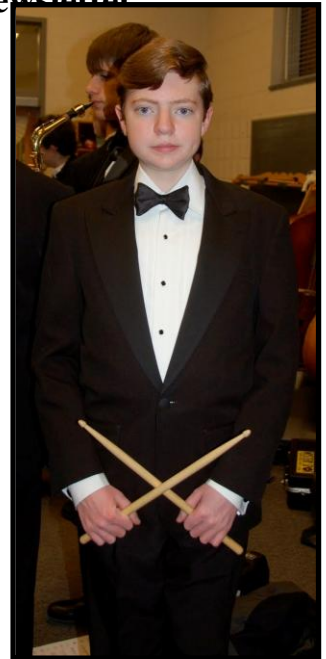


Know the Score

Walt Whitman Instrumental Music Boosters Newsletter Winter-Spring 2011

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2011 Calendar: Upcoming Events

Feb 8	Classical Me Concert: 7 pm, St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Feb 25	Spring Trip payment due (Payment #4 = \$150)
Mar 1	Spring Trip Parent Meeting: 7 pm, Chorus Room
Mar 4-5	Solo and Ensemble Festivals (district level): Wootton HS
Mar 15	District II Orchestra Festival: 6:45 pm, Walter Johnson HS
Mar 20	Annual Winter Party: 3-5 pm at the Savage/Hemmer home
Mar 23	District II Band Festival @Whitman: Wind Ensemble, 8 am; Symphonic Band, time TBA
Mar 25-26	Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival
Apr 13-17	Spring Trip to Orlando
Apr 30	Classical Me Concert: 7 pm, St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
May 19	Awards Banquet: 6:30-9 pm, Whitman Cafeteria
May 24	Jazz Ensemble at Brookmont
May 25-26	Festival of the Arts
June 14	Commencement: Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Orch perform

NOTE: For a comprehensive calendar and more on Whitman music activities, go to

www.waltwhitmanmusic.org.

Classical Me Showcase Features Whitman Artists

Whitman “idols” of the classical variety take the stage at St. Dunstan's Church at 2011's first Classical Me concert showcase, **February 8 at 7 p.m.** You don't want to miss this student-run concert featuring a variety of musical talent, from voice to instruments, solos to ensembles. (A second Classical Me event is scheduled, same location, on April 30.) St. Dunstan's is at 5450 Massachusetts Ave. See you there!

Garden Party Fundraiser:



The Whitman Music Garden Party – now called “Winter Party” and held in early spring – is an annual highlight for families in the instrumental program, offering a chance to see, meet and enjoy fine fare and libations with fellow parents while Whitman musicians entertain.

It is *also*, and not incidentally, our most important fundraiser of the year. So we hope you will participate (with contributions of food and beverages) and, of course, attend!

The party will be hosted this year by Lisa Hemmer and Chris Savage in their beautiful home. Mark your calendars now for **Sunday, March 20, 2011, 3-5 p.m.** (For those also attending the Choral Boosters' party, note that it runs from 4-6, allowing time to visit both.) Thanks to the Hemmer/Savages for not just hosting but coordinating the party (Lisa), and to Laurie Wolff for overseeing the fine fare. We will soon be putting out a call for volunteers to help them make it a great event.

Meanwhile, look for your invitation in February. See you there!

Downloads: What's on Whitman Musicians' Playlists

By Seth Massey and Gabriel Slesinger

Seeking new inspiration on iTunes? Looking to test your HSHQ (High School Hipness Quotient)? Who better to turn to than Whitman instrumentalists? Their listening tastes, informed by classical and jazz repertoire they play at school and their native aural curiosity, range widely among the contemporary and the classic (and sometimes just the really old). We asked student correspondents Seth Massey, a violinist, and trumpeter Gabe Slesinger to dip into theirs and fellow musicians' playlists for this random peek at what's streaming through Whitman earbuds and car speakers.

Baritone sax player Siddhu Anandalingam, of Wind and Jazz Ensemble fame, likes jazz saxophonists Joshua Redman and Hank Mobley, as well as indie groups Minus the Bear and Young the Giant. Cici

Bisogno, a clarinetist in wind ensemble, mixes up old and new: Most parents would recognize her choices from Cat Stevens, the Bee Gees, Beatles and the Police. (You know parents like something when they bite their lips and bob heads to the beat.) But Cici's also got selections from current bands like Passion Pit, Vampire Weekend, Anberlin, Cat Empire, The Features and Fleet Foxes – quite a full-bodied and well tempered musical palette!

