

NOTES

Spring 2009

Celebrate the 10th Anniversary

FAME Dinner Dance Friday, April 17 at 7PM

Put your dancing shoes on and come enjoy a music filled night at the 10th Annual F.A.M.E. Dinner Dance, Friday, April 17th at 7PM in the First Parish Hall, 40 Main St, Westford. Guests of honor will include Mr. Blair Bettencourt, who was instrumental in beginning this successful annual event and Mr. Greg Wadleigh. Along with music by the Westford Academy Jazz Band, there will be musical guest artists including a string quartet to start off the event, cabaret singers, and smaller jazz combos – all perfect to eat, drink and dance the night away. A delectable menu will be provided by Filho's Cucina of Groton. Reserve a table now for your family and friends before we sell out! Tickets are \$40.00 per person, all profits benefit F.A.M.E.'s programs.

For tickets call Nancy Wimberg at 978-692-2250 or email fame_westford@yahoo.com.

Calling all Jazz Band Alumni!!!!

If you are a Westford Academy Jazz Band Alumnus we want to see you at the next F.A.M.E. Dinner Dance, April 17th, 7PM. We are hoping to have a few tables reserved, full of alumni enjoying the evening. We will have pictures of years-gone-by WA Jazz Bands and both Mr. Bettencourt and Mr. Wadleigh will be in attendance.

For tickets call Nancy Wimberg at 978-692-2250 or email fame_westford@yahoo.com.

If you are a parent of a WA Jazz Band alumni pass this invitation along to them!

FAME Scholarships are now available(see below)

Calendar 2009

March

- 6, 7 Jr District Festival
- 12 WATA Angels in America*
- 18 Townwide Choral Night, WA 7 pm
- 26, 28 All State Music Festival in Boston
- 30 Crisafulli 5th Gr Orchestra, 8:25 am

April

- 2,3,8,9 WATA None of the Above
- 3, 4, 5 MICCA Festival
- 17 **F.A.M.E. Dinner Dance at First Parish Church United**

May

- 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10 WATA Spring Musical **RENT:School Edition***
- 7 SB Chorus Concert, 7:00 pm
- 13,14,15 WATA An Evening of One Act Plays
- 13 WA Chorus & Orchestra Concert, 7 pm
- 14 WA Concert & Jazz Bands Concert, 7 pm
- 19 WA Music Awards Night, 7 pm
- 27 Crisafulli & WA Strings Concert, WA 7:00 pm
- 28 BMS Orchestras & Day School Strings Concert, WA 7:00 pm
- 29 SB Orchestras & Abbot Strings Concert WA, 7:00 pm

June

- 2 SB Band Concert at 7:00 pm
- 4 BMS Band Concert at 7:00 pm
- 5 Six Flags Middle School

*Season Pass Performances

F.A.M.E.

Is a non-profit parent volunteer organization. The mission of F.A.M.E. is to support and foster an improved educational environment for any and all Westford School music students.

F.A.M.E. has contributed:

Grants for innovative music programs, music scholarships, sheet music, instruments, uniforms, music software, field trips, transportation for special musical performances, and more.

NOTES SPRING 2009

Westford Academy Events

The townwide band and orchestra concerts have been cancelled. The band and orchestra programs have outgrown even the WA gym as there are about 500 kids in each program. The music department will continue to do cross level concerts so that younger students get to see what is coming for them at the upper levels.

MICCA Trip

<http://www.miccamusic.org/index.htm>

F.A.M.E. will contribute \$900 towards the upcoming MICCA field trip. WA Band, Orchestra, and Chorus students will attend the statewide festivals in April 2009.

During the MICCA festival WA students will both perform and listen to bands from around the state. They will also get feedback from other conductors.

MICCA, with the support of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will sponsor its eleventh annual "Stars at Symphony" gold medal showcases in the spring of 2009. Ensembles that earn a gold medal rating at the 2009 MICCA Concert and Choral Festivals will be invited to perform at Symphony Hall on either April 18th or 25th, 2009. MICCA and the Boston Symphony Orchestra provide this exciting opportunity free of charge. There is no registration fee. A compact disc recording of each group will be created and distributed to the director immediately following their group's performance. There is no admission charge for audience members.

