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# Know the Score

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Newsletter for the Walt Whitman Instrumental Music Program

Fall 2008

## WELCOME, MUSIC BOOSTERS!

Welcome, band and orchestra families, to the Instrumental Music Boosters! Whitman's outstanding music program of course relies on great teachers and dedicated students, but also draws strength from parent support provided by you, through the Instrumental and Choral Boosters groups.

The Boosters are a great way to interact with Whitman students, teachers and fellow parents, while supporting your child's music endeavors. There are many ways to be involved—have a look at our directory on page 3 to see.

The Instrumental Boosters will meet on **September 18 at 7 pm** and again in late February/early March at a meeting (co-hosted with the Choral Boosters) to discuss the spring trip. We also provide two yearly newsletters, a website, [www.waltwhitmanmusic.org](http://www.waltwhitmanmusic.org), and the Whitman Instrumental Group, a list-serve. **We ask all instrumental music parents to join** to receive timely (but not overly frequent) emails about key events. See the box at right for enrollment details.

Lastly, **please volunteer**. See page 3 for roles that might suit you, or brainstorm with Boosters co-chairs Jay Kaufman and Diana Deem to let them know your talents and availability.

### BOOSTER PARENT CHECKLIST

**parent meeting:** September 18, 2007,  
7 pm, Whitman Band Room

**list-serve sign-up:** Send parent name/s and email/s with student name/s to Carol Freedman, [cfd2@verizon.net](mailto:cfd2@verizon.net)

**volunteer:** Contact co-chairs, Diana Deem or Jay Kaufman (see p. 3)

**schedule lessons:** WWHS instrumentalists are expected to take private lessons. For teacher recommendations, see our website or call the music department at 301/320-6542.

### FOR FRESHMEN + NEWCOMERS: BAND CAMP, AUGUST 20-21

Band members new to Whitman—freshmen and others—are expected at band camp, **10 am to 2 pm, August 20 and 21.**

Attendance is free and encouraged, to learn the music and marches performed at football games. Meet in the band room.

(NOTE: Dates have changed since spring.)  
Questions? Call Mr. Allen at 301-320-6542.



*Garden Party*  
Sunday, October 5



Enjoy an afternoon of good conversation, delicious food, and terrific music provided by our students, all for the benefit of the Whitman instrumental program. A highlight for music program families, this is also our only regular fundraising event. Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones at the home of Nahid Akhyani and Ali Davoodi. Invitations are coming! Save the date: **Sunday, October 5, 4-6 pm.**

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## Maybe More Than You Need to Know About UNIFORMS

As in life, in the Walt Whitman instrumental music program, suitable attire is required for varied occasions, from concerts to marching on the football field. Here are details.

**Marching band** duties rotate among Whitman's band (non-string) ensembles. Returning band students should dig out their black Whitman Music tees to be worn at warm-weather football games. Incoming band members will receive new shirts, and replacements can be purchased.

Performers wear these at games with khaki slacks, black socks and black dress shoes. When the weather warrants, logo jackets will be handed out; these are worn over white mock/turtlenecks, also with khakis and black shoes and socks.

Members of **Concert Band** and **Concert Orchestra** need white dress shirts, black dress pants or skirts and black dress shoes for concerts. In the **Symphonic Orchestra**, **Symphonic Band**, **Wind Ensemble** and **Jazz Ensemble**, men wear black tuxedos and women wear our chosen concert gown with matching bolero jacket.

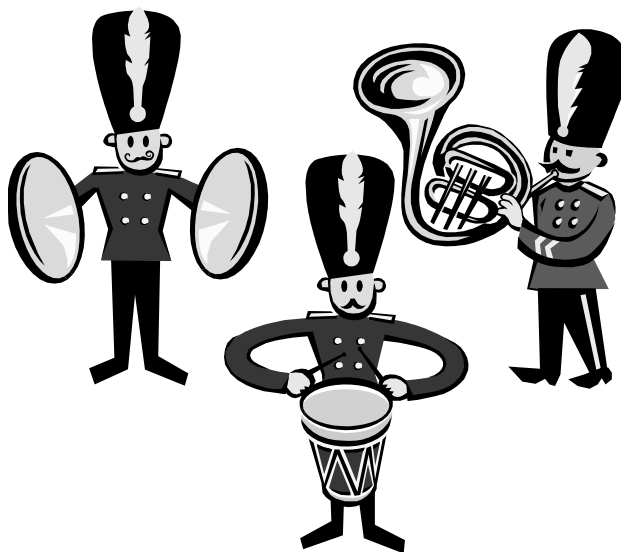


Fittings for these tuxedos and dresses are early in the school year. Dress ensembles, which are \$110 new, might also, with luck, be purchased used via the music list-serve. Tuxes are provided by the Music Boosters but men should obtain their own black bowties and tuxedo shirts (pleated, wing-tip collar). Everyone wears black dress shoes.

