the only one responsible for your cash/cards is you
- Items that will not fit in your baggage
- Any items that could be considered illegal upon entrance to the United Kingdom or upon returning to the United States.
 - Everyone will have to go through customs
- Electronics you won’t use
- Limit heavy/bulky objects
 - Example: you do not need to bring multiple pairs of boots

Troy University “Sound of the South”
London’s New Years Day Parade 2027

Cell Phones and WiFi:

- Check if your phone has international capabilities.
- Check if your phone plan already includes international (outside the Americas) travel.
- If you want calling/texting abilities, look into temporary international plans.
- London has WiFi but it will be busy, and quality may be an issue.

Currency and Conversion:

- The UK uses British pounds sterling
- You can use many major credit cards (Visa/Mastercard) and Apple Pay/Google Pay
 - Discover and American Express are iffy
- Bring some cash— check with your bank about the exchange rate. Plan ahead! This could take some time.

Fast Facts:

- The United Kingdom uses Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and is 6 hours ahead of us in Central Standard Time (CST).
- The King owns all the swans in the UK. There are two officials: Marker of the Swans and Warden of the Swans. Historically, there was a Keeper of the King’s Swans.
- The narrowest alleyway in London is 15in wide.
- There are always at least 6 crows in the Tower of London. If they leave, it is said that the Tower and the Monarchy will fall. Currently, 7 ravens live there—their names are Jubilee, Harris, Gripp, Rocky, Erin, Poppy, and Merlina.
- Wild parakeets live in the Kensington Gardens.
- Norway has gifted a Christmas tree to the city of London every year since 1947.
- The British government has employed cats since the 16th century via the role of the Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office. The current Chief Mouser is Larry, who has been at 10 Downing Street since 2011.

Troy University “Sound of the South”
London’s New Years Day Parade 2027

Price:

- \$4,365 per person (*dependent on the number of participants)
 - The Friends & Family package will have an additional \$100 cost to cover the TroyAbroad application fee (includes mandatory medical insurance, shirt, and additional processing fees)
 - Student members of SOTS will not pay this additional fee.

Payment Plan:

Amount Due	Due Date	Total Owed
		\$4365
\$500	1-Nov-25	3865
500	1-Dec-25	3365
500	1-Feb-26	2865
500	1-Mar-26	2365
500	1-Apr-26	1865
500	1-May-26	1365
500	10-Aug-26	865
500	1-Sept-26	365
365	1-Oct-26	0

*Please see the directors for any concerns about the payment schedule.



LONDON SIGN-UP DIRECTIONS SOTS MEMBERS

GO TO

<http://troyabroad.via-trm.com/>

USE YOUR EMAIL

Use your Troy University email and a password of your choice to sign-up.

Enter your name and email (at minimum) on the traveler info form. Either "X" out of the Program Finder questions, or answer them.

SEARCH FOR...

Search for "London's New Year's Day Parade".
The parade will pop up.

SELECT

"Sound of the South" member choose the program that says
"SOTS BAND MEMBERS ONLY."

Click the program to see the brochure.

SUBMIT THE APP!

Click "Apply Now" and submit the app.
Use a period or a dash for questions that don't apply.



LONDON SIGN-UP DIRECTIONS FRIENDS & FAMILY

GO TO

<http://troyabroad.via-trm.com/>

USE YOUR EMAIL

Use your email and a password of your choice to sign-up. Enter your name and email (at minimum) on the traveler info form. Either "X" out of the Program Finder questions, or answer them.

SEARCH FOR...

Search for "London's New Year's Day Parade. The parade will pop up.

SELECT

Family & Friends choose the program that says "FRIENDS & FAMILY ONLY." Click the program to see the brochure.

SUBMIT THE APP!

Click "Apply Now" and submit the app. Use a period or a dash for questions that don't apply.

