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Friends of Whitman Music

Supporting the Whitman Middle School Music Program



Friends of Whitman Music News

MARCH IS MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH®



March is Music in Our Schools Month - Key Dates to Remember

- **Monday, March 4:** Spirit Week Begins
- **Wednesday, March 6:** Practice-a-Thon Kicks Off
- **Friday, March 15:** Concert Orchestra Festival Trip at WWU, 8:45 am-8:30 pm
- **Sunday, March 17:** Practice-a-Thon Final Day
- **Tuesday, March 19:** All Orchestras Concert, 6:00 pm
- **Friday, March 22:** Last Day to turn in Practice-a-Thon practice logs and checks/cash
- **Tuesday, March 26:** All Bands Concert, 6:00 pm

For a comprehensive calendar of events, click [here for a list](#) or [here for a monthly calendar format](#). For more info, check out the [FOWM website](#).

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Music Spirit Week

To celebrate the start of Music in Our Schools Month, music students are encouraged to participate in Spirit Week. Read on for the details!

Monday, March 4: Wear a band shirt

Tuesday, March 5: 60s Music - Wear tie dye

Wednesday, March 6: 80s Music - Rock & Roll hair

Thursday, March 7: Emo - Wear all black

Friday, March 8: Pop - Wear bright colors

Practice-a-Thon Fundraiser

Practice-a-Thon is our biggest FOWM fundraiser of the year and this year we are excited to streamline the process by going online! You will be able to reach out to friends and family by email, Facebook, and X, instead of going door-to-door, tracking commitments, and handling checks.

By now, you have received an email from Lyla Ross, FOWM Fundraising Chair, with a link to your student's pledge page. You do not need to login or change anything. From there you can make a pledge or donation and share your student's link with others. If you did not receive an email, simply search and find your student's online pledge page [HERE](#). Students received their paper practice log at school.

All minutes spent practicing March 6-17 will count as part of Practice-a-Thon. Students who return their practice logs by March 22 are eligible for prizes. The student in each class who logs the most practice minutes will win a prize. The class that logs the most practice minutes on average wins a class party.

Students are encouraged to participate and challenge themselves to practice as much as they can!



March Concerts

All instrumental groups will showcase their talent and hard work in March!

Tuesday, March 19, 6:00 pm: Introductory & Concert Orchestras

Tuesday, March 26, 6:00 pm: Introductory, Intermediate, Concert, & Jazz Bands

All students should arrive at the time communicated by Ms. Gunn dressed in concert black. [Please volunteer to help at one of the concerts!](#)



More Student Events

But wait, there's more! Music students have field trips and in-school performances in March too. Watch your email for instructions from Ms. Gunn.

Friday, March 15: Concert Orchestra Festival Trip at Western Washington University, 8:45 am-8:30 pm

Thursday, March 21: EBMEA Band Festival at Whitman, Intermediate & Concert Bands perform during the day, with other participating schools

Thursday, March 28: EBMEA Orchestra Festival at Whitman, Introductory & Concert Orchestras perform during the day, with other participating schools

EBMEA stands for Elliott Bay Music Educators Association.

Many thanks to the volunteers helping with these events.

Break a leg Wildcats!

FOWM Board Recruitment

We are recruiting for 2024-25 FOWM Board positions. Open roles include President, Treasurer, Communications Lead, and more. Join now to shadow an existing Board Member to learn the ropes and help support the amazing music programs at Whitman!

If you're interested in learning more or potentially taking on a Board role, contact us at friendsofwhitmanmiddlemusic@gmail.com.



Whitman Music Program Amazon Wishlist



Whitman music program has a wishlist on Amazon for families that shop there. Purchases will ship directly to Ms. Gunn at Whitman and help students succeed in their music practice!

Whitman Music Wishlist

About the Friends of Whitman Music

Friends of Whitman Music is a parent-run group that works closely with music staff and school administration to provide support to the Whitman Music program, both financially through fundraising efforts and with coordinating volunteer help throughout the school year.

We meet monthly to check in with Ms. Gunn and discuss opportunities for us to help with various activities and fundraising throughout the year. All are welcome to join at these meetings, which will be held typically once a month.

Email us with any questions friendsofwhitmanmiddlemusic@gmail.com.

Donate to Whitman Music (Alliance4Ed acct #11514)

2023-24 FOWM Committee

Alexis Cruikshank, President

Jan Johnson, Treasurer

Jen Sullivan, Secretary

Lyla Ross, Fundraising Chair

Katie Sachter, Volunteer Coordinator

Todd Vician, Communications Lead

Kevin Emerson, Drumline Representative

Whitman Middle School Music Program Director/Teacher: Ms. Melanie Gunn magunn@seattleschools.org
Jazz Band Teacher: Audrey Stangland

Follow the [Whitman Music Program on Instagram](#)
[Visit the FOWM website](#)

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