Seth Massey's iPod holds a piece he played two years ago with Symphonic Orchestra, the Brahms *Academic Festival Overture*. He's also got quite a few songs Whitman groups will never play, including many new (and unprintable) rap titles. Even in that genre, though, Seth's tastes could be considered "classic." He listens to the Sugar Hill Gang's *Rapper's Delight* and *Juicy*, by the late Biggie Smalls. His voluminous collection of '80s rock features GunsNRoses, an hour or more of Springsteen and the best of Journey's *oeuvre*. Reaching back still further, Frank Sinatra's "My Way" also makes the list.

Gabe Slesinger, member of the Wind and Jazz Ensembles, has tastes ranging from the Canadian Brass Quintet to more street-credible artists like Lil' Wayne. In the folk and acoustic genres, Gabe enjoys Cat Stevens and Jim Croce. He also has a sizable amount of Weezer, for when he's feeling sentimental about the early 2000's.

Seth once laughed at Gabe for "losing it" over a Benny Goodman CD he found in a gift shop during a field trip. But now they both have the King of Swing on their iPods.

Spring Music Trip to Orlando, April 13-17

Plan to attend a parent meeting on Tuesday, **March 1, at 7 pm** in the Chorus Room, to get all the details you'll need for the upcoming Spring Music Trip, this year to Orlando, Florida. For those paying in installments, **final payment of \$150 is due February 25**. (Send questions about balances to Amy Golen, agolen@verizon.net.)



Note the trip occurs this year *before* spring break, to avoid conflicts with Easter, Passover and family vacations. As in the past, students will be excused for two missed class days, Thursday-Friday, April 14-15.

Luggage check-in is on Tuesday, April 12; nearer the date, we will be asking for parent volunteers to help out. Our convoy of coach buses pulls out from Whitman the following evening, carrying some 20 chaperones plus members of the following ensembles: Symphonic Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus and Treble Chorale. Online trip information is at the [department website](#).

What's on tap in Orlando? In addition to competing in the Festival Disney High School Music Competition, our students will enjoy two nights' lodging at the Marriott Village, Springhill; buffet breakfast at the Rainforest Café; other meals on Disney properties (with \$75 each in dining cards); and a three-day "Park Hopper" Pass granting access to the Magic Kingdom, Epcot,

Disney Hollywood Studios and Animal Kingdom parks. Trip fees also pay for transportation and security staff, among other necessities.

Fees and Donations: Your Support Makes Great Things Possible

Thank you to the 182 families who have paid the mandatory instrumental music Lab Fee of \$10 per student. That leaves 30 payments outstanding; fees were due in the first quarter, so please pay your students' Lab Fees and consider a donation *today*. For those and others able to contribute more, the instrumental music program welcomes (and subsists on) your generosity, especially at times like these.

Since 2009, ten dollars is the maximum class fee permitted under MCPS rules. That's well below what the department needs to pay for essential items like uniforms, sheet music, instruments and repairs, guest clinicians, recordings and the awards banquet, which is free to students.



The quality of our music program continues to be exceptional and opportunities offered to our students abundant. But we must appeal to parents to help cover costs not met by official funding. If you haven't already, please consider donating these suggested amounts (reflecting the approximate cost of student participation) or a little more, if you can:

- \$75 – Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Orchestra
- \$50 – Concert Band, Concert Orchestra

Whitman Music Boosters, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so donations are tax-deductible. **Payments and donations can be made by:**

- *check* payable to Whitman Music Boosters, mailed or delivered to: WWHS Music Department, c/o Terry Alvey, 7100 Whittier Blvd., Bethesda 20817.
- *credit card* at [Pay4SchoolStuffOnline](#). ([Instructions](#) for setting up a Pay4SchoolStuff account are online, in our fall newsletter.)

Thank you for supporting continuity and excellence in instrumental music at Whitman!

Laurels and Shout-Outs: Our Virtual Trophy Cabinet

Every year, MCPS and the Maryland Music Educators Association sponsor a

variety of county and state honors ensembles, junior and senior, in orchestra, band and jazz. Admission is by audition only, based on mastery of scales, sight-reading and challenging assigned excerpts of classical repertoire.

Kudos to every Whitman student who committed in fall to the extra practice and time involved in audition preparations. And special congratulations to the following students who earned coveted spots in these ensembles:

MCPS Junior Honors Orchestra

Beatriz Atsavapraneer – Violin
Ali Hashim – Bass
Sam Shapiro – Bass Alternate

MCPS Junior Honors Band

Matt Digan – Trombone

All-State Junior Orchestra

Sing Hoi Forrest - Viola
Zeya Luo – Violin
Daisy Massey – Violin
Ali Hashim – Bass (Alternate)

All-State Junior Band

David Weber – Trumpet
William Zhang- Clarinet

MCPS Senior Honors Orchestra

San Hoi Forrest – Cello
Adam Horin – Viola

MCPS Senior Honors Band

Jana Butman – Oboe
Jonathan Kaufman – Clarinet
Ben Miltenberg – Clarinet
Isaac Segal – Trumpet
Jeremy Steinberg – Clarinet

