



Wilson Instrumental Music Club, Inc.

# WIMsical Notes

<http://www.TheRWMA.org>

Band Room  
Phone Number  
(626) 934-4572

Parent Volunteer  
Phone Number  
(626) 771-9505

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September 2011

### Upcoming Events:

- Oct 3—WimClub/GSFC Meeting
- Oct 10—Cherrydale Fundraiser Begins
- Oct 17—WimClub/GSFC Meeting
- Oct 22—Baldwin Park Field Show Tournament
- Oct 24—GSFC Meeting
- Oct 27—GSFC Workers Meeting
- Oct 28—8th Grade Night/Home Game vs. Covina
- Oct 29—Golden State Field Classic

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## Director's Take

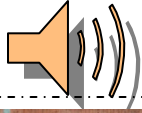
**G**reetings!

Another summer has come and gone and the Royal Wilson Marching Alliance is off to a great start! This year's edition of the RWMA has had yet another successful summer of training, rehearsing, fund raising, and having fun. This year's freshmen have done a good job acclimating themselves into a group of seasoned veterans. We are having productive rehearsals and successful performances to start our school year. This year's group has grown with significant increase in the number of color guard members (24). Our instructional staff also has expanded as we welcome two more alumni onto our team, Angel Salazar (class of 2009) and Jorge Estrella (class of 2011). Angel will be working with the Band and Jorge with the Color Guard. It has been an enjoyable year so far and I am looking forward to the rest of the year.

This year, we continue to use original music written for expressly for marching bands for our field show. This year's music is composed by Frank Sullivan, best known as the brass arranger for the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps. The show is titled "Incognito". While there is not a direct storyline to follow, we hope the music and visuals conjures up feelings of mystery, intrigue, deceit, and playfulness. Once again, our own instructors Peter Sapidin and Peter Gomez have written the percussion parts and drill, respectively. So far, everyone is pleased with the way everything is falling into place.

Beyond performing, we have also been busy finding ways to raise funds for the organization. We have had a couple of car washes this summer, several fund raisers at local restaurants, and have several big fundraisers coming up including McDonald's Night on October 12 and the Golden State Field Classic on October 29. Beyond the one-time fundraisers, I want to encourage everyone in participating in two ongoing fundraisers. The first one that has been around for quite a while is scrip. Scrip is basically gift cards and certificates that can be used at local and online merchants. There are many merchants to choose from including local grocery stores and restaurants. Scrip is great to use for yourself or as a gift (simple one stop shopping). Ordering does take a little planning. Normally, we place orders on the first and third Wednesday of the month throughout the school. Once the order is placed, you receive your order within the next week. You can place your order through any Band or Color Guard student and the profit (a small percentage of each sale) will be credited to him/her. There are changes in merchants and scrip denominations/contributions often, so visit our website ([www.therwma.org](http://www.therwma.org)) for the most current order form that is located on the dropdown menu under "Documents". Our calendar is also on the website and lists the specific dates that scrip is ordered.

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## The Sound Board



Hello RWMA FAMILY!

Accomplished. Accelerating. Awesome. These may be a few words to describe our starting Summer! During Band Camp the Guard and Band have accomplished many goals while continuing to grow in skill. Getting down the first portions of music and drill was our main priority, and now we are heading towards success. Our summer actually started with incoming freshmen learning fundamentals of marching basics and getting ready for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, which turned out great! Then Band Camp came along, where the hot days of bitter-sweet rehearsals were spent on the field. The turnout for Parent Night was amazing due to our encouraging family and friends of the RWMA. Summer allowed us to build a strong foundation, which the RWMA expects to be able to build vastly upon.

Having finished Band Camp and now having to deal with school business, the Royal Wilson Marching Alliance is up for a busy schedule. The occasional weekday rehearsals will allow us to continue to develop our skills for our upcoming football games and competitions. However with our supporting family and friends, we may be able to better than we may expect! As a strong group, the RWMA is looking forward a productive year and will be striving beyond our potential! Please support this outstanding group by coming and helping out at our performances! Schedules are available on our website calendar at [www.theRWMA.org](http://www.theRWMA.org).

