About Us

The Trojan Explosion Booster Association was organized in July 2013 to support the marching band of Virginia State University, whose staff and students serve as ambassadors for VSU. The need for this association is critical because of financial aid and other funding curtailments taking place this school year, threatening both the growth and viability of the band. For the first time in recent history, staff will consist of a full-time director, but no full-time assistant director. The Operations Director and Assistant Directors will serve part-time roles. As band boosters, we hope to supplement funds needed for success.

Alumni, students, family and friends are encouraged to support this effort. What would a VSU football game be without the Trojan Explosion on the field at halftime? If you value the importance of this musical group, please go to the last page of this newsletter and complete the form, mail your check and become a part of the support group that has been formed.

2013 Game Performance Dates

September 14 – Away Game – Benedict College
   Urban League Classic in East Rutherford, NJ

September 21 – Home Game – Kentucky State University
   Diamond Invitational Classic

September 28 - Home Game – Johnson C. Smith University

October 5 - Away Game – Shaw University
   Raleigh, NC

October 12 – Away Game – Elizabeth City State University
   Elizabeth City, NC

October 19 – Home Game – Bowie State University
   Homecoming

November 9 – Home Game – Virginia Union University

Interim Director of Bands
Professor James Holden, Jr., M.M.E.

In March 2013, Professor Holden was appointed Interim Director of Bands. Before this appointment, he had served as VSU’s Assistant Director of Bands since 1984.

A Mississippi native, Holden received undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education from Jackson State University. He participated in post-graduate studies at North Texas State University and Berklee School of Music. He has performed with B.B. King, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Michael Bolton, Solomon Burke and for the Pope Benedict Christmas Concert. Arguably one of the top arrangers in the country, Professor Holden is known throughout the musical world as an exquisite saxophonist.

Support Staff from left to right above: Ms. Selena Scott (Coach, Essence of Troy Dancers), Mr. Jairamie King (Assistant Coach and Choreographer, Essence of Troy Dancers), Mr. Curvy Reid and Mr. E Elisha Powell (Percussion Coordinators).

Not pictured: Mr. Maurice Bowles, III (Drum Major Coordinator), Mr. Perry Evans (Satin Divas Flag Squad Coordinator), Mr. Franklin Johnson, Jr. (Recruitment) and Mr. Darnell Spicely (Double-Time Entertainment - Media Production)