

The Spotlight

Westborough Fine Arts

Issue 12 | APRIL 2023

Brought to you by:



Joining WFAEA is a unique opportunity to stay involved as your student navigates through the school system and is a perfect way to experience some of the amazing opportunities Westborough Public Schools provide. If you've been feeling disconnected, WFAEA is a great way to engage with other parents and the fine arts department at Westborough Public Schools.

Join today!

www.wfaea.org/membership

Attend a Meeting!

Our next WFAEA meeting will be May 9, 2023 at 7:00pm

Email us at info@wfaea.org to be included in the Zoom invite mailing list.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Hello Fine Arts Friends & Families,

The last few months have seen