

Chippewa Valley Alum Organizes Band Reunion

Group performed at October concert in Macomb; now making a video.

By Barb Hall (Patch Staff) - November 16, 2016 1:00 pm ET



CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MI — Anjan Shah is reliving a happy time in his life. A Chippewa Valley High School graduate who now lives in Baltimore, Shah said one of those experiences he reflected on upon turning 50 recently was his time as a member of the Chippewa band during his high school years.

He soon reached out to some of his former bandmates and eventually got 20 people on the same conference call to hatch the idea of creating a reunion band.

“There was a lot of motivation,” Shah told the Fraser-Clinton Township Chronicle. “Some of the feelings I had were reflected by other members, so there very much was an individual consensus, and the telephone call brought it to a group consensus,” Shah said.

Shah began organizing his group last winter with the mission of honoring their past educators. The musicians worked through the summer, and on Oct. 18, they performed a seven-minute piece during a Dakota High School collage concert.

“We’re trying to recognize the value and contributions of our music teachers and mentors,” Shah said. “They essentially were our architects of our future. They imparted discipline, teamwork and all of the intangible things that a music education addresses that can’t be necessarily quantified.”

In addition to performing at the concert, the group held a recording session to go along with a video they’re scheduled to release online in December. The holiday-themed video will document how the group came together, its concert performance and its work in the recording studio.

It will also show interviews of the band members discussing what music meant to them and how it has impacted their lives.

“The thought was, what better time to show good will and reflect. These guys are essentially members of our extended family, and with the holidays, it seemed like the most appropriate time,” Shah said.

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