**THE ALLENTOWN BAND**

**Side-By-Side Concert**

**May 21, 2017 – 7:30 PM**

Dear Band Directors and High School Band Members,

The Allentown Band would like to provide an opportunity for outstanding high school musicians from Berks, Montgomery and Schuylkill Counties to participate in a professional style concert with The Allentown Band at Schaeffer Auditorium on the campus of Kutztown University.

Up to fifty advanced students will be invited to play “Side-by-Side” with musicians from The Allentown Band in two rehearsals and a concert that will be presented to the public. The concert will provide an opportunity for outstanding student musicians to perform alongside dedicated musicians who advocate the performance of concert band music as a valuable part of their adult lives. *Our guest conductor for this concert will be Captain Lewis J. Buckley, (retired) conductor of the US Coast Guard Band and Music Director and Conductor of the Metropolitan Wind Symphony (Boston Area).*

Students will be selected on the basis of their band director’s recommendations, student resume, placement in PMEA events, and balanced instrumentation. Music will be sent to students in early April for individual preparation. Students will rehearse with the band at Schaeffer Auditorium on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM and on Sunday, May 21st, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. A light dinner will be provided for the students at 6:30 PM. The public concert will be presented at 7:30 PM on Sunday, May 21st.

There will be no cost to the participating students. Directors are welcome to attend the rehearsals and the concert.

The prospect for outstanding young musicians to perform with a highly regarded musical ensemble will be an excellent performance opportunity for students and also be a positive event to showcase the musical talent of our area youth.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Heiney,

Education Outreach Coordinator

The Allentown Band