Dear Student,

We are excited to learn of your acceptance to Holy Cross College! Our program is thrilled to welcome you to campus and invite you to participate in one of the nation's premier musical organizations – the University of Notre Dame Band. Please visit our web site: ndband.com to answer any questions you may have about auditions and membership in the band.

Notre Dame football games begin with a thunder of drums as 80,000 fans jump to their feet for the explosive entrance of the Band of the Fighting Irish. Led by the Irish Guard, the band showcases a brilliant display of music and pageantry culminating with the famous Notre Dame Victory March. In addition to performing at historic Notre Dame Stadium, the marching band’s recent travels have taken students to away games at USC, Penn State, and Florida State as well as to major bowl games, including the Orange Bowl, Fiesta Bowl, and the 2007 Sugar Bowl. Last fall the band flew to San Antonio, Texas for Notre Dame’s first neutral site home game. This fall the Band will travel to New York City to perform in the new Yankee Stadium at the Notre Dame vs. Army football game. This is a legendary Notre Dame experience, and you can be a part of it.

Our program has special performance opportunities for everyone. This May, members of the concert band performed in Carnegie Hall as they completed their spring concert tour. In 2008, the Band toured China and Japan and experienced Beijing’s preparations to host the Summer Olympics. In previous years we visited New Zealand and Australia and performed at the world-famous Sydney Opera House. The Concert Band was a part of Mozart’s 250th Anniversary Celebration with performances in Austria and the Czech Republic. On campus the Bands are privileged to perform in the nationally acclaimed DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Most importantly, the traditions and spirit of the band will create some of the most rewarding moments and memories of your college career. Lifelong friendships are established through the Notre Dame Band experience. Our band’s family atmosphere fosters a special bond among its members that continues long after graduation.

I hope that this brief introduction to the Band of the Fighting Irish has piqued your interest. If you are not a musician, we want to wish you a successful academic career and hope that you will enjoy the Band’s performances.

Cordially,

Kenneth W. Dye
Director of Bands