

Presenting a Professional Look "Dress to Impress"

Required Dress for Concerts & Public Performances

Jazz, Bulldog & Guitar Ensembles

- Black Bulldog Guitar Mock Turtleneck
- Black Slacks
- Black Socks
- Black Shoes

Guitar I & II-III Ensembles

- Black Westfield Guitar Tee Shirts
- Black Slacks
- Black Socks
- Black Shoes

Casual Performances (such as Bulldog BBQ)

- Black Westfield Guitar Tee Shirts
- Blue Jeans
- Sneakers



Westfield High School Guitar Program



2011 – 2012 Survival Guide

(Please review, complete and return the enclosed insert.)

Did you know that students who participate in high-quality music programs score higher on standardized tests, have a higher graduation rate, and learn skills that will make them a more productive part of the workforce?

(Visit www.menc.org for more information)

About the Guitar Program

The Westfield High School Guitar Program was founded when Westfield High School first opened in 2000. The program has grown to include top performing Guitar Ensembles who have collected dozens of awards.

Four levels of instruction are offered, ranging from beginner to performing ensembles for both jazz and classical music and is open to all students from freshmen to seniors. Other styles of music will be touched upon in Guitar I and Guitar II-III. Our program is sequentially tiered as follows: Guitar I, Guitar II-III, the Classical Bulldog Guitar Ensemble; and the co-curricular Jazz Guitar Ensemble. Our hope is that your student will become vested in our program and rise up into our award winning performing ensembles.



Important Dates

Bulldog BBQ.....August 30, 2011, 5-8:30 P.M.
Tag Day.....September 24, 2011, Sat., 8 A.M.
Homecoming Parade.....October 14, 2011, Friday, Time TBD
Winter Concert.....December 13, 2011, 7:00 P.M.
Mid-Atlantic Guitar Festival.....February, 2012
Chantilly Jazz Festival.....March, 2012
Spring Trip.....TBD
Letter Award Requests Due.....April, 2012
5K Run for Scholarship App Due...Spring, 2012
Spring Guitar Extravaganza.....May 22, 2012, 7:00 P.M.
Guitar Picnic/Jam Session.....June, 2012, Date/Place TBD



Guitar Program Schedule Information

Mr. Hall will communicate with the students during class. You will also see information posted on the Westfield Guitar website, <http://www.westfieldguitar.org/> and receive periodic emails from Guitar Booster President, Bonnie Cowdery. Please be sure you bookmark the site and reach out to Bonnie at president@westfieldguitar.org so she can make sure you are on the email distribution list.

Guitar Program Scholarships

The Westfield High School Guitar Booster Club (WHSGBC) may award scholarships to deserving college-bound seniors. The scholarship program is made possible through the generosity of the WHSGBC and the Annual Westfield High School 5K Race. The number and amount of these scholarships shall be determined by the WHSGBC each year.

Evaluation Criteria and Weighting:

- 40% - student contribution to the WHS Guitar Program
- 20% - strength of essay
- 20% - participation in non-school related music activities
- 10% - cumulative GPA
- 10% - non-music related awards and contributions

Scholarship applications are made available in the spring and must be turned in NO LATER than the due date to be eligible.

General Information

TAG DAY - Saturday, September 24th - This is our major fund raiser for the year! All Westfield High School music groups go door-to-door in the Westfield community asking for donations. Last year the total amount collected was approximately \$20,000!! The guitar group's percentage of the proceeds is entirely dependent upon the number of guitar students who participate. All guitar students are expected to participate in this event. Participation is a requirement of the Guitar Letter and Awards Program. Money earned from Tag Day will be used to purchase new guitars, equipment, pay for clinicians, and help defray the cost of our spring trip. Our goal is 100% participation in Tag Day!

Homecoming Parade – Friday, October 14th – The Guitar Boosters sponsor a float in the Homecoming Parade every year. This is our opportunity to be seen and have fun!

Mid-Atlantic Guitar Festival – February, 2012 – The Jazz and Guitar Ensembles will travel to an area high school to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Guitar Ensemble Festival. This is generally an all-day event that includes adjudication as well as a mid-day concert by a well-known musician and guitar clinics given by professionals in the field. More information will be forthcoming.