All-State Senior Orchestra

Samir Kaveeshwar – Violin
Clara McCreery – Violin
Gabe Slesinger – Trumpet
Sam Woo – Violin
San Hoi Forrest – Cello (Alternate)

All-State Senior Band

Siddhu Ananadalingam – Baritone Sax
Emily Park – Percussion
Andrew Wyner – Flute



MCPS Junior Honors Jazz Ensemble

Matt Digan – Trombone
Chris Hodgeman – Piano
Carson Lystad – Guitar
Sam Shapiro – Bass
David Weber – Trumpet
Joey Williams – Trombone
Jordan Wolff – Drums

MCPS Senior Honors Jazz Ensemble

Siddhu Anandalingam – Baritone Sax
Sahil Ansari – Drums
Jesse Freeman – Trumpet
Alex Gandolfo – Tenor Sax
Max Light – Guitar
Adam Scheffkind – Alto Sax
Adam Polis – Trumpet Alternate

All-State Jazz Ensemble

Alex Gandolfo – Tenor Sax
Max Light – Guitar
Emily Park – Vibes
Gabe Slesinger – Trumpet
Sahil Ansari – Drums Alternate

All-Eastern Jazz Ensemble

Siddhu Anandalingam – Baritone Sax
Sahil Ansari – Drums Alternate

Boosters Volunteer Openings

Whitman music's tradition of quality teaching and music-making has long depended on dedicated and energetic parents to help busy teachers put county resources to greatest use. Please thank the following volunteers when you see them, note the open slots, and consider where and how you could make a difference in promoting Whitman Instrumental Music. (In the near term, volunteers will be needed to help with the Winter Party in March and the May Awards Banquet.)

Thank you!

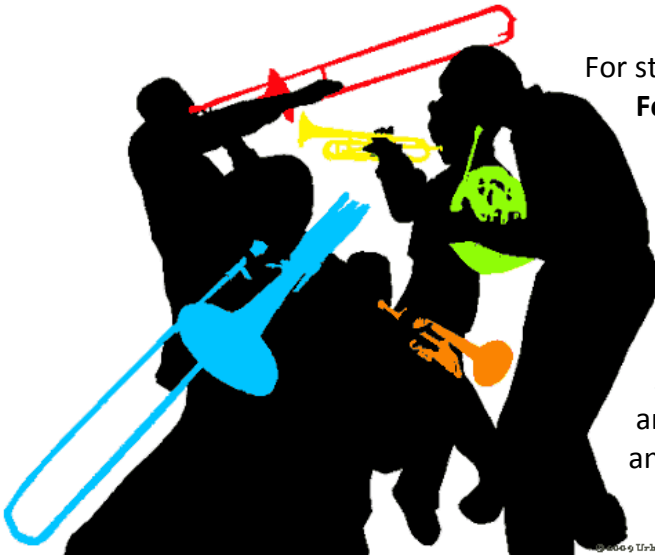
2010-2011 MUSIC BOOSTERS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS

<i>Co-Chairs</i>	Jay Kaufman	301-469-4850
	Francesca Slesinger	240-305-3881
<i>Volunteer Coordinator & Listserv</i>		
	Amy Golen (Goodman)	301-263-0906
<i>Secretary</i>	Wendy Weinberg (Freeman)	301-229-9873
<i>Concert Dresses</i>	Lisa Hemmer (Savage)	301-229-8317
	Amy Bell	301-983-0866
	Robyn Frankel	301-320-4639
<i>Men's Uniforms</i>	Ann Koritzinsky	301-263-0275
	Jodi Rasch	301-263-2777
<i>Music Trip</i>	Amy Golen (Goodman)	301-263-0906
<i>Winter (Garden) Party</i>		
Coordinator	Lisa Hemmer (Savage)	301-320-6733
Invitations	Lisa Hemmer (Savage)	301-320-6733
Hosts	Lisa Hemmer and Chris Savage	301-320-6733
Food	Laurie Wolff	301-365-5593
<i>Newsletter</i>	Mandy Katz	301-915-0999
<i>Winter Concert</i>	Roberta Aronson	301-229-3926
	Joey Lampl	301-320-9191
<i>Awards Night</i>	Susan Park	301-897-5405
	Ilene Jones	301-320-9565
	Shirley Brandman	
	Jessie Weintraub	301-460-6150
<i>Historian</i>	Ginnie Maycock	301-951-6445
<i>Arts Festival Liaisons</i>	Anne Hollander (McCreery)	301-229-7277
	Lisa Hemmer (Savage)	301-320-6733
<i>Adjudicator Visit</i>		
Breakfast	Bernice Kaufman	301-469-4850
Luncheon	Kay Senator	301-229-9269
<i>Giant Scrip Program</i>	Susan Park	301-897-5405
	Ilene Jones	301-320-9565
<i>Music Website</i>	Devra Glowinski	301-299-9476

Thank You to Our Website Host

The Boosters heartily thank former Whitman parent Gary Barnhard, owner and president of [Barnhard Associates, LLC](#) of Cabin John, for generously providing server space for our [website](#), year after year.