**Brian Song (SR) , Tenor Brass Section Leader  
Librarian**



Hi everyone! This is Aubrey Magalang your 2011-2012 color guard captain. The new team has been improving so much since we auditioned them back in May. They have caught up fairly well to the work that is being taught. They have such a positive attitude about things and they work so hard on learning everything to the max. The vets are also certainly working hard to improve their skills, and advancing to more advance equipment. They are certainly capable of making this new season an amazing one. I can feel it. Come support! Thank you!

**Aubrey Magalang – Senior  
Color Guard Captain**



This summer showed itself to be one of the most exciting, yet challenging summers yet. While most kids spent their vacation on the couch, relaxing in front of the television, we spent ours at school, participating in band camp.

For two weeks, we practiced in beautiful weather, not too hot and not too cold. We improved greatly in the short amount of time, and Mr. Chang told us he, "feels good about this year's group." Surely, we won't let him down. We can tell that this year is going to be great!

Fellow freshmen showed signs of nervousness, but all fears were lost as we were greeted into the warm, welcome arms of our upperclassmen, as if we were a large family. They showed us that band is an exciting organization and was a great choice of starting our first years of high school.

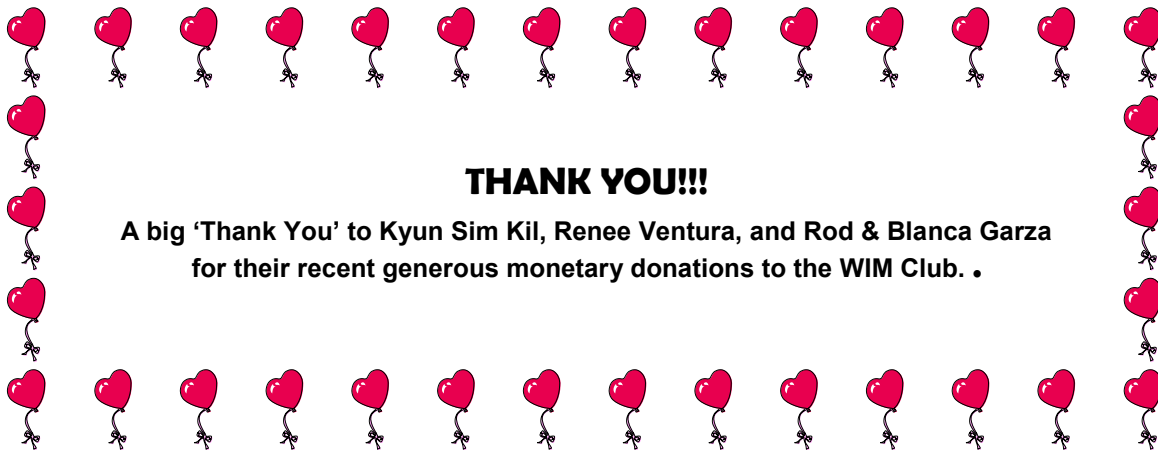
**Jordan Martin & Yuko Usui – Freshmen  
Members at Large**

## Director's Take continued...

The second ongoing fundraiser is a new fundraiser for us. We just signed up with GoodSearch.com. If you sign up and use GoodSearch for your web searches (powered by the Yahoo search engine), every time you search the internet, a donation will be made to Wilson Instrumental Music Club. By signing up at GoodSearch, you are also signing up for GoodShop.com. GoodShop.com works with more than 2,500 stores (including Target, Apple, PetSmart etc.) Every time you purchase something, a percentage will be donated to us. GoodShop also offers over 100,000 of the most up-to-date coupons and free shipping offers so you can save money at the same time. So, please consider signing up at [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) and select Wilson Instrumental Music Club as your cause. From the initial activity, there is potential for us to earn *thousands* of dollars!!!

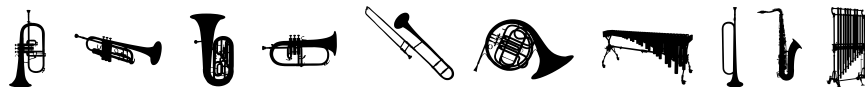
Finally, I encourage all parents to stay active in the organization. Attend meetings, performances, volunteer for competitions and football games, or just show up at an evening rehearsal. Your participation and support is valued by both the booster organization and the students.

