

CASHS Drum Majors Provide Important Leadership

Editor's Note: Hannah Cyr, a CASHS senior, is an intern in the Communications Department. The following article was written by Hannah.

"To be a Drum Major, you embody the spirit of the band," stated Victor Coriale.

Within the CASHS Marching Band are three students who help control the chaos of the band and transform it into harmony: Brian Rutan, Victor Coriale, and Hannah Cyr.

After undergoing an extensive audition process, the three 12th graders were chosen to be the 2016-2017 CASHS Drum Majors.

The Drum majors are designated leaders chosen to command the band while also leading marching, maintaining order, and keeping time and tempo in songs.

The three students were sent to a Drum Major Academy training camp at West Chester University over the summer to prepare them for the different responsibilities they would face as Drum Majors. They also were taught musicianship from conducting styles to basic music theory. Brian, Victor, and Hannah were then able to utilize these skills the following week at the CASHS Band Camp.

The Drum Majors help guide the band at the daily band rehearsals that start at 7:25 AM every morning. These responsibilities range from leading warm-ups and stretches to teaching marching skills and conducting music.

The three students then take these leadership skills off the field into other aspects of their life.

Brian Rutan also serves as the Color Sergeant and a Platoon Commander in the high school's NJROTC. He is a member of the CASHS Glee Club and Esquires and the President of the Choristers.

Victor Coriale is the CASHS Glee Club Vice President while also being an active member of the CASHS Choristers and Esquires.

Hannah Cyr is a member of the CASHS Glee Club, Choristers, and Mirenesse. She is a Worship Leader within her church and a Shift Leader at her Chick-Fil-A. She also is an intern at the CASD Communications Department.

All three are members of the National Honor Society, demonstrating their ability to balance academic greatness along with their participation within the school and the community.

"Being a Drum Major is one of the coolest things that I have done so far in my life," Brian stated. "I hope that I'll be able to spread that kind of fun to all aspects of my life."

"It is very stressful to be responsible for 200 plus people. However, I never expected that I'd have this much fun. Every day I know that there will be something that is going to make all the stress worth it," Brian said.

"Although we work hard every day, we know our efforts pay off for the activity we love. All work and no play doesn't apply here - we get to work, but we can count it as play," said Victor. "From work to fun, Drum Major training has taught us different skills from how to create contagious encouragement to doing fun warmups and it has supplied us with skills that can be used both on the field and off.

"Being drum major has prepared me to go anywhere I want. The three of us have been taught so much about leadership and about being friends with people that those qualities can be

applied literally anywhere. We definitely will be able to take with us the qualities learned while being Drum Major," Brian explained.

