

# Education Happenings

## USU Moab Launches 3 New Health Professions Programs This Fall

Utah State University Moab will launch three new health professions programs this fall: Medical Laboratory Technician, Pharmacy Technician, and Surgery Technician. All three programs will fill the needs of health care facilities and providers in southeastern Utah.

Administrators and program directors at USU worked with local healthcare providers to determine what programs would fill their need for qualified and trained employees. Many employers are struggling to find qualified candidates to fill positions for these jobs, and are not able to attract qualified employees from larger markets to move to the rural areas where these jobs are needed. The goal of USU's new programs is to train local residents interested in living and working in these areas to create a stronger local workforce.

"We worked closely with local hospitals and clinics to find out what jobs they needed most, and were able to create three new programs to help strengthen the workforce with trained and qualified employees," says Michele

Lyman, Director for Health Professions at USU. "We're accomplishing two major objectives, providing employers with skilled job candidates, and providing students from our area with the opportunity to find meaningful careers."

Lyman headed up the effort to create these new



programs from the Blanding campus, where she serves as an instructor for several health professions programs, as well the director for these programs statewide for USU. All three USU campuses in southeast Utah, Blanding, Moab, and Price, will have these programs available either through live instruction or interactive video broadcast starting this fall. Applications for students are currently being accepted.

The medical laboratory technician (MLT) program will take four semesters to complete, once certain prerequisites are completed, and will award an applied associate degree (AAS) once completed. The surgical technician and pharmacy technician programs can both be completed in two semesters, once prerequisites are completed, and provides students with a certificate of completion once finished. Students who finish a certificate of completion may also earn an AAS after completing additional general education classes.

The process for creating the new programs took over two years, and included creating an approved curriculum, hiring new faculty and staff, and ensuring there was proper classroom and lab space for the programs.

For more information about these, and other health professions programs visit <https://nhp.usu.edu/health-professions/index>, or call 435.797.5106.

## Local Music Student Scholarship program in second year

Grand County is alive with the sounds of local music students eager to participate in local music programs and further their studies beyond the classroom with private lessons and music camps. To support these endeavors, the Moab Music Festival offered five \$300 Music Student Scholarships in 2017 as part of its celebratory 25th Anniversary season.



The Moab Music Festival received an overwhelming seventeen applications across grades 2-12, which helped spur a second round in 2018. With generous support from friends of the Moab Music Festival far and wide, a second year of these scholarships are nearly funded in full. The recipients will be announced at the Moab Music Festival's annual Free Rocky Mountain Power Labor Day Concert at Old City Park on Monday September 3, 2-4pm.

Support these students and their music endeavors directly by funding a Music Student Scholarship (\$300) with a restricted donation to the Moab Music Festival. For information about this and other ways to support Moab's local music education programs, contact Erin Groves, Festival Coordinator: [erin@moabmusicfest.org](mailto:erin@moabmusicfest.org) / 435.259.7003.

## GCHS Marching Band fundraising concert at Swanny City Park, Aug. 17

My name is Auburn Jackman. I am a senior at Grand County High School and the 2018-19 Marching Band Drum Major. Over the last several years, music has become a significant part of my life. From piano lessons at eight years old, to learning flute through middle and high school band,



teaching myself guitar and ukulele, and writing songs with my sister, music has woven its way into my heart. Marching Band is one of my favorite and most meaningful of these experiences. As a kid, I remember watching the Marching Band perform at football games and take State in competitions. I couldn't wait to get to high school and be a part of it.

Marching band has since been one of the highlights of my high school career. We call it our marching band family. We are a small band by comparison, which gives us the opportunity to get to know everybody in both the band and color guard. "I love marching band because

of the fellow members, and how we all support each other and grow together," says 2017-2018 Drum Major, Isabel Becerra. "Marching Band is a place where we can come together and be ourselves," says Color Guard Captain Jenna Hawks. Braxton Pierce, Percussion Captain, puts it perfectly,

"I joined marching band for the music, but I stayed for the people." We are a small band with big heart, and we hope to demonstrate that on and off the field as we represent the Moab Community.

