

Press Clippings 11/07/19

---Daily Herald---11/07/2019

Elgin High School to present sensory friendly concert for Autism Awareness Nov. 7

Submitted by: Elgin Area School District U-46

The Elgin High School Concert and Varsity Bands will be performing "A Sensory Friendly Concert" on Thursday, Nov. 7, featuring soft music and dim lights, designed to raise awareness for autism spectrum disorder.

The one-hour concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin. It is free to attend, but donations will be accepted to support autism awareness and research.

Robert Sanchez, Elgin High School's band director, said the environment will be accommodating to those with autism spectrum disorder.

"It is extremely important to us to create an inviting and safe environment for those who fall on the spectrum," Sanchez said. "Nobody will be judged or looked down on here."

During the concert, guests will be free to get up and walk around as needed. There will be fidget objects available for those who need them, as well as headphones for individuals with auditory processing issues. Concertgoers will be welcome to step outside into one of the "quiet rooms" outside the auditorium.

Sanchez asks that guests read the childhood classic "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown before arriving to the concert. There will be images from the story playing overhead during the performance.

"The goal is to engage those who fall on the spectrum with visual aspects. We want everyone to feel included," said Sanchez. "This is about individuals who fall on the autism spectrum getting to enjoy something they typically wouldn't. They deserve to have the same experiences as everyone else."

---Kane County Connects---11/07/2019

Elgin High School Presents Nov. 7 'Sensory Friendly Concert' For Autism Awareness



- **Editor's Note: This is one of those really cool stories about the good things that are happening in Kane County schools. The Thursday, Nov. 7, concert is open to the public. Photos are courtesy of Elgin High School Band Director Robert Sanchez.**



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The Elgin High School Music Department Presents:

A SENSORY FRIENDLY CONCERT

Thursday November 7th
in the Chester C. Alexander Auditorium

7pm - Open to Families and to the Public

U-46 Matinee Performances:

9:45 am - 10:15 am
U-46 Middle School + High School Students
Doors Open at 9:30 am

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm
U-46 Elementary School Students
Doors Open at 12:15 pm

Featuring:
The Elgin High School Concert Band
The Elgin High School Varsity Band
Robert J. Sanchez, Director of Bands

Donations supporting Autism Awareness and Research

Please read the book,
GOODNIGHT MOON by Margaret Wise Brown,
prior to the concert