Marching Band News

Jeff Malanson and Kim Febres are retiring from the WA marching band after 10 years of service. As a Westford Academy student, Mr Malanson was a marching band member for four years. After college, he returned to serve as assistant director from 2003 to 2007, taking over as director for 2008. He is currently teaching history at Boston College while working to complete his Ph. D. Mrs Febres was also a member of the Westford Academy marching band. Mrs Febres is currently teaching at Greater Lowell Technical High School.

Greg Wadleigh and F.A.M.E.

Scholarships for High School Seniors

Applications available through music teachers and guidance counselors

Changes to the high school band program are as follows:

Concert and Symphonic Band

- Our regular formal concert schedule including the winter concert, a sing-a-long and a spring concert.
- Each band member will be asked to play at three community performances chosen from football games as well as the Memorial Day and Apple Blossom parades.
- Community performances will not affect a student's grade.
- Extra credit will be given for additional performances.

Marching Band

- Marching band will perform at home and away games with a marching field show directed by Mr. Arsenault.
- Will include parades in the spring as well at UMass Band Day
- Will include select 8th graders in the fall
- Color Guard will continue with a new coach
- Three day band camp in late August
- New stand music will be learned during band classes
- Monday rehearsals through September; October and November rehearsals as needed
- Uniforms TBD

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All-State Music Festival

The All-State Concert will be held at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 1:00 PM.

Congratulations to Jared Forsyth and Eileen Liu on their acceptance to the All-State Music Festival.

Eastern District Senior Festival

Congratulations to the following students who were accepted to the Eastern District Senior Festival.

Adela Bai
Tien Chen
Ashlinn Dowling
Jared Forsyth
Matthew Higgins
Chris Kawasaki
Dan Lassila
Eileen Liu
Amanda Ng
Justine Yeung
Billy Zhao

Eastern District Junior Festival

Congratulations to the following students who were accepted to the Eastern District Junior Festival.

Jason Ko
Jenna Lee
Prayuth Naduthota
Tim Oliver
Laurianne Posch
Benjamin Wesley
Matthew Whitney
Christian Yip

Tri-M Musical Honor Society

The Westford Academy chapter of Tri-M, the National Music Honor Society, welcomed the following new inductees in a ceremony at the Fall Concert. Members completed service projects, teaching music lessons to kindergarten classes in Westford elementary schools, and have met the minimum requirements of leadership and commitment to the music department.

Congratulations to:

Bray, Andrea
Burgess, Sofia
Cheng, Katarina
Franceschi, Lucia
Geng, June
Kay, Sarah
Lacroix, Catherine
O' Donnell, Michelle
Searl, Dan
Steinhaus, Ashley
Zhang, Eric

They join the following current members:

Eck, Emily
Edwards, Peter
Bhatia, Neha
Dowling, Ashlinn
Maguire, Margaret
Chen, Tien
Liu, Eileen
Lovitz, Melissa
Ng, Amanda
Parish, Charlotte
Park, Jung
Yeung, Justine
Yip, Asia

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Middle Schools

F.A.M.E. provided funds to transport middle school musicians on the **Valentine Goodwill Tour** to local senior centers. The musicians performed at the Tadmuck Housing Center, the Westford House Rehabilitation Center, and the Westford administration offices; along with a stop for lunch at D'Angelo's.

Thank you to Julie Ottesen, Conductor, for coordinating this sweet event!

Check out the Westford Eagle article on the tour <http://www.wickedlocal.com/westford/archive/x2/86841121/Orchestra-makes-Valentine-goodwill-tour>

Middle School Field Trip

Once again the Orchestra, Band, and Chorus will have a field trip to Six Flags New England on June 5th.

Chorus News

The Blanchard All School Chorus will perform 'Seasons (a choral song cycle)' by Andy Beck at their spring concert complete with string quartet and piano played by Westford students. The chorus hopes to see you there.

West St. Serenaders will compete with Heritage Festivals in Myrtle Beach South Carolina the weekend of April 30-May 3. The group hopes to continue their success!

David Lussier, dlussier@westfordk12.us
Academic Music and Vocal Music
West St. Serenaders

SB CHORUS is expanding its diversity awareness initiative by combining with grade six general music classes for an amazing choral performance & presentation of "We Are The World". It will be a night to remember! Show your support on May 7 at the Stony Brook Auditorium.

