

KAPPA KAPPA PSI

SERVICE SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS

What is *service* in Kappa Kappa Psi?

Service as we know it in Kappa Kappa Psi means work that we do in fulfillment of our Purposes to better our bands and music program. In Kappa Kappa Psi we exist to serve our bands and our music programs. Within this document, you'll gather ideas and strategies to help us do what we do best as Brothers: Establish the standard of excellence for our band programs.

What should we do to serve our band?

- **Every band program is different** and as such, the service each chapter undertakes is different. You know your band program better than anyone outside it, so your main source of great ideas will be you and your director. Take time to brainstorm service ideas and to ask fellow band members, your director, and music faculty.
 - **Serve all five purposes.** Take a look at the Five Purposes and use them to guide you. Are you serving each of them constantly and fully? The Five Purposes are an ideal guide for ways to serve your band.
 - **Serve every band in your school.** Yes, marching bands require a lot of our attention, time, and energy – but there are *many* projects that you can do for the jazz bands, concert bands, and pep bands. When was the last time your chapter discussed these groups and how best you can serve them?
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How do we come up with service projects?

- Just like with invention, **necessity is the mother of great service ideas.** Don't just do service projects just to be doing something or to look busy. Identify what your band needs or wants and find a way to fulfill that need. What do we want to see improved about this band? What can we do about it?
 - **An example:** As you think about the concert bands at your school, perhaps you feel that very few people come to watch your performances and that the band would feel better about its concerts if more people came to them. What could we do? Advertise! Put up flyers, get an article in the paper, call retirement homes – fix it!
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Final Suggestions

- **Every chapter should have someone in charge of service.** While an elected officer (often a Vice President) in charge of service is recommended, at least have an official service chair. This brother does **not** need to run all projects; others can and should be appointed to lead and would report to the service officer/chair. This person would know the status of each project and would be the point person for service ideas.
- **Community service** is a wonderful activity and there are many organizations we can join to do that. Keep in mind that Kappa Kappa Psi exists to serve our bands and our music programs. Community service should never take the place of band service – band service always rates higher in priority. Let's use our special gifts as band members to extend the art we love – together.

70 SERVICE IDEAS TO GET YOU GOING, BASED ON THE FIVE PURPOSES:

“To promote the existence and welfare of the college and university bands and to cultivate at large a wholesome respect for their activities and achievements.”

Provide apparel to band members

Provide water and popsicles during practices

Polish shoes before performances

Provide an equipment crew for the band

Prepare lunches or snacks for away trips

Repair instruments

Clean your band room on a regular basis

Repaint practice field yard markers

Work registration and housing tables during band camp

Keep band history (i.e. photos, videos, letters, newspaper articles)

Institute and recruit for an indoor guard program

Distribute uniforms and repair them when needed

Provide drinks and apples for home and away games

Have each member work in the band office for an hour a week

Build a podium for the director or drum major(s)

Set up and strike the stage for rehearsals and concerts

Record concerts

Raise money for band tours

Build music cabinets

Paint practice rooms

Keep school instrument inventory

Clean uniforms regularly

Clean and repair instrument room

Clean instruments and help fund repairs

Offer lessons to high school students

Publicize band concerts

Purchase new band folders

Build shadow boxes for the jazz band

Purchase new equipment or instruments

Repair and paint music stands

Recruit for your band program at local high schools

Set up a recruiting table for the band at freshman orientation

Sort and copy music for band camp or concert season

Assist with placement and/or entrance auditions

“To honor outstanding bandmembers through privilege of membership, extended as a reward for technical achievement and appreciation for the best in music.”

As this purpose states, “through privilege of membership,” the primary ways of fulfilling this purpose is through giving of bids for candidacy and offering honorary membership. However, if we take “honor outstanding bandmembers” more broadly, there are a number of other things we can do to serve the band as well:

Provide a reception for bandmembers and parents after concerts

Offer scholarships to outstanding band members

Create yearly awards for the most outstanding band members in various categories

Institute a yearly band banquet

Host a concerto competition to showcase outstanding musicians in the band

Send out flyers and posters for senior recitals given by band members

Provide a gift to each graduating senior

Do something to honor section leaders

“To stimulate campus leadership and promulgate an uncompromising respect through the medium of the college band for gracious conduct, good taste, and unswerving loyalty.”

Institute a buddy program where veterans take responsibility for welcoming new members

Help freshmen move into their dorms

Bring hospital kids to football games or take the music to them

Provide an escort service after band at night (walking to dorms, cars, etc. for safety)

Offer student tutoring services for band members

Provide a pep band to greet teams after a trip

Provide moral support for bands through attendance at performances

Give new members a tour of the college town and take them shopping if they need to go

“To foster a close relationship between college bands and promote a high average of attainment by the performance of good music and selection of worthwhile projects.”

Commission music for bands

Organize your music library

Donate money for the purpose of purchasing music for the band

Escort visiting marching bands through campus, particularly at large schools

Do something to welcome visiting bands

Hold a campus music day

Bring in a guest clinician to work with your band or a studio department

Host or assist your band in hosting a music conference

“To provide a pleasant and helpful social experience for all engaged in college band work and to cooperate with other musical organizations in any manner consistent with the purposes of the institution at which chapters are located.”

Host social events for your band – movie night, bowling, etc.

Host a cookout at the end of marching band season or after a band concert

Have sectional competitions during band camp with prizes

Host a semi-formal for the band

Produce a Band Newsletter

Provide transportation to social events

Make welcome bags for incoming freshmen

Host a game night or a sports tournament

Create a band intramural sports team

Institute theme clothing days for band camp

Create a “Parents’ Day” for the marching band

Make a video yearbook to give to each band member

These service projects come from a variety of chapters at a variety of schools. Some may work for you and others may not. Be sure to brainstorm your own service ideas in addition to these suggestions.

