



TEXAS KKY NEWSLETTER

*The Official Publication of the Alpha Tau Chapter
of Kappa Kappa Psi*

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Summer 2026

Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest

Read about how our brothers worked to provide service to the state of Texas as they assist in hosting TSSEC!

Every year, the Alpha Tau chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi works closely with other organizations within the band to make sure the Texas State Solo and Ensemble contest runs smoothly!

“I love service because it gives me a chance to give back to LHB, and getting to do it with amazing and driven people makes it a blast. TSSEC is especially important because we get to help high schoolers with their audition process. I’ve been in a similar place prior to joining KKY, and the help that I received from various people made a huge difference. Getting to now serve in that role is very fulfilling, and KKY gives me that outlet while also simultaneously having the best time!” –Noah Johnson, Orion MC



Noah Johnson (right) with fellow MCs: Luke Crawford (middle), and Austin Ottmers (left).



Both Actives and MCs participate in this event, and there are a variety of roles each brother plays during this competition. From room monitoring to working information booths to selling concessions, each job is completed with professionalism and a dedication to service that we love to see in our Actives and MCs!

Hosting and volunteering at this competition is a wonderful way for the MCs to have their first experience of service within KKY, and give back to the music community! With the work we do, we inspire future musicians to truly strive for the highest. We look forward to partnering with UIL again next year and many years to come!



Meet the New MC Class!

“When the universe exploded into existence, so did the constellations within the cosmos. Thus, the Orion constellation was born, a fearsome arrow filled with the combined properties of the stars that made it.” — **Marco Peña, Orion Saxophone**



Orion — Fall 2026

Colors: Black and Gold

Class Size: 34

**Vice Presidents of
Membership:**

Jaxon Dial & Julie Lynch

Members of Orion:

David Barragan
Andrew Bearse
Atlas Castillo
Addison Ceritelli
Rakin Chowdhury
Luke Crawford
Autumn Cymoné
Nathan Davis
Jonathan Dominguez

Keenan Frazier
Venuki Gamagé
Louis Hayward
Conner Jaquess
Noah Johnson
Kolton Kramer
Troy Mackabee
Austin Ottmers
Chris Ozuna

Marco Peña
Sarah Porter
Matthew Puente
Daley Ringo
Lucas Saddy
Laura Soto
Javier Torres
Jesus Trejo

Owen Valintine
Hippolyte Verhamme
Will Viner
Mark Weston
Carter White
Kai Winter
Celia Worden
Ari Yanez



Summer 2026

Meet the New MC Class!

From keeping Longhorn Band members hydrated during weekday rehearsals to ensuring the band directors have functional speakers, **Orion has ensured that every Longhorn Band activity during the week runs smoothly!** Read below to hear a couple of the MCs' thoughts on their process so far...

How has the MC process been for you?



“Now that [I’ve spent a few months alongside my brothers], I’ve never felt more seen or [appreciated]! Service has been a big part of who I am, as I love doing things for those who have done so much for me, like LHB.!” — **Laura Soto, Orion Mellophone**

“The MC process has been really great. It’s been great getting to know all my brothers and getting [close] with them...the best part of the MC process for me is seeing everyone grow both as leaders] and in their confidence!” — **David Barragan, Orion S.O.B.**



Band Week Recap

What a great start to the season and school year!

Every year, the first big task for the incoming MC class is to learn how to set up and tear down rehearsals during band week. This is especially challenging, as the MC class members who are not section leaders still need to go through the audition process for the band while completing their service obligations. While it was difficult, each MC rose to the occasion and thanks to them band week ran incredibly smoothly!



Carter White (right) with his Orion Brothers!

“Going into band week I wasn’t sure what to expect from service as an MC; I had done TSSEC recently, but I knew the fall semester would look much more involved than my first year in LHB. Learning the ropes of how an LHB rehearsal is made efficient and successful was eye opening. There is so much thought that goes into things that I wouldn’t have imagined before. It can be easy when you’re not a member of the leadership team or any organizations within LHB to be unsure of your purpose, but playing a direct role in the success of my peers and LHB as a whole made me realize mine.”
-Carter White, Orion MC



Before band week even started, the MCs and some Actives were responsible for drawing practice squares in the San Jacinto Garage, washing the KKY van, and reorganizing the cage. This was just a portion of the work they did during band week, though!

There were many moving parts throughout band week, and luckily the MCs had their amazing VPMs Julie Lynch and Jaxon Dial, as well as their VPS Noah Bliss to guide them through the process. The MCs were responsible for loading the KKY van with rehearsal equipment such as speakers, ladders, water jugs, and colorguard flags, and then setting up and tearing down each of the many rehearsals during band week.



During the intense heat of band week, the MC class was integral for preventing heat stroke by working the water jugs, which everyone auditioning for the band was incredibly grateful for. Thank you MCs!!!



Summer 2026

Actives In the Wild

Summer usually means an opportunity to relax, rewind, and recover from the previous academic year; however, many brothers of Alpha Tau spent their summer working with internships, jobs, or travelling to study abroad! Let's check out what Alpha Tau has been up to this summer...