If you have questions about dresses or can **help with fittings**, please call Nell Elder at 301-229-8317. For tuxedo assistance or questions, contact Amy Hancock at 301-320-7075.

## SPRING MUSIC TRIP

*One if by land?* Boston will host the 2009 annual competition expedition. Buses will leave Whitman on the evening of April 1 and return April 4. Groups participating are the Symphonic Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble and Concert Orchestra. Look for more information in packets to be distributed in September.



## PEP AND MARCHING BANDS

Mark these dates if you're performing at Friday-night football games (call time is 5:30.):

9/5	Wind Ensemble
9/19	Symphonic Band
10/3	Symphonic Band
10/24	Wind Ensemble (Homecoming)
11/7	Concert Band

Mandatory practices run from 5 to 7 p.m. on the Thursday prior for the group performing.

Congratulations to Marching Band student conductors for 2008-09, Parnian Davoodi and Daniel Ullmann, and to Julian Jacobson and Maxi Cifarelli, conductor and assistant conductor of Pep Band.

## LAB FEES: WHAT ARE THEY FOR?

The lab fee for instrumental music students remains at \$115 this year. Please send in yours, with the form enclosed, by **September 18**. (In cases of financial hardship, contact Mr. Allen.) The fee frees students—and parents—from fundraising during the school year, keeping the focus on music. What do the fees cover? Among other needs: sheet music; selected instruments and repairs; band uniforms and tuxedos; festival fees; all buses for local festivals and graduation; visiting music professionals; an awards banquet; CD recordings; professional development for teachers; and newsletter and website expenses.

Please mail your check on time, made out to WWHS with "instrumental lab fee" in the note.



## PLANNING FOR REGIONAL AUDITIONS



Many students relish the challenge of auditioning for and playing in all-county and all-state honors ensembles with accomplished peers and highly accomplished conductors. Opportunities for band, orchestra and jazz players alike exist at both junior (7th- to 9th-grade) and senior levels. All-county ensembles practice weekly for several weeks leading to a concert. All-state ensembles meet for an intensive long weekend (with hotel stay) in Baltimore or Frederick, also closing with a concert.

Try-outs begin early in the school year, so preparations should start as soon as audition materials come out in September. **Music staff encourage all students to consider auditioning** and offer these tips: Note sign-up dates below. Begin working with audition materials early. (State and county materials are the same.) Set up a practice calendar and pace yourself. Record your efforts occasionally and critique your progress. Practice for friends, in front of a mirror and for your family. And seek advice and help from your private teacher. (If you need help finding a private instructor, please talk to Mr. Allen and Ms. Alvey and see our website for a list of local music teachers.)

### 2008-2009 Committee Chairs

<i>Booster Club Chairs</i>	Diana Deem 229-8263 Jay Kaufman 469-4850	<i>Newsletter:</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Debra Jacobson 983-3845	<i>Editorial</i>	Mandy Katz (Massey) 915-0999
<i>Secretary</i>	Wendy Weinberg (Freeman) 229-9873	<i>Mailing</i>	Francesca Slesinger 320-9470
<i>Tuxedos and Band Jackets</i>	Amy Hancock (Weals) 320-7075 Cecilia Parajon (Freeman) 365-4845 Allison Knight 229-2336 Ann Koritzinsky 263-0275 Jodi Rasch 263-2777	<i>Concert Dresses</i>	Nell Elder 229-8317 Amy Golen (Goodman) 263-0906
<i>Music Trip</i>	Amy Golen (Goodman) 263-0906	<i>Winter Concert</i>	Suzanne Abu-Sharr 320-6181 Roberta Aronson 229-3926 Amy Golen (Goodman) 263-0906
<i>Garden Party:</i>		<i>Awards Night</i>	Francesca Slesinger 320-9470 Rhoda Barish (Polis) 229-2509 Carolyn Craig 263-9292 Rana Khan (Ansari) 365-0239 Marie Newman 229-8488 Susan Wexler (Engler) 229-0156
<i>Hosts</i>	Nahid Akhyani and Ali Davoodi 320-2541	<i>Historian</i>	Doug Pearson 229-6395
<i>Coord./Invitations</i>	Cindy Amrine 229-2587	<i>Arts Festival Liaison</i>	Anne Hollander (McCreery) 229-7277
Lisa Hemmer (Savage)	320-6733 Carol Freedman (Seeber) 229-7070	<i>Adjudicator Breakfast and Luncheon</i>	Bernice Kaufman 469-4850 Kay Senator 229-9269 Nell Elder 229-8317
<i>Food/Volunteers</i>	Alejandra Vallejo (Carnie) 229-0128	<i>Graphic Design</i>	Diana Deem 229-8263
<i>Database Manager</i>	Anice Hoachlander (Hobby) 320-7338	<i>Music Web Page</i>	Carol Freedman (Seeber) 229-7070
		<i>List-Serve</i>	

