

Lakota West Freshman Concert Bands

2007-2008

Directors:

Tony Marinello (Director of Freshman Bands and Lakota West Assistant Director)

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Tim Holt (Assistant Director of Bands, Lakota Freshman School)

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Required Method Book:

Foundations for Superior Performance. Jeff King and Richard Williams.

Some students should still have this book from Junior High and are asked to bring it in. If you do not have it, please inform Mr. Marinello.

Grading Policy:

20% - Daily Class Participation (Being prepared, organized, having necessary materials)

30% - Playing Exams and Written Assignments

30% - Participation in Required Concerts and Solo and Ensemble Contest

20% - Quarter Playing Exam (Scales)

Five Traits for Success:

1. Have a properly-maintained instrument and necessary accessories,
2. Have your own copies of all music and be able to play all of it.
3. Know and be able to perform all twelve major scales as we progress in class.
4. Take notes on class discussions and keep them organized for study purposes.
5. Come to class every day to make beautiful music.

Why Music?

The most important goal set forth in this class is that each student will perform beautiful music everyday. Every decision made in this class serves one purpose: to serve the music to its truest form. The technical proficiency that we expect for each student to achieve on his/her instrument is not meant to be a punishment. We push the students to gain control of the instrument, so that he/she can have opportunity to expand his/her musical voice without being hindered by technical deficiencies on that instrument.

Do not misunderstand this goal. We are not seeking to create professional musicians especially considering the wealth of music-making opportunities after high school (university, adult, and community bands/orchestras). It is my philosophy that a student at ANY level of proficiency (from beginner to virtuoso) can and should seek to create music that conveys *something*: an idea, an emotion, a mood.

Concert Attendance and Attire:

Because concert band is a performance-based class, students are REQUIRED to perform at all concerts and the Solo and Ensemble event. Please be sure to check the calendar in advance.

Concert dress for gentlemen is black shoes, black socks, black pants, white collared shirt (button-down), and an appropriate tie. Concert dress for ladies is black shoes, black pants or skirt (below the knee), and white blouse (not sleeveless).

The following are not allowed: tennis shoes, flip-flops, jeans, shorts, mini-skirts, electronic ties that play music. (Sadly, we speak from personal experience on the musical tie bit.)

Communication:

Any of the directors can be reached through email or phone. Mr. Marinello is your primary contact for handling issues with the Freshman School Concert Bands. The band program has a fantastic website (www.lakotawestbands.org) on which you can find the most current information and even a calendar for the full academic year. I typically put out weekly Freshman Band announcements that you can have sent directly to your email! You can subscribe on the Freshman Band section of the website (as well as on the home page)!

Lakota West Upbeat Club:

Our Lakota West Upbeat Club provides a tremendous amount of support for our students and this program would not be as successful without the selfless volunteerism of so many parents. We hope that you can attend **booster meetings in the West High School Band Room on the third Tuesday of every month**. If you would like to volunteer, please visit the band website (www.lakotawestbands.org), and click on the *Fundraising* section.

Lakota West Freshman Night:

The Lakota Freshman Bands will perform on field with the Lakota West Marching Firebirds at the Homecoming Football Game on Friday, September 14. Freshman students should plan on wearing any type of black pants or jeans and a white shirt. (Jeans, tennis shoes, and t-shirts are allowed for this event).

Students should report to the Lakota West HS choir room at 6:15pm where they can leave instrument cases. After the half time performance, students are dismissed from the choir room to meet their parents. The Marching Firebirds will likely perform their 2007 show "Wagner Legends" at the conclusion of the football game and we hope you will stay to watch.

The freshmen will rehearse on September 12th and 13th (Wednesday and Thursday) at Lakota West HS from 3pm to 4pm. Students can take the activity bus from Lakota Freshman School to Lakota West HS at the end of the school day. Parents can then pick up their students at 4pm. Even if a student has to miss these rehearsals, he/she can still perform at the Freshman Night game.

Lakota West Tag Day:

Lakota West Band Tag Day is our largest front of concentrated fundraising for the entire school year. The event is on Saturday, September 8 and begins at approximately 8am. Most of the work is done before lunch, so this is a relatively short time commitment. This year we've set a goal of \$30,000 and **THIS EFFORT REQUIRES MANY VOLUNTEERS!** Volunteering is a great way to get to know other band parents and students. In the last two years, we've raised nearly \$20,000 per year. In order to reach this year's lofty goal, we need your help!