**Jonathan Chang**  
Director



**THANK YOU!!!**

**A big 'Thank You' to Kyun Sim Kil, Renee Ventura, and Rod & Blanca Garza  
for their recent generous monetary donations to the WIM Club. .**



## ***What is Shared Cost and why is it necessary?***

Shared Cost is the amount of money each student helps raise to ensure that the RWMA program sustains operating at the level of excellence it is historically known for. Shared Cost is structured to ensure that all students contribute to the fundraising efforts of the group. These funds are necessary to pay for specialized instructors, transportation including rental vehicles to move equipment to each field show competition, entry fees for the competitions, new instruments, color guard equipment, props, uniforms, repair and maintenance of existing instruments and equipment, and food for the students on the competition days. The funds provided by the school district do not come close to covering all these expenses, especially for a group of about 100 students. This year, we estimate that in addition to the Shared Cost that is collected, the WIM Club will have to raise approximately \$40,000 through fundraisers to meet these expenses. Without the Shared Cost program, we would not be able to have the desirable program we would like our students to participate in. Shared Cost for the year is **\$375** for each student. Payments may be made in a lump sum or in installments.

The payment schedule for Band students is:

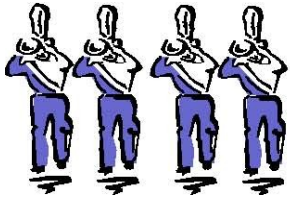
First Installment:	June 23	\$100
Second Installment:	August 9	\$100
Third Installment:	October 3	\$100
Final Installment:	November 1	remaining balance

The payment schedule for Color Guard is:

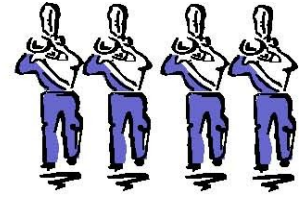
First Installment:	May 24	\$200
Second Installment:	July 5	\$100
Third Installment:	July 21	\$100
Fourth Installment:	August 9	\$100
Final Installment:	October 3	remaining balance

Instead of making payments, students can fund their Shared Cost through fundraising. Fundraising events are scheduled throughout the year. Most offer individual students the opportunity to raise funds to offset their Shared Cost payments. One ongoing program that runs throughout the year is the scrip program. You can purchase scrip for many stores, restaurants, and other services in the area. A percentage of the face value of the scrip will go to your student's shared cost account. Purchasing scrip is a very easy and quick way to raise funds.

Finally, Mr. Chang is the administrator for all of the students' shared cost accounts. Any questions you may have about the balance in your account should be directed to him. If you have any financial constraints or questions, please bring the matter to Mr. Chang's attention immediately and he will work with you.



# **RWMA – Royal Wilson Marching Alliance**



## *Questions & Answers for Parents of Incoming Freshmen*

**Q: What is the Royal Wilson Marching Alliance?**

A: This is the group which performs at football game halftime shows, parades, field show competitions, and pep rallies. It includes the Band and Color Guard (Tall Flags). First semester concentrates on Marching Band while second semester concentrates on Concert Band. There are other optional performance groups that include Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Spring Drumline/Percussion Ensemble, and Chamber Music. To participate in band, you should be enrolled for the entire year.

**Q: Who may join the band?**

A: Anyone who is interested!

**Q: What are the benefits of being in band?**

A: Before school even starts, your child will become networked with friends from all grade levels. The friends they make in band are often the friends they are with outside of band. Academically, they become a well-rounded student that colleges look for when it is time for them to apply for college. Studies indicate that students in a music program perform academically higher than other students. They also learn teamwork and time management skills that will be very useful in college and in their careers. Finally, they become a part of a family. As a part of a family, they will create experiences they will treasure for the rest of their life.

**Q: What are the requirements to join the band?**

A: Most importantly, they must have a good attitude and self-discipline to be in band. Working as a big team can be a large task, but if everyone has the right attitude and is willing to work, wonderful things can happen. There is also a financial responsibility they must fulfill (see next question).

