



Smithsonian  
*Anacostia Community Museum*

[Information for Teachers](#)

*Banding Together: School Bands as Instruments of Opportunity*  
September 11, 2006 through May 14, 2007

This exhibition presents a century and a half of the history, community impact and support of instrumental music education in Washington, D.C., public schools from the 1880s to 2006. Special emphasis is placed on the story of the development of junior and senior high school cadet (military) bands and their evolution into the popular marching and show bands of today. “Banding Together” explores the challenges and benefits of band membership and examines the state of public school band programs today. Band uniforms, historic photographs, instruments, and recordings are among the items telling the story of this significant community tradition.

The exhibition and 1-hour guided inquiry tour address the following relevant general content areas and National Education Standards:

[General Content areas and issues include](#)

- Community History
- Washington, D.C., History
- Music Education and Instruction
- Youth Enrichment and Self-esteem

[U.S. History National Standards \(Grades K-4\)](#)

**Content Standard 1** Living and Working Together in Families and Communities, Now and Long Ago

**Content Standard 2** The History of Students’ Own State or Region

[U.S. History National Standards \(Grades 5-12\)](#)  
[Historical Understanding](#)

**Content Standard 1** Understands and knows how to analyze chronological relationships and patterns

**Content Standard 2** Understands the historical perspective

### [Music National Standards \(Grades K-4\)](#)

**Content Standard 9**      Understanding music in relation to history and culture

### [Music National Standards \(Grades 5-12\)](#)

**Content Standard 6**      Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

**Content Standard 8**      Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts

### [Life Skills National Standards \(Grades K-12\)](#)

**Content Standard 5**      Maintains a healthy self-concept (self-esteem)

The 1-hour guided inquiry tours (including treasure hunts for children) are encouraged to promote critical thinking skills and student participation. To schedule a guided inquiry tour for your students call (202) 633-4870.