- In order to cover 100% of the Lakota West area, we need nearly 100 adult drivers (21 years and older) and 100% participation from band students, including freshmen.
- If you'd like to sign up or have questions, email Sandra Snyder at sandrasnyder@cinci.rr.com.

Important Calendar Events:

September 4 (Tuesday)	Freshman Parent Meeting, 6:30pm
September 8 (Saturday)	Tag Day, 8am (West Band Room)
September 12, 13 (Wed, Thurs)	Freshman Night Practices (West HS)
September 14 (Friday)	Freshman Night Game (6:15 in West Choir Room)
October 23 (Tuesday)	Freshman Fall Concert, 7pm
December 1 (Saturday)	District Honor Band Auditions
December 18 (Tuesday)	Freshman Holiday Concert, 7pm
January 18, 19 (Fri, Sat)	District Honor Band Weekend
February 11 (Monday)	Solo and Ensemble Recital (West HS)
February 16 (Saturday)	Solo and Ensemble Contest (West HS)
March 11 (Tuesday)	Freshman Winter Concert, 7pm
March 14, 15 (Friday, Saturday)	District Band Contest Weekend
May 13 (Tuesday)	Freshman Spring Concert, 7pm
June 5 (Thursday)	2008 Rookie Marcher Day (West HS)

***- Items in bold type are required and graded performances.**



Instrument Recommendations

This listing of equipment will help improve your music making experience. If you are taking private lessons, your teacher may have already suggested the best equipment for your situation, and his/her recommendation should be followed. If you have not discussed equipment with your teacher or do not take private lessons, then use this as a guide to giving yourself the best chance at making quality music.

Students who play on a school-owned instrument are encouraged to purchase their own personal mouthpiece. While this is not required, it is the most ideal situation.

If you are ever interested in making equipment purchases, Mr. Marinello can help you obtain a reduced price through a local music retailer. These prices will typically be less than what you would find on your own. Please talk to him before or after class.

General Accessories

- Metronome: Wind and Percussion students should use these when practicing
- Tuner: All wind instruments should invest in a tuner.
- Combination: If you know you want both, combinations are available.

Flute

- Instrument Suggestion: Yamaha Allegro or Powell Sonora

Clarinet

Clarinet players are required to purchase Vandoren reeds and the suggested mouthpiece. You can obtain this equipment through Mr. Marinello who will put together a large order at a discounted rate.

- Reeds: All reed players must have AT LEAST two working reeds at all times
Clarinet players will play Vandoren Reeds (Strength 3 or 3.5)
- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Clark W. Fobes "Debut" Model (Clarinet) – Clarinetists MUST have this mouthpiece unless they are playing one recommended by a private teacher.
- Step-up Instrument: Buffet E-11

Bass Clarinet

- Reeds: Bass Clarinet players use a specific reed made by the Legere company. We will assist the players in locating these reeds on an individual basis.
- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Yamaha 5C or Roger Garrett Bass Clarinet Mouthpiece

Saxophone

- Reeds: All reed players must have AT LEAST two working reeds at all times that are less than 2 months old. Suggestion: Vandoren
- Mouthpiece: Clark W. Fobes "Debut" Model (Alto Sax)
- Step-up Instrument: Yamaha Allegro

Oboe/Bassoon:

- Double reed players are required to take private lessons and can obtain reeds from private teachers.

Trumpet

- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Bach 3C or 5C
- Instrument Suggestion: Bach Stradivarius 180S

French Horn

- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Laskey 45
- Instrument Suggestion: Conn 8D

Trombone

- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Bach 6.5 AL
- Instrument Suggestion: Open Wrap F-attachment: Getzen 3049RF, Conn 88H, Yamaha Xeno, Bach Stradivarius

Euphonium

- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Bach 6.5 AL

Tuba

- Mouthpiece Suggestion: Conn Helleburg

Percussion

- Mallet Bag Suggestion: Humes and Berg or Vic Firth
- Snare Sticks: Vic Firth SD1 General
- Marimba Mallets: Mike Balter 23 R
- Xylophone: Innovative Percussion IP901

Percussionists are required to have a mallet bag with at least the three pairs of sticks/mallets listed every day in class. If you already have started your own collection of mallets with a private teacher, then you are set. If you have almost none of this equipment and would like to buy a full kit at a reduced rate, Mr. Marinello will take orders in the first two weeks of school. Please see him for information.