

Panda Bag is a graduate student band at Virginia Tech formed by Han Chen in early 2016.

Currently, the band features: Han Chen- keyboard Kirkland Broadwell- cello Wenhui Li- lead vocals and keytar Greg Lambert- drums Ayaan Kazerouni- guitar Saikat Mukherjee- guitar Ethan D. Smith- bass and backup vocals

The band's genre has aptly been described as "three genres standing on each other's shoulders wearing a trenchcoat." The three genres that best describe Panda Bag's music are blues rock, easy listening, and jazz. You'll notice themes of all of these genres throughout the band's original music and covers. The band's name is derived from a long-running joke surrounding the storage of our musical accessories. As you may or may not know, the <u>World Wildlife Fund</u> (WWF), an organization dedicated to the preservation of endangered and threatened species, uses a panda as its logo. Through a certain series of events, Ethan Smith acquired a small canvas bag from the WWF with a picture of a panda on it. When the band first started practicing, the bag was used to hold cables, microphones, adapters, and other various musical equipment. Each week, someone would ask where a certain item was, to which someone would always respond, "It's in the panda bag." Finally, Ayaan Kazerouni suggested that "panda bag" was a decent band name. If you're in the Blacksburg area and want to jam, let us know! We have regular practices and are always looking to incorporate more instruments. If you're interested in having us play at an event, feel free to contact us. Our schedules keep us busy, but we enjoy taking time to let others enjoy the music.