This year we are working to achieve a big goal that is long in the making: to purchase official GCHS Marching Band uniforms. Our current uniforms are informal by comparison, and wear and tear has become an issue. New uniforms, which include shoes, bibbers, hats, and jackets, would boost confidence and presentation at our four state-wide competitions, several

football games, two parades, and two benefit concerts. Official uniforms also increase appeal to potential new band

members. "A band's uniform is one of the most crucial parts of its show," says Pierce. "With a nice uniform,

the band members also feel better about the performance... resulting in a better show for the audience both musically and visually." We hope to have a newly outfitted band for this year's September season.

To achieve this goal we need the help of our community.

We have a modest band budget, which covers music and choreography rights, competition fees, and travel. We

currently have \$1,000 toward our \$7,000 budget to purchase uniforms. Additional business sponsors and individual donations would go a long way in helping us reach our uniform goal. If you or your business is interested in becoming a Marching Band sponsor or making a donation toward the purchase of new uniforms, please contact Band Director, Christopher Raybould, at [raybouldc@grandschools.org](mailto:raybouldc@grandschools.org) or the GCHS Finance Office, (435) 259-8931, ext. #6.

We also encourage the community to attend our annual **MoabBandAid fundraiser and concert on Friday, August 17 from 4-7pm at the Moab Farmers' Market at Swanny City Park**, the band and color guard will unveil their 2018-19 show music and routine to the community.

From all of the members of Grand County High School's 2018-2019 Marching Band, we thank you for supporting the marching band program and helping us keep music alive in the hearts of Moab's young people!



## Art Vandalism

by Ekaterina Tatarovich Harrison

Recently, one of my sculptures was damaged. "The End," located along the Millcreek Trail in Moab, is part of the Moab ArTTrails program.

"The End" is a large concrete human head designed to lie on its side, and it was mounted in this manner to an underground structure. The people who decided to stand the head upright broke the concrete that was around the anchor bolts in the sculpture.

I heard some believed that the sculpture was on its side because of vandalism rather than design. I urge you next time to pay closer attention. If you would have looked more carefully you would have noticed the plaque with the name of the piece and a phone number for the Moab ArTTrail organizers. If you suspected vandalism, it would have been much wiser to call the organizers, the city offices, or the police so that they could contact the artist and work out the proper solution to the issue.

The biggest reason that the piece was bolted down was in fact for public safety. The piece was not designed to stand upright and is not stable in that position. Imagine how if this sculpture would have fallen on a child, someone's pet, or one of your friends.

If this was done as a prank or out of malice, I would like to share something with you that you may not realize. A good portion of the public art that you see throughout the United States is just on loan from the artists.



To be a sculptor, especially one who creates large public pieces, is not an easy profession. Income is unpredictable the work requires a huge investment in time, money, equipment, and skill. On top of that, sculptors must move these large,

heavy pieces around from show to show. This often entails having to hire additional help and equipment. I pour my heart and soul into my work and have spent my lifetime learning and honing my skill as an artist.

Public art makes art accessible to everyone, not just the privileged few. Art in public spaces opens opportunities to

interact with art in a way that is natural. Art can connect to people on many different levels, and hopefully triggers deeper exploration in the people who interact with it because often visual art expresses that which you can't quite put into words.

I do not like all the art that is produced, nor do I expect you or anybody else to. However, I hope that you can find in your heart to have respect for the artists and the people who do want to experience the art.

My sculptures and all the sculptures that are part of the Moab ArTTrails program are on loan to the City of Moab just for a year. If you do not like some of the sculptures this year perhaps you will like some of the sculptures that replace them in October.

If there is something that bothers you about this program or a particular sculpture you can always contact Moab ArTTrails and address it directly. This public art program is a real asset to Moab and was set up with genuine desire to share with and involve the community. I hope it will grow and that we can all find a way to engage with each other more positively and respectfully.