Spring Guitar Trip – Date/Destination TBD – Each year guitar students have the opportunity to participate in a trip focused around a music festival. Past trips include Boston, Chicago, Memphis, NYC, and Myrtle Beach. Deposits will be due in October, and the remaining installments throughout the fall/winter. Guitar students may reduce their trip costs by participating in fund raisers, including Tag Day, Scrip, and citrus fruit sales. (Information regarding date/destination as well as trip deposit & payments will be available in October.)



<u>Activities</u>	<u>Points</u>
Tag Day Participation	Required
Guitar I	1
Guitar II-III	2
Bulldog Guitar Ens	4
Jazz Guitar Ens	4
Spring Field Trip WHS	3
Concert	1 per
Concerts Outside WHS	1 (Outside music participation in ensembles or church music groups.)
Private Lessons	1 (Students must have months or more and have regular attendance at lessons (i e. weekly)
Fundraiser (not Tag Day)	1
Clinic/Master Class	1
Concert Attendance	1 per concert – up to 3 points maximum.
Solo Performance	1
Leadership Position	1
Parent Points	.5-2 (Parents may earn up to 2 points for their students by volunteering their time for the Guitar Boosters - .5 point per hour of service)
Student Volunteer Hours	Students earn 1 point for every 5 hours of volunteer service to the Guitar Program. These hours do NOT include the required hours of service for TAG Day.
Director Points	Based on Musicianship, leadership, cooperation, attitude, service to the Guitar Program above and beyond the call of duty.

15 Points Earned - LETTER

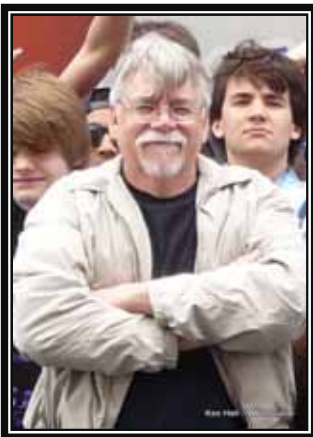
25 Points Earned - Add Bar/Pin

30Points Earned - Add Bar/Pin plus Special Recognition Award

Letter Awards will be presented at the Guitar Extravaganza.

Parents Please Note.... LETTERS ARE NOT AUTOMATICALLY AWARDED!! It is up to the students to take responsibility for submitting the required paperwork by the deadline in order to qualify.

About the Director



Ken Hall is the director of the Guitar Studies Program at Westfield High School. Mr. Hall came to Westfield from Arlington County Public Schools where he taught instrumental music and directed Arlington's Junior Honors Band. His last assignment in Arlington was director of the guitar and jazz ensembles at Yorktown High School. In addition to his 10 years in Arlington County, Mr. Hall taught fourteen years in his native Massachusetts before relocating

to Northern Virginia in 1994.

Mr. Hall received a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Westfield State College in Massachusetts in 1981 and a Masters in Music Composition from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst in 1986 where he was awarded a teaching assistantship. Mr. Hall studied classical guitar with Tim Olbrych and William Feasley as well as jazz guitar with Mick Goodrick, Barry Galbraith and Ted Dunbar.

Mr. Hall is an in-demand freelance guitarist playing engagements as diverse as the Kennedy Center's Opera House, Blues Alley, the Richmond Symphony Orchestra, and the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus. Mr. Hall toured the former Soviet Union with a 16 piece big band in 1991 as a guest of the Soviet State Department and has performed with jazz greats Max Roach and Slide Hampton; country rocker, Charlie Daniels; gospel great, Andrae Crouch; comedian, Joan Rivers; and Italian crooner, Al Martino, to name a few.

In addition to his duties at Westfield High School, Mr. Hall holds two adjunct professorships at Shenandoah University and Northern Virginia Community College, respectively.

Program Expectations

The Guitar program is performance-based. Performances are a part of each student's grade.

WESTFIELD GUITAR CONCERTS - Guitar II-III, and Ensemble students are required to perform in both the Winter Concert and the Guitar Extravaganza. Guitar I students are invited to perform at the Winter Concert and are required to perform at the Guitar Extravaganza. Other performances may be required of the ensembles.

COMPETITIONS - The Guitar Ensembles participate in several competitions throughout the year including the Chantilly Jazz Festival, Mid-Atlantic Guitar Ensemble Festival as well as traveling to a selected festival as part of the Spring Trip. They are expected to plan for and travel to these competitions.

GUITAR MUSIC - All Guitar I and II students are expected to purchase and keep their classroom method books, which are available for purchase in class during the first week of school.