VISIT US ONLINE: [www.waltwhitmanmusic.org](http://www.waltwhitmanmusic.org)

JOIN THE LIST-SERVE: Contact Carol Freedman, [cfd2@verizon.net](mailto:cfd2@verizon.net)

# WALT WHITMAN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

# 2008-09 CALENDAR



*Note: Dates and times subject to change. The complete calendar,  
with updates, appears on the instrumental music website:  
[www.waltwhitmanmusic.org/instrumentalcalendar](http://www.waltwhitmanmusic.org/instrumentalcalendar)*

## August

- 18-23** Maryland Classic Youth Orchestra auditions (sign-ups at website)
- 20-21** Band Camp (freshmen and new students), 10 am to 2

- 22-24** All-State Sr. Jazz Weekend, Towson
- 23-24** (tentative) All-State Sr. Jazz Focus Weekend (Jazz Ensemble), Towson
- 28** Sign-ups due: County Solo/Ensemble Festival

## September

- 5** Football game (Wind Ensemble)\*
- 5-8** Potomac Valley Youth Orch. auditions
- 12** Lab fee due
- 18** Boosters meeting, 7 pm
- 19** Football game (Symphonic Band)\*

## February

- 4** Whitman Music Department concert at Pyle, periods 1-4
- 7** County Honors Band/Orch. concert, B-CC, 6:30 pm
- 27-3/1** All-State Sr. Band/Orchestra weekend  
All-State Jr. Band weekend
- date tba** Jazz Ensemble plays at Fitzgerald Theater
- date tba, Feb/Mar** Instrumental and Choral Boosters joint Spring Trip Meeting, 7 pm

## October

- 3** Football game (Symphonic Band)\*
- 5** Garden Party, 4-6 pm
- 6** All-County Jazz auditions
- 7** Sign-ups due: Jr. All-County and All-State
- 12** (tentative) Jazz Ensemble plays  
ALS Walk on DC Mall, 9 am
- 14** Sign-ups due: Sr. All-County and All-State
- 20** All-State Sr. Jazz audition videos due
- 24** Homecoming football game (Wind Ensemble)\*
- 28** Fall Instrumental Concert, 7 pm
- date tba** Jazz Ensemble plays at Brookmont

## March

- 5-7** All-State Jr. Orchestra weekend
- 6** County Ensemble Festival, 4-10 pm
- 7** County Solo Festival, 9 am to 5
- 24** County Orch. Festival (Concert and Symphonic Orchestras)
- 26** County Band Festival (Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band), WWHS
- 31** Music trip luggage check-in, 2-6 pm

## November

- 7** Football game (Concert Band)\*
- 11** All-Cty Jr. Band/Orch. auditions, 6-10 pm
- 15** All-State Jr. Band/Orch. auditions
- 18** All-Cty Sr. Band/Orch. auditions, 6-10 pm
- 20-22** Whitman fall musical (pit orchestra)
- 22** All-State Sr. Band/Orch. auditions

## April

- 1-4** Spring music trip to Boston
- 21** County 2nd Band Festival (Concert Band)
- 28** State Festival (Symphonic Band and Orch., Wind Ensemble and String Orch.)
- 30-5/2** Whitman Talent Show

## December

- 13** County Big Band Festival (Jazz Ensemble), 8 am to 5
- 15** Winter Instrumental Concert, 7 pm
- 23** In-school music department concerts
- date tba** Jazz Ensemble plays at Montgomery Mall

## May

- 9** State Solo/Ensemble Orch. Festival
- 14-15** Whitman Festival of the Arts, 6-10 pm
- 16** State Solo/Ensemble Band Festival
- 26** (tentative) Awards Banquet, 6:30 pm

## January

- 6** All-County ensembles commence weekly  
Tues-night rehearsals, 6:30-9 pm

## June

- date tba** WWHS commencement performance

\* All football games are at 6:30 pm; call times are 5:30 pm.