

Marching Band Making Music

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FREMONT -- The Fremont Ross High School Marching Band, under the direction of Catherine Lewis, ended its marching band season by being the first large ensemble to use the Recital Hall as a large-scale recording studio.

The band recorded its annual fall season as a keepsake for the high school students. The session gave Terra recording students an opportunity to set up the recording session and use the experience as hands-on training for their future careers. Terra's recording arts instructor, Chris Cavera, served as the producer of the recording session and worked with Lewis to collaborate all of the logistics of the day.

"When the college designed its new facilities for the performing and recording arts programs, we all worked to craft a facility that included a full commercial studio but also could function with a larger venue," said Michael Shirtz, lead faculty and coordinator for music, arts and humanities. "The Recital Hall allows us to record larger groups like orchestras, choirs and even marching bands."

The recital hall was built to serve the musical needs of the college, offering a performance space on campus that offered the ability of a recital space, black box theatre, conference and night club space, and of course, transform into a recording studio.

"This was a great experience for us to collaborate with Fremont Schools and offer an experience to both the high schools students to come into Terra's new facilities and make a professional recording, as well as our students to have the opportunity to recording not just a large ensemble, but a marching band," Shirtz said. "Giving these types of experiences to our students helps them understand even better the impact that the arts has on society, as well as the types of careers that are out there. For those high school students who might be interested in music or recording careers, they were able to receive a little bit of that experience today."

The collaborations with Fremont City Schools and Terra State Community College have taken a huge step forward in promoting the fine and performing arts to our communities. Last week, Terra hosted "River of Art" displaying art work Fremont students created with guest artist, Jude Bischoff, which was supported by the Bethesda Arts Council. The band program was able to be the first to use Terra's Recording Studio complex.

"We are very excited about all the possibilities growing with Terra's music and arts programs," Cavera said. "This is what the building was designed to do -- create opportunities."

For more information about Terra's music and arts programs, contact the Department of Music, Arts and Humanities at 419-559-2233.



Neal Anderson and Allison Dziak, music technology and recording majors, monitor and adjust the levels of the recording process. / Submitted Photo