



Alcorn
State University

ALCORN SOUNDS OF DYN-O-MITE

MARCH
2025
to macy's



How your support
can make

history

alcorn.edu/MarchToMacys

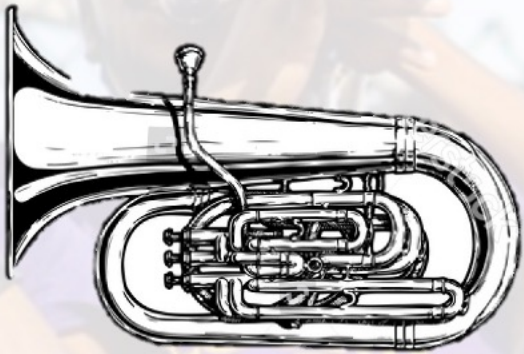


the **history**



1885

A Brass Band, is formed at Alcorn under the direction of student **J.M. Hicks.**



1892

William Grant Still, Sr. became the student leader of this group and later earned the **title of "Band Master"** due to his skill.



Example of black military bands during WWI

All-Black U.S. Infantry Regiments, like "Harlem Hellfighters" (above) are known for bringing jazz to Europe during WWI.

[Source](#)

1928

Under Professor H. B. Morton, the band experienced a renaissance with many former **WWI veterans now enrolled and participating.**

1948 - 1950

The band was reestablished and led by several directors, including Mr. Polite in 1950 and Mr. U.G. Dalton in 1955.

1964

The band was affectionately known as the "Band of Distinction" under William H. Hamlin's leadership.

1966 - 1967

The band transitioned to Mr. Smiley with recent graduate Samuel S. Griffin as the assistant director.



1969

Samuel Griffin was officially appointed as the Director of Bands for the "Band of Distinction." Griffin created the first HBCU dance line, the "World Renown Golden Girls," and named the first female drum majorette.

Samuel Griffin
1945- 2017



1973

Griffin changed the band's name to the "**Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite,**" which is still used today



2011

Under Dr. Renardo Murray's leadership, the band made its first appearance at the Honda Battle of the Bands.



2018

Dr. Everson Martin became the Director of Bands, continuing the traditions of the Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite and reestablishing the "**Lady Purple Flashers**" in 2019.



Dr. Everson Martin
Director of Bands





the **band**

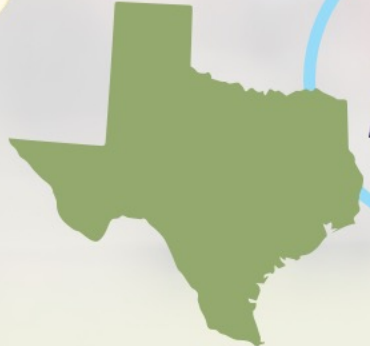
151
Members
from
Mississippi



41
Members
Louisiana



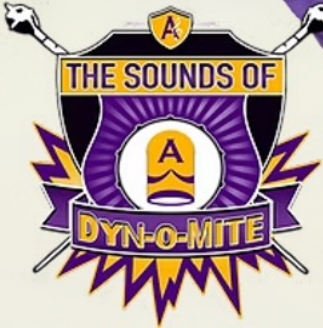
11
Members
Georgia



8
Members
Texas



6
Members
Alabama



1
Member
from New Jersey

1
Member
from Florida

1
Member
From Michigan



Many of our band members call Mississippi home, yet still travel from many corners of the state to choose Alcorn for their education.



the
movement



The Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite Band needs to raise **\$500,000 in 12 months** to secure their spot in the 2025 Macy Day Parade.

This amounts to travel, equipment, attire, meals and hotel costs.



The Macy's Day Parade has been a holiday staple since 1924 marking the start of the holiday season. Televised since 1953, the parade has included numerous attractions such as balloons, floats, celebrities and marching bands all joining for this one event in New York City.

2025 will be Macy's 98th Thanksgiving Day Parade and is expecting over 50 million TV viewers; **the most eyes to see what Alcorn has to offer.**



the movement



National Recognition



Reputation



Awards

Macy's Parade Band Selection Committee chooses bands from a list of hundreds of applicants. The rigorous selection process is based on certain key factors such as the band's national recognition, awards, past performances and reputation in their community.



“This opportunity is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students. The impact of this performance will be profound, offering our students a unique platform to showcase their talents on a national stage and inspiring pride throughout our university community.”

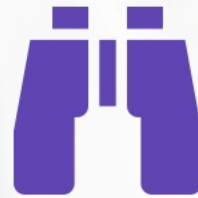
Dr. Everson Martin, Director of Bands at Alcorn State University



**28.5 million
Viewers**

On NBC

[Source](#)



**3.5 million
In-person
viewers**

On site

[Source](#)