INSTRUMENTS - Guitars are supplied for all students during the school day. Purchasing or renting a guitar is recommended for at-home practice. Some students may wish to bring their own instruments from home.

TAG DAY - All guitar students are expected to participate in Tag Day fund raising activities.

MENTORING - We are an Ensemble program. An ensemble refers to all the parts of a thing taken together, so that each part is considered only in relation to the whole. A music ensemble refers to a group of musicians who play together. With that in mind, guitar students are expected to work together in their respective groups to improve the whole group.

Awards and Letter Program

Service is an important part of membership in the Guitar Program. All students are encouraged to support the Guitar Program through their time and efforts. In addition, it is our belief that the students have the ability and responsibility to make a significant contribution to the community through the sharing of their musical talents.

Guitar students are expected to maintain a high standard of excellence. Students who exceed the minimum expectations will be recognized for their efforts. All students who participate in Tag Day and earn service points are eligible to receive awards as outlined below, however, without participating in Tag Day, students will not be granted these awards.

Requirements for receiving awards are as follows. In order to receive credit for an award, *students must submit a completed Verification for Award Points (available in the classroom and on the Guitar Booster website)*. This should be done as points are earned so they may be verified and recorded. Points carry over from year to year until awards are earned, however, request for points should be submitted in the year that they are earned. Points requested for previous years must be accompanied by appropriate documentation, i.e. copy of report card, WHS concert program, etc.). Otherwise, points may not be credited for previous years.



Spring trips typically cost between \$500 - \$700 per student, depending on location and venue. The Guitar Boosters provide a number of opportunities throughout the year for students to raise money for their trips. It is reasonable to expect that students can earn most, if not all of the cost of the trip by participating in these opportunities.

PLEASE NOTE: The entire cost per student for trips is calculated based upon the total number of students traveling. Each student will pay for the trip via installments. If a student should decide not to travel after having committed to traveling with us, and having made a deposit, that money **CANNOT BE REFUNDED!** As each scheduled deposit is received, it is relinquished to the tour company.



Opportunities for Individual Performances – The Guitar Boosters sponsor various opportunities throughout the year to give our students the opportunity to “spread their wings” and develop individual performance skills. These opportunities can include Bulldog BBQ, Soda Shoppe, and local appearances. Students are expected to work together with the boosters to help plan and execute these events.

Guitar Boosters

Parent Involvement = A Successful Guitar Program

Involvement in the Guitar Program will give you the opportunity to share these important four years of your child's education. These years go by quickly and are too rarely enjoyed by many parents. Parent support of our music program is an integral part of our success. If you are not already a member of the Guitar Boosters, please consider becoming one! \$15.00 and completion of our membership form provides you with a one year membership. Please send an email to the Guitar Booster president, Bonnie Cowdery, for more information, president@westfieldguitar.org. Most of the Guitar Booster activities require only a minimal investment on the part of student and parent, and if we can broaden the base participation, there will be even less work for all concerned.

The Guitar Boosters Help Our Kids By...

...providing more and better musical instruments. The FCPS budget provides a minimum funding threshold for basic instruments and music. The Boosters have been able to provide several Takamine steel string guitars, a couple of acoustic bass guitars, several special acoustic guitars and electric guitars with amps. From feedback received, we can definitely tell that the students appreciate the difference.

...providing the means to offer our students exposure to renowned clinicians, such as Bill Feasley, who presented a workshop in 2007.

...providing the volunteer manpower for all guitar events, including all concerts and a number of public performance opportunities for our students.

...giving the students an avenue to raise funds for field trips.

...offering scholarship opportunities to deserving Guitar seniors.

...providing a forum to keep parents informed about what's happening in the Guitar Program via the guitar website and frequent email updates.

...sponsoring the Guitar Program float in the Homecoming parade which gives participating students an opportunity to showcase their talents in an informal atmosphere.

...providing for an end of year party and jam session for the Guitar students.

...last but not least, organizations like the Guitar Boosters can help make this very large school seem like an intimate place to foster connections between students who share an interest in music.

Westfield Guitar Boosters Website

<http://www.westfieldguitar.org>

For important information and regular updates, visit our website.