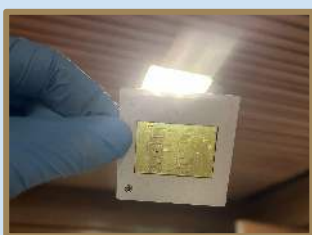
Vice President of Membership, Julie Lynch, spent her summer abroad in Florence, Italy to study **Engineering Communications!** Although she had been to Italy as a child, she found that returning as a college student gave her an amazing new perspective on the foreign sights, sounds, and tastes of Florence. Lynch describes her study abroad program as a “once in a lifetime experience,” and acknowledges what she had learned with high regards. So exciting!

Webmaster, Luke Walkup, spent his summer abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark to study **Engineering Communications.** He describes his experience as “extremely memorable,” and especially enjoyed the opportunity to go on engineering field trips in the local areas of Denmark. Additionally, Walkup also comments that he was able to explore parts of Sweden and Norway with newfound friends. What an exciting trip!



Actives In the Wild

Parliamentarian, Jacob Hammett, spent his summer abroad in Paris, France to study **Global Challenges**. He was given the opportunity to visit many international organizations, including UNESCO (with the Irish embassy) and OECD. Hammett describes his experience as ‘really cool,’ and is thankful for this study abroad opportunity! Besides France, he was also able to travel to Ireland, Switzerland, and Italy with his girlfriend and his friends! How fun!



District Liaison, Greta Chubboy, spent her summer in Austin working in a **Physics demonstration laboratory** and taking a **class at UT**. She was able to experience the duties of working as laboratory lead, and was involved with task such as procurement, organizing the laboratory, and handling liquid nitrogen and high voltage demonstrations daily. Chubboy comments that her summer was “extremely busy, but definitely worthwhile,” and plans on working next summer as well. Awesome!

Now that the fall semester is about to kick off, the brothers of Alpha Tau are **beyond excited** to serve the **127th year of Longhorn Band! AEA!**



Summer 2026

Graduating Seniors

Name: Noah Bliss
Instrument: Trumpet
Class: Obsidian



Name: Madison Bookman
Instrument: Drum Major
(Clarinet)
Class: Inferno



Name: Gary Eckroat
Instrument: Tenor Drums
Class: Obsidian



Name: Parker Grizzle
Instrument: Trumpet
Class: Obsidian



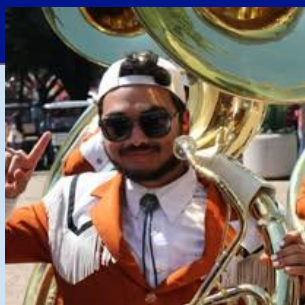
Name: John Hamlet Jr
Instrument: Mellophone
Class: Obsidian



Name: Corrie Jarret
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Obsidian



Name: Declan Kim
Instrument: TUBA!
Class: Obsidian



Name: Duggan Persyn
Instrument: Cymbals
Class: Obsidian



Name: Madden Randall
Instrument: Trumpet
Class: Odyssey



Name: Anna Tumanova
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Obsidian



Name: Bryce Sherman
Instrument: Tenor Drums
Class: Inferno



Name: Katelyn Wilson
Instrument: Clarinet
Class: Obsidian



2026-2027 Executive Council

Name: Corrie Jarret
Position: President
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Obsidian



Name: Noah Bliss
Position: VP Service
Instrument: Trumpet
Class: Obsidian



Name: Jaxon Dial
Position: VP Membership
Instrument: S.O.B.
Class: Odyssey



Name: Julie Lynch
Position: VP Membership
Instrument: Clarinet
Class: Odyssey



Name: Gary Eckroat
Position: VP Finance
Instrument: Tenor Drums
Class: Obsidian



Name: Joseph Girard
Position: Treasurer
Instrument: Saxophone
Class: Odyssey



Name: Jacob Hammett
Position: Parliamentarian
Instrument: Saxophone
Class: Odyssey



Name: Mia Rodriguez
Position: Secretary
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Odyssey



Name: Greta Chubboy
Position: District Liaison
Instrument: Saxophone
Class: Odyssey



Name: Carlos Lozada
Position: Fundraising Chair
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Odyssey



Name: Cedrick Clark
Position: Social Chair
Instrument: Cymbals
Class: Odyssey



Name: Luke Walkup
Position: Webmaster
Instrument: Trumpet
Class: Odyssey



Name: Nandini Senthilkumar
Position: Historian
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Odyssey



Name: Elyanna Salazar
Position: Social Media Chair
Instrument: Piccolo
Class: Odyssey



QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, FEEDBACK?

Contact us!



www.facebook.com/texaskky



@texaskky



Texaskky.President@gmail.com



2406 Robert Dedman Dr. Austin, Texas

Important Dates:

Alumni Game Day (UT vs Miss St.): 10/31/26

Fall Semester: 8/24 - 12/7

Thank You and Hook 'Em



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