

General Notes

Boston Trip Was an Unforgettable Experience

200 Students and Parents Score Memories to Last a Lifetime

Traveling as a music group gives us a chance to look beyond our own walls and explore new places – a chance to share a bit of ourselves with people we've never met. The WHS Instrumental Music trip to Boston was no exception. It was, however, exceptional!

Even the weather cooperated for us. Sunny skies and moderate temperatures provided the perfect setting for an enlightening and enjoyable time.

For most, the highlight of the trip was a performance of *The Star Spangled Banner* and *O' Canada* for the start of the Red Sox vs. Blue Jays game at venerable old Fenway Park. A sold-out crowd shared their appreciation with an enthusiastic cheer following the performance, and the Red Sox staff was gracious and appreciative.



Other special opportunities included an open rehearsal of the Boston Symphony Orchestra as they prepared the Berlioz *Requiem*; a guided tour of the Freedom Trail; a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts; an amphibious Duck Tour; an informative view of Boston from the top of the Prudential building; a dinner cruise aboard the *Spirit of Boston*; climbing aboard the *USS Constitution* (Old Ironsides); and time at Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market and Cheers.

We all got just a taste of what the wonderful city of Boston has to offer. The hope is that the students will get a chance to return someday and explore in detail the numerous cultural opportunities of good old *Beantown*.



Parents and Students, Carefully Study The Enclosed 2006-07 Instrumental Music Calendar



We need your help in making sure students are well informed of all their responsibilities over the coming year. In an attempt to make this as easy as possible, we have included with this newsletter the entire year's events in the Instrumental Music Department. Please go over this calendar with your son or daughter and check this with their other school activities and your family's activities. Please let us know of any concerns that you may have **as soon as possible**. This will make it much easier for us to resolve potential conflicts. Keeping open the lines of communication is what makes everything work smoothly. We've also included the Band Camp letter along with this mailing as well as a Concessions help letter. Please look these over carefully too. We look forward to a fantastic school year. Until then, please enjoy a relaxing summer.

Choir News

This past year was a special one for the Concert and Jazz Choirs, one in which their growth as musicians was truly impressive. The high level of focus and energy the singers directed toward perfecting their individual voices and their choral technique paid off in four separate concert programs which impressed their audiences and even themselves. The eclectic mixture of repertoire they mastered proved them to be flexible and accomplished musicians. Their sight-singing skills were confirmed by a 'Superior' rating at the district OMEA Adjudicated Event.

Next year promises to be even more exciting as we take the show on the road, traveling to Pittsburgh, where we will perform at various venues, learn from a distinguished choral conductor at the University of Pittsburgh, and sample the exciting things that city offers. We will be concentrating on a *cappella* choral literature so we can perform 'any time, any place'. On the home front, Concert Choir will perform three major concerts in the Performing Arts Center with the Edgewood Choir, plus the Homecoming game, our annual Quarter-an-Order dinner/concert for choir families, the Rotary Holiday Dinner/Concert for the seniors of our community and the OMEA District Adjudicated Event. Jazz Choir will continue to represent our program throughout the community at retirement centers, service club meetings, and throughout our district.

Our Sponsor-a-Song campaign has already brought in many generous donations from community members who value the growing artistry of our young singers. On behalf of the choir members, many thanks for the huge contributions their parents make in so many ways to make our year so musically satisfying.

Amy Gilbert, Director of Choirs

CHOIR CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS 2006-2007

Homecoming Game	Sept. 29
Quarter-an-Order Dinner	Oct. 23
Rotary Holiday Dinner	Dec. 4
Holiday Concert	Dec. 19
Solo & Ensemble Event	Feb. 17
Winter Concert	March 6
OMEA Event	March 16
Spring Sing	May 15



Pay-To-Participate... Financial Assistance Available

Recent budget cuts have resulted in many undesirable situations across the Wooster City School District. The addition of a \$100 Pay-To-Participate fee for Band, Orchestra, and Choir has created additional burdens for all families and hardships for many.

The WHS Music Parents Association is committed to helping all families needing assistance. They are determined to see that no WHS or EWMS student is excluded from a music class due to financial concerns.

Through the Wayne County Community Foundation, funds have been established to offer scholarships to those who need help. Don't let the fee keep you from signing up for a music class.



There are still some very important WHS Music Parents Offices yet to be filled. Can you help? Let us know!

Visit the Music Department
Web Site for Up-To-Date Info:
 www.whsmusic.nvi.net

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Take Note

June 19, 20, 21 Flag/Majorette Camp	July 29 Squad Leader Workshop	August 2 Uniform Distribution	July 31 - Aug. 4 Rookie Band Camp	July 31 - Aug. 4 Percussion Camp	August 7 Full Band Camp Begins	August 25 First Home Football Game
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