Ava: Attends Georgia Tech as a junior majoring in Computer Science in the honors college with a concentration on Intelligence and People. She's a drum major in the marching band, plays trumpet in Symphonic Band, is a member of Tau Beta Sigma and Baptist Collegiate Ministries.Started playing trumpet in 6th grade where her love for music, leadership and service all began. Ava is a Thrivent software engineering intern and would love to continue her passion for computer science as a career.

Lyla: Attends UGA as a junior majoring in BioChemistry and Molecular Biology in the honors college with minors in Biomedical Physiology and Applied Biotechnology.
She's a drum major for Redcoats, is the principal flutist in Wind Symphony, is a member of SAI, Watty College, AMSA and a Franklin College Ambassador. Lyla started playing flute in 6th grade like Ava (they're twins) where her love for music began as well. Lyla plans to go to medical school and become an OBGYN.

Both of the girls were quiet and searching for friendships when they first found band. The relationships they've made over the years and the mentors they've had the pleasure to learn and grow from have really helped shape them into who they are today. It all started when Dr. Eddie Anthony greeted us at the band room door at 6th grade open house and said "You should try an instrument, it will change your life!" I don't think anyone really understood what that would turn into. From messy squeaky notes, lots of practice, tears over All state auditions, to confidence growing over time, special events, long bus trips, lots of Insomnia cookies with friends at midnight at UGA events in middle school, just dreaming of the future. So many concerts at Hugh Hodgson, pep talks with Dr Anthony.... slowly they grew into these music loving kids who had the courage to take on anything. Music became their life, their friends and their family. It's just always been that way. I can't really imagine life without the band room.

Parker is the youngest and also a drum major at NFHS. He's definitely following in the girls footsteps yet still forging his own path with an interest in business and computer science. All three of the kids have a strong interest in STEM fields yet music is what has always been a grounding common link throughout their lives. Parker is a drum major for the marching band, plays clarinet in Wind Ensemble and is the VP of FBLA in the local school chapter. Parker is 4 years younger than the girls and has always lived through all of their experiences so we love watching him start his own experiences.

All three of the kids really enjoy leadership even though their personalities are very different. I think being in the band has taught them patience, work ethic, how to get along with people who are different from you, friendships, courage, the list truly just goes on and on. I think most of all at the end of the day, there are no shortcuts or easy outs in music. You have to put the work in. I remember Dr. Anthony once said, do you think the most successful people are the smartest or the most talented? No, they're just willing to put the work in. That's it. You just have to be willing to be consistent. And then one day, you start to sound really really good, and it becomes really really fun! He would always tell the kids, if it were easy, everyone would do it! The kids are all still very close with Dr. Anthony, Mr. Thomas and all their teachers. There are so many but music teachers hold a special place in our heart.