**Q: What are the expenses involved in being in the band?**

A: There are a couple of things they need to purchase that are part of their marching uniform. One item that hopefully they will not need to purchase year after year is shoes (approximately \$30). They will also need to purchase gloves, which are also part of their uniform (approximately \$1.50 a pair). Depending on how well they take care of their gloves will depend on how many pair they will need to purchase. They also will have to pay half the cost (\$7-\$9) for a shirt to be worn in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. They can use the same shirt in future years. Besides these, there are many expenses that the band incurs that necessitate fund raising. The average amount needed to meet our financial goals is \$375 per student. They are expected to raise this amount by participating in fundraisers throughout the school year. A schedule of all the fundraisers for the school year will be established before the beginning of school. If their combined profits from all their fundraising activities meet the \$375 shared cost requirement, there is no need to make any monetary contributions to the band. However, should they choose not to participate in fundraising or meet the expectations for fundraising for the year, they will have to make a payment for the balance of what they were expected to raise. The purpose of this type of program is not to put a financial burden on you or your family, but to ensure that everyone contributes to the general welfare of the Royal Wilson Marching Alliance. This is not to say, if they do not participate in fundraising that they are not a contributor. Some families choose simply to make a payment for the full amount and not participate in fundraising at all. It is your choice.

If trips are planned, there are additional costs. The band has recently performed in Fairfield, California, San Antonio, Texas, Orlando, Florida, and Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Q: As an incoming freshman in the band, what special preparations do students need to make?**

A: As a freshman, they should be enrolled in band for summer school. This class does not conflict with the rest of the regularly scheduled academic classes. The band class is generally in the afternoon from 1:00 -3:30PM with one or two evening rehearsals each week. A schedule will be available prior to the end of school. For the fall, you should be signed up for both Varsity Band and Marching Band PE. You receive fine arts credit for Varsity Band and PE credit for Marching Band PE. Even if you are involved in a fall sport, you should be enrolled in Marching Band PE.

## Questions & Answers for Parents of Incoming Freshmen, Cont.

### **Q: What is taught in band summer school?**

A: Students will learn how to march individually and in a group, play and march at the same time, read marching and maneuvering charts, memorize scales, and play the music used for our competitive field show as well as music used at football games. This opportunity allows new students to learn the fundamentals of marching and playing necessary to perform with returning members of the band at Band Camp. Preparations are also made to perform in the Hacienda Heights 4th of July Parade.

### **Q: What if my child cannot attend all of band summer school?**

A: They should come as often as they can. If they come part-time, we can more than likely teach them all that is necessary to be ready for band camp. However, they will not earn full credit. They should attend what classes they can, even if they cannot attend all six weeks. If they are unable to participate in this summer class, they should contact Mr. Chang and arrangements can be made for them to stay up-to-date with what is being taught so that they do not fall behind and may participate in the fall.

### **Q: What is Band Camp?**

A: This is a camp held on campus 2 weeks before school begins, where all of the members of the *RWMA* prepare for the beginning of the fall competition season. They will learn the pre-game and halftime shows. They should know their 12 major scales, chromatic scale, and a prepared piece which will be given to them on the first day of band camp. This is a required camp. If they are unable to participate in any part of band camp, they must notify Mr. Chang as soon as possible. This year's band camp schedule is as follows:

August 9 - 12: 12:00 - 4:00 PM and 5:00 - 9:00 PM

August 15 - 19: 12:00 - 4:00 PM and 5:00 - 9:00 PM

### **Q: How much extra time does band take?**

A: During the fall, there are evening rehearsals traditionally on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. They will receive PE credit for these rehearsals. Then there are performances. The band performs at home football games (4 to 5 Friday evenings; away football games have traditionally been optional), field show tournaments (5 to 6 Saturdays), and concerts. The fall semester is the busiest time of the year, especially October through the end of November. The spring semester is lighter, with only sporadic evening rehearsals and concerts taking up out-of-class time. There are other musical opportunities that they may choose, that may increase the amount of extra time they spend on music, such as Jazz Band, Spring Drumline, and Chamber Music. These groups are optional and require an audition.

