

Staten Island Advance website — February 13, 2018

Wagner Seahawk marching band to appear on episode of new NBC TV series 'Rise'



Seahawk Marching Band Director Jose Luis Diaz, Jr. and band members backstage during the shooting of NBC TV's 'Rise'

The Wagner College Seahawk Marching Band will appear in an upcoming episode of “Rise,” an upcoming musical drama on NBC that debuts in March.

The show, which is based on a real-life teacher at the famed theater program at Harry S. Truman High School in Bucks County, Pa., is set to debut on March 13, and the first season will consist of 10 episodes.

This is not the first time that the Seahawk band has performed in front of the cameras, as several band members appeared in the action drama, “Okja,” a movie that was released on the Internet streaming service Netflix last June.

“Opportunities like these, that are in addition to our performances at Wagner athletic events, are absolutely priceless for our marching band members,” said Diaz. “This was a real privilege for us. We filmed for 12 hours back on Oct. 20 in White Plains, N.Y., and it was just a great experience.”

“I’m proud of the school spirit that we add to the atmosphere at Wagner games, as well as the service that our band delivers each year at the Columbus and St. Patrick’s day parades in New York City, as well as a number of other parades and functions,” Diaz added.

“For our members to also have the chance to experience being in a movie or television show, as well, is just tremendous. It’s another selling point for, not just the band, but the college as well ... something additional that helps make Wagner College such a unique school to attend.”

More photos from the band’s appearance on the show can be found by logging onto the Wagner College Seahawk Marching Band’s Facebook page.