Solo and Ensemble Opportunities for Students



For students signed up for the voluntary **Solo and Ensemble Festivals** this spring, now is a good time to start preparing repertoire, getting ensembles together and thinking about accompanists. The first, “District II” (county-level), festival takes place at Wootton High School on Friday, March 4, for ensembles and Saturday, March 5, for soloists. Students awarded scores of 1, or “superior,” at that level are invited to participate in the statewide event, held May 7 for orchestral performers and May 14 for band musicians, at a location to be announced (usually near Baltimore).

More information is on the department [website](#) under “Extracurricular Activities.” *Ms. Alvey encourages all students to take advantage of these annual opportunities* to play for and receive constructive written feedback from seasoned adjudicators – teaching professionals – who specialize in their instruments.

End-of-Year Celebrations: Awards Banquet, Arts Fest and Graduation

Be sure you and your musicians have these key spring events on your calendars:



The Awards Banquet's always an occasion.

Thursday, May 19, 6:30-9 p.m., the department will host its festive yet informal Annual Awards Banquet in the Whitman dining hall. After socializing with music friends and feasting on a catered Chinese dinner, students can enjoy being roasted and toasted for (well, *during*) dessert by their dedicated music teachers. Parents are invited to attend the after-dinner presentations. Volunteers are also needed to contribute desserts and also help set up, serve and clear the buffet.

Whitman's fine and performing artists will show their stuff later that month, **Wednesday-Thursday, May 25-26**, at the Whitman Festival of the Arts, running from 6 to 9 p.m. each evening. While choruses and instrumental ensembles take turns performing in the cafeteria, student artwork will hang for perusal (and purchase) in the gymnasium. Precise schedules forthcoming.



The celebrations wrap up, of course, at **Commencement, on Tuesday, June 14, 2011**. *All non-senior members* of the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Orchestra will play. Performers will be bused between school and D.A.R. Constitution Hall for the event.

Jazz Reprise at Brookmont Church

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?



Why, the Whitman Jazz Ensemble at Brookmont Community Church, of course! This long-standing annual tradition will take place on **Tuesday, May 24 at 7 p.m.** Brookmont, located at 4000 Virginia Place, is an intimate neighborhood church hidden away near the river off MacArthur Boulevard. Its minister is a noted community leader profiled in *Bethesda Magazine*. He and his congregation have welcomed our players back year after year for the seniors' final Whitman Jazz concert.

It's always a toe-tapping, rip-roaring, head-bobbing (kids, stop rolling your eyes) good time. Bring the whole family.

Summer Music Opportunities

Summer instrumental programs can energize your student's playing and bring it to another level while exposing the fun and social side of music education. Here's a far from comprehensive starter list of music-related summer opportunities:

- A compendium of local and distant summer music camps is on the [website](#) of the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras (MCYO).
- The [Monumental Brass Quintet](#) runs a yearly brass institute day camp in Howard County over several days in late June. Several Whitman students have attended in recent years. (On Facebook, see "MBQ-Summer Brass Institute.")
- Landon School [summer camps](#) include several instrumental programs in band, orchestra and jazz, many of which run through grade 12.
- The [Levine School of Music](#) employs seventh through 12th graders as (unpaid) assistants in its summer music-and-arts camps.
- The [Suzuki Association of the Americas](#) lists many [summer institutes](#). Note that several offer chamber music programs, not Suzuki-only, for high school students, like the [Virginia Suzuki Institute](#).
- Among the many other small chamber music programs is this [string institute](#) at the University of Hartford and [others](#) listed in Strings Magazine.
- For those with multiple musicians in the family, there are also family music camps around the country in mountain, lake and wooded settings.
- Know of other opportunities that might be of interest to Whitman music students? Let us know (email: fpslesinger@gmail.com) and/or post it to our list-serv!

If You're Not on the List-Serv ...

... then you're missing the buzz!



Our Yahoo-based group email list (or "list-serv") is the only way to get regular news from instrumental music teachers and others about department activities and extracurriculars. The mail volume isn't heavy, but everything's there: schedules and details of upcoming events; info on school trips and paperwork; uniforms and instruments for sale; questions and answers about accompanists, private teachers and programs.

Join now, if you're not already receiving our mailings. To sign up, send your name, the name of your student, and your email address to Amy Golen, agolen@verizon.net. Enroll multiple emails (e.g., two parents, home and work) if you choose.