Got Beethoven on The Brain? After listening to and analyzing some of Beethoven's most famous symphonies, general music students in grade six will compose their own symphony by using loops from GarageBand on the new iMac midi keyboard stations. "The Phantom of The Opera" has captivated eighth graders as they reenact

scenes from the script and explore the many elements that make musical theater so exciting. Remember "Tutti Frutti", "Blue Suede Shoes", and "Rock Around The Clock"? General music students in grade 7 can tell you all about these great hits, 1950's Rock, and the musical pioneers from this era. Be sure to check out their Podcast videos in early April at:

<http://sb.westfordk12.us/pages/iaweb/genmus/G7RockHistory>

Mrs. Johnston hjohnston@westfordk12.us

Eastern Junior District Festival

Over 1,100 students auditioned for fewer than 500 spots in the ensembles. Westford is sending 19 students from Stony Brook, Blanchard and Westford Academy to the festival in March.

Congratulations to the following students selected for the Eastern Junior District Festival

From Blanchard:

David Lassila, flute
Isabella Wang, flute
Michael Fryer, viola
Joel Kottas, cello
Sally Lee, violin
August Posch, cello
Andy Tsai, cello
Helen Zhao, violin

From Stony Brook:

Alex Garret, trumpet
John Bergin, violin
Vighnesh Viswanathan, violin
Daphne Xu, violin

The Students will be playing *Procession of the Nobles* from Mlada and *Overture to Nabucco* by Giuseppe Verdi and *Variations on a Shaker Melody* from "Appalachian Spring" by Aaron Copland.

Congratulations to Vighnesh Viswanathan on being selected to attend the ASTA National Conference, Celebrating Alternative Styles for Strings, in Atlanta, Ga. this March:
<http://www.astaweb.com>

NOTES SPRING 2009

Elementary Strings

Students have been busy at the Crisafulli School with a new project called **Crisafulli Strings Have Been Heard Here**. Every class is recording a brief musical excerpt, which is then posted on the web at

<http://westfordstring.podbean.com>.

Students have been asking their friends and family around the world to listen to their performances and report their geographic location to stringsheardhere@gmail.com. Ms. Corwin keeps track of all the places and presents them at Monday Morning Meetings for the whole school. Students are excited that they have already been heard in France, Australia, Singapore, and China. Will they be heard in all fifty states? Seven continents? Stay tuned for future updates.

Jessica Corwin

Crisafulli School Strings Director

978-392-4483 x4115

jcorwin@westfordk12.us

Crisafulli Grade Five Chorus

Chorus will be doing our Spring Shows on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at 8:35 and 9:35 a.m. Both Band and Chorus will perform at Crisafulli's Memorial Day Program on Friday, May 22nd at 8:45 a.m. in the Gym.

June will be another exciting month for the chorus. We will be singing in the Crisafulli Grade 5 Play "Wizard of Oz" on June 3rd. On Thursday, June 18th, the Chorus will be travelling to Robinson School to present an encore performance of the Spring program at 10:00 a.m.

Also, Grade 4 parents are invited to hear a recorder recital of all Crisafulli Grade 4 students on Thursday, June 4th at 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. Grade 3 is also invited to listen and get a preview of this exciting instrument for next year.

Happy Spring (almost!!)

Laurie Oliver

Westford Summer Music Program

The Westford Summer Music Program was a great success this year. 41 orchestra and band students participated in a one week program focusing on ensemble playing and general musicianship. Highlights included a guest conductor for the band, a competitive musical jeopardy game, and string students working in quartets with high school mentors. A concert was held at the end of the week to display and celebrate our progress. Each student received a program T-shirt along with a folding music stand. We hope to build on our success and expand enrollment in 2009. Registration info will be available in late February.

For more information contact:

Mr. Arsenault garsenault@westfordk12.us

F.A.M.E Camp Scholarships

Scholarships are available for students in Gr. 5-9 to attend summer music programs of their choice. Ask your music teachers or guidance counselors for applications.