### **Q: Can my child also be on an athletic team such as football or other activities and still be in *RWMA*?**

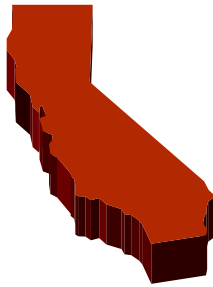
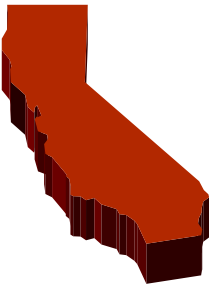
A: Yes. The coaches and advisors are very cooperative at Wilson High School and we are willing to share a student who is interested in more than one activity.

### **Q: What other things can the student do to prepare for band?**

A: One of the best ways for them to improve their musical skills is through individual practice and private lessons. Ask Mr. Chang how to practice, what to practice, or where to find a private instructor. There is a proper and improper way to practice. If they do not practice properly, they are simply wasting time.

### **Q: What can I do to support my child in the band?**

A: A lot of adult help is needed to move the band to a performance, such as checking in and out uniforms, chaperoning on the busses, assisting in feeding the kids before or after a performance, and transporting the large instruments. The WIM Club (Wilson Instrumental Music Club) is the organization of adults that provides that support and anything Mr. Chang may need. As much time as you can give will be greatly appreciated. We need people's help for each performance; each halftime show, band competition, etc. Your participation will not only assist in the performance of the band, but it also will demonstrate your support and interest in your child. It is very rewarding and fun at the same time! To volunteer, see one of the WIM Club Board of Directors or just show up when you drop off your child for a performance.



23rd Annual  
Golden State Field Classic – “GSFC”  
Field Show Competition  
It is that time of year – AGAIN!!!!

The most important fundraising event of the year for the WIM Club is the “**Golden State Field Classic (GSFC)**”. This year marks the twenty-third year of this event and it will be held on Saturday, October 29th, at Glen A. Wilson High School Stadium. The entire Royal Wilson Marching Alliance hosts this event. All students of the RWMA are expected to work the entire day and sell advertising space in the souvenir program. Parents are asked to work at least one, four hour shift and are encouraged to contact their employer and friends to solicit ads. The marching band and color guard depend on this fundraiser to make up the funding gap between the shared cost requirements and expected expenditures for the year. Everyone supports this event including the Wilson High School administrators, the Hacienda-La Puente District management and the HLPUSD Board of Education.

The GSFC is an adjudicated event; meaning official judges from the Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association are selected to evaluate each band’s performance of their field show. For the past twenty years, we have hosted a very successful tournament, thanks to the generous support of parents, students, alumni, friends, and community businesses. It is estimated that approximately 8,000 – 10,000 people attend our day long event. **Everyone must help by volunteering to work that day!**

The GSFC is organized on a committee system. Committee Chairpersons are volunteer parents from the band and color guard. Each committee chairperson needs volunteers to work shifts during the day.

This is a critical year for us. Many of the chairpersons from the last couple of years have “graduated”, and we need new parents to step forward and take these positions. The one good thing is that the past parents have left excellent written instructions on what needs to be done. The biggest responsibility is overseeing the volunteers and students working in that area on the day of the GSFC.

Look for more information regarding the Golden State Field Classic from your student, on the official RWMA website ([www.TheRWMA.org](http://www.TheRWMA.org)), and in the next edition of the WIMsical Newsletter. Our next planning meetings will be Monday, October 3 at 7:00 pm and Monday October 17 at 7:00 pm in the band room.

## **WIM Club Board**

### **2011—2012**

President	Open
Vice President –Ways & Means	Edward Fierro
Vice President –Color guard	Open
Secretary	Cindy Greenup
Treasurer	Helena Wong
Member-At-Large	Blanca Garza
Member-At-Large	Candace Reeley

## **RWMA Staff Members**

Director	Jonathan Chang
Color Guard Advisor	Peter Gomez
Color Guard Assistant	Wendy Lomeli
Percussion Advisor	Pete Sapadin
Percussion Assistants	Lacey Jung
	Jon Eichhorn
	Josh Scrivens
Wind & Marching Instructor	Ken Mengel