7.2 /10

Rating

For 18-49 age
demographic

[Source](#)



your
support



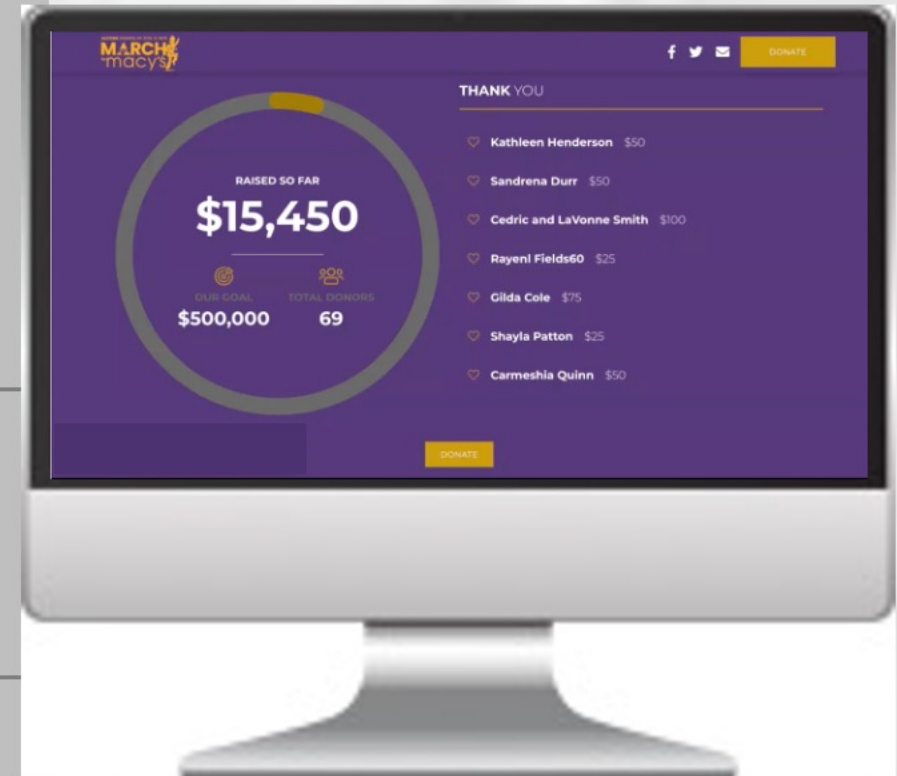
To kickoff our fundraising efforts, Macy's awarded The Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite **\$10,000**. We have received an outpouring of support from our local high schools and community who have been inspired by this historic moment.

\$500,000

250,000

\$100,000
SOD Club Goal

\$15,000
Raised





\$50
Block
Formation
Sponsor

Named after the Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite's traditional Block Formation.



\$225
Dyn-O-Mite
Sponsor

Give \$225 for each member of the Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite making the journey to New York City.




\$500
Super Soul
Sponsor

Help the Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite take its "Super Soul" performance to the Big Apple.



\$1,000
Griff's
Legacy
Sponsor

Honor the legacy of the founder of the Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite, Mr. Samuel S. Griffin, by supporting the band as they journey more than 1,000 miles to the 2025 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



\$1,871 Donation

Our band members are responsible for raising \$1,871 to support their trip to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade 2025.



Meals and Lodging

3 meals per day for 4 days and 4 days, 3 nights hotel lodging in Metro New York



Transportation

Round trip transportation nearly 1,800 miles one way from Lorman, Mississippi to New York City for students and instruments and 3 days of ground transportation in and around Manhattan



Uniforms

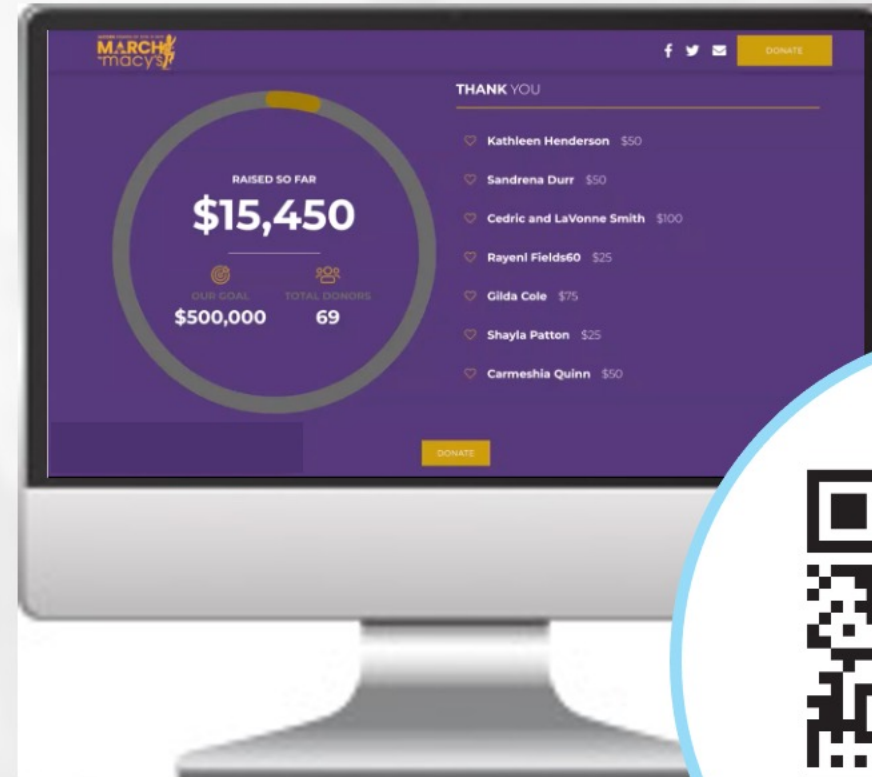
Additional warm-up uniforms

And also,

- Sightseeing tours, attractions, and excursions (i.e. Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty, Times Square, Radio City Music Hall, etc)
- 3 to 5 full-time staff as part of the New York City licensed group tour guide and consultant fees

Other ways to support our efforts:

- ◆ Host a Fundraiser through your Alumni Chapter
- ◆ Donate through the ASU Foundation
- ◆ Donation Challenge



Visit
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Thank you!

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