Links to Music Programs

WA Music Department

http://wa.westfordk12.us/pages/westfordWA_FineArts/WestfordWA_Music/index

Strings Middle Schools

<http://sb.westfordk12.us/pages/iaweb/sbstrings/index>

Band Middle School

<http://bms.westfordk12.us/pages/academics/BMSband/WMSB/Links/main.html>

Summer Music Program

<http://bms.westfordk12.us/pages/academics/BMSband/WMSB/Links/WSMC.html>

Westford Strings Program

<http://westfordk12.us/strings>

Instrumental Music Program

<http://westfordk12.us/Pages/Curric/subjects/older/strings/index>

F.A.M.E.

fame_westford@yahoo.com

Playbill Advertising for Area Businesses

This year a common "Playbill" program will be distributed at all WA concert and theater events. Advertising space is available at a very reasonable rate, with distribution in approximately 12,000 Playbills. If you know of any local businesses who would be interested in learning more about this advertising opportunity,

contact: Bob Morrison, F.A.M.E. President
fame_westford@yahoo.com

**F.A.M.E. Meets The Second Tuesday
Every Month At 7pm In Room 108,
WA**

New Members Welcome

F.A.M.E. OFFICERS 2008 - 2009

Bob Morrison	President
Joanne Mavroides	Vice President
Nancy Wimberg	Treasurer
Ellen M. Martins	Secretary

For more information on F.A.M.E
contact Bob Morrison, F.A.M.E. President
fame_westford@yahoo.com

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F.A.M.E wishes to thank our sponsor, University Music for their support. Please support them with your patronage.

FRIENDS ADVANCING MUSIC EDUCATION

Please join in supporting music in Westford Public Schools through your generous tax-deductible contributions to:

Friends Advancing Music Education (F.A.M.E.)
P.O. Box 627, Westford, MA 01886

Name _____

Address _____

Children (Name, Grade, Music Group)

Contribution \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other

**F.A.M.E.
P.O. Box 627
Westford, MA 01886**

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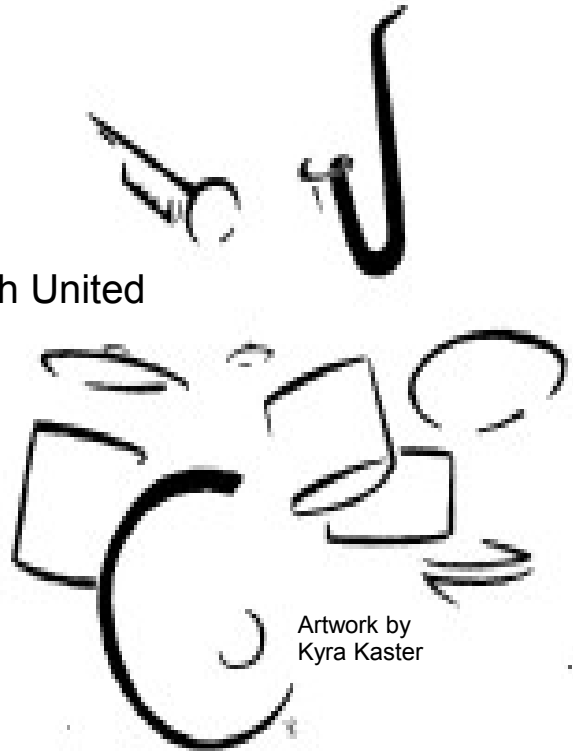


F.A.M.E.
10th Annual Dinner Dance

April 17, 2009 @ 7 PM
The Fellowship Hall of First Parish Church United

Featuring
The Westford Academy Jazz Ensemble
Directed by Mr. George Arsenault

with Additional Performances by
AnthDanAnd Company
The Westford Jazz Quintet
WA Orchestra and Chorus Students



Artwork by
Kyra Kaster

Catered by Filho's Cucina of Groton MA

Ticket prices: Individual: \$40.00. Table of 8: \$320.00.

To order tickets:
... by phone, call Nancy Wimberg (978) 692-2250
... through email, send your info to FAME_westford@yahoo.com
... by mail, detach the form below.

My Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Additional information:

I would like to order:
_____ # of tickets x \$40.00= _____
_____ # of tables for eight x \$320.00= _____

Please enclose a check for the appropriate amount payable to FAME.
Send to FAME, P.O. Box 627, Westford, MA 01886.