2011 – 2012 Executive Board

Director **Ken Hall**

President **Bonnie Cowdery**

Vice President **Marianne Thomas**

Treasurer **Anita Szymanski**

Secretary **Charlotte Ciocco**

Volunteer Opportunities....*Please Help!*

The WHS Guitar Program needs parent volunteers to help support a first class guitar program. Please help us with **at least one** activity during the school year. Most activities only require an hour or two for your time. Please indicate below area(s) where you could provide assistance:

_____ **Tag Day – Saturday, September 24 - Calling all parents & students!**

Tag Day is the biggest fund raiser of the year for the WHS Music Boosters and supports Westfield's music programs through instrument replacement, spring trip performances for students, etc. Thanks to the hard work of many devoted parents and students, the Music Boosters raised approximately \$20,000 with our 10th Annual Tag Day in the fall of 2010. **Please indicate how you can help:**

_____ I can help with the organization/paperwork

_____ I can transport students (WE NEED DRIVERS!)

_____ I can help with food. (Breakfast items for participants)

_____ **Homecoming Float – Friday, October 14**

A volunteer is needed to plan Guitar student participation in the Homecoming parade. Last year Guitar students rode and performed acoustic music on the back of a pickup truck. A great time for all!

_____ **Citrus Fruit Sales – November – December**

All music groups participate. This fund raiser helps fund participating students field trip accounts. Parents and students are also needed to assist with fruit delivery to Westfield.

_____ **Hospitality/Concert Assistance**

Volunteers are needed to assist with bake sales, such as selling/donating baked goods & refreshments on the evenings of concert performances. Parents are also needed to monitor auditorium doors and stage students prior to performances.

_____ **Fund Raiser Organization**

The Guitar Boosters could use a parent to either chair fund raising events or simply assist with the events, such as Tropical Smoothie nights. We would love any new fund raiser ideas!!!

_____ **5K Run for Scholarship – Spring, 2012**

These are scholarships for the various booster groups, including Guitar. Volunteers are needed on the day of the run.

Westfield High School Guitar Program

2011 – 2012 Registration and Fee Schedule Packet

STUDENT INFORMATION

(Please return by Friday, September 9th, 2011)

Student Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #s: _____

*Parent Email Address: _____

*Guitar Program information is shared with parents via email. Your email address **will not** be disclosed or shared with anyone.

Student Grade Level: _____

Which Guitar class is your student enrolled?

Guitar I _____ Guitar II _____ Guitar III _____ Guitar Ensemble _____

*Please review this insert in its entirety and fill out the requested information. **Return the completed insert and payment no later than September 9th, 2011 to Mr. Hall.***

Make checks payable to "WHS Guitar Boosters"

The Guitar Program is the only Westfield music program without mandatory fees.

THANK YOU!!!!!!

Guitar Attire Order Form

Mock Turtlenecks – \$20

Required attire for all Jazz, Bulldog & Guitar Ensemble students to wear during performances throughout the year.

_____ I have a mock turtleneck.

_____ I need a mock turtleneck and have included \$20 payment.

Please indicate adult size:

small_____ medium_____ large_____ xlarge_____ xxlarge_____

Guitar Tee Shirts – \$10

Required attire for Guitar I & II-III students to wear during performances. All students may need this tee shirt during casual performances.

Note: All Guitar students who participate in Tag Day receive a **FREE** tee shirt!!

_____ I have a Guitar tee shirt.

_____ I need a Guitar tee shirt for Tag Day. (no cost)

_____ I need a tee shirt and have included a \$10 payment.

Please indicate adult size:

small_____ medium_____ large_____ xlarge_____ xxlarge_____

Guitar Full Zip Hoodie - \$25

Black full zip hoodie sweatshirt with WESTFIELD GUITAR embroidered in gold on left front.

Please indicate size:

Small_____ medium_____ large_____ xlarge_____ xxlarge_____

Attire Totals:

Mock Turtleneck _____ @ \$20.00= \$ _____

Tee Shirt (purchased) _____ @ \$10.00= \$ _____

Hoodie Sweatshirt _____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____

Membership Fee (or donation).....\$ _____

Total Amount Due.....= \$

Guitar Booster Membership and Sponsorship

Guitar Booster Membership

_____ Basic Membership - \$15 membership fee

_____ Bronze Membership - \$35 membership fee

_____ Silver Membership - \$50 membership fee

_____ Gold Membership - \$75 membership fee

_____ Director's Circle - \$100 membership fee

All members are entitled to benefits of voting and are recognized within all Guitar Programs.

Guitar Booster Sponsorship

_____ Friend - \$250

_____ Sponsor - \$500

_____ Patron - \$1000

All sponsorships are recognized on the WHSGBC website and in all Guitar Programs.