The "Sound of the South" Marching Band
Troy University
2027 London New Year's Day Parade
Student Fiscal Responsibility Agreement

I, a student participant in the "Sound of the South" Marching Band 2027 London New Year's Day Parade as part of the Troy University Study Abroad program, agree to the following:

- I. In order to receive the Chancellor's Award for Global Competitiveness (CAGC), I must be eligible through the requirements and conditions as stated on the university website. This award is in the amount of \$1250 USD.
 - a. I understand I must register for an approved, associated class to receive the scholarship.
 - b. I understand I must stay in good standing with both Troy University and the "Sound of the South" Marching Band. Failure to do so may result in transcript/registration holds being paced on my account.
- II. The university and its academic divisions are soliciting donations and holding fundraising efforts on the student's behalf.
 - a. I understand that my total amount due towards the trip is dependent on several factors, including the above. I understand that any remaining balance is my own personal responsibility. The "Sound of the South" and/or Troy University will not be held liable for my missing funding.
 - b. I understand that the total cost of the trip is \$4365 USD per person. This amount does not include any scholarships or donations that may be obtained.
 - i. This amount may fluctuate depending on the following:
 - a) The exchange rate between the United States Dollar and Pound Sterling fluctuates by more than 1.5%
 - c. I understand that my financial obligation is to the university, not the London company. If my personal amount due is not paid, the university may apply a hold to my account or initiate collections.
 - i. I understand that if I am unable to make payments according to the payment schedule, I must speak with the band directors about an alternate payment plan.
- III. The university must make regular payments on behalf of the "Sound of the South" organization. Therefore, I understand that I must make timely payments and must communicate any delays with the band directors so they can plan accordingly.
- IV. In the case of donations being dispersed amongst band members after I have personally paid my total due, I understand that I will be refunded appropriate amounts in-relation to the donation made divided amongst all eligible accounts. The refund timeline may be timely due to federal holidays, fiscal turnover, any processes or steps put in place by the tour company, and other events beyond the band's or university's control.
- V. I understand that I may withdraw from the trip at any time, but I will not receive a full refund.
 - a. Prior to July 1, 2026, the London company will retain a non-refundable \$200 dollars, but I will receive any personal amounts paid, back (minus any fundraising or scholarships contributed on my behalf through the university).

- b. After July 2, 2026, no refunds of any deposits will be made, save if there is a warning from the United States Government State Department or United Kingdom Home Office issuing a specific warning regarding either location.
- c. Starting September 1, 2026, I may be reimbursed for my trip cancellation* if my journey is necessarily and unavoidably cancelled due to the causes listed below provided no other party is liable for those expenses (exclusions apply):
 - i. Accidental injury, illness, or death (duly certified by competent authority)
 - a) Yourself or any person with whom you had arranged to travel
 - b) A close relative, fiancé, or civil partner of any person describe in (a) above
 - ii. Compulsory quarantine
 - iii. Any Police request for your presence following a robbery of your home or any damage of your home in the United States making it uninhabitable.
 - iv. Any official requirement for you to attend to emergency duty in U.S. military, medical, or public service.
 - v. A government regulation following an epidemic which prohibits you from traveling

VI. I understand that I am responsible for my own equipment, luggage, instrument, and personal articles. The travel company provides limited insurance for the following (exclusions apply)*:

- a. Luggage and personal items
- b. Some emergency purchases necessarily made due to delayed baggage
- c. Rental or replacement music instruments (up to \$1,000/limits which instruments are covered)
 - i. Written proof of value shall be required in the event of a claim
- d. Loss or damage to any one musical instrument (up to \$5,000/excludes scratching, dents, damage to drumheads)

(* The London company and their insurance backer will have the final say on what is reimbursable due to necessary and unavoidable cancelations after the date stated above, as well as any insurance claims made during the trip as stated in section VI.)

 By signing below, I understand the conditions as stated. I understand my financial responsibilities for this trip and confirm my acknowledgement of comprehension of this document.

 (print your name legibly)

 (sign your name)

 (date of signature)

 (signature of parent/guardian if student is 18 or under)

 (date of signature)

Please keep a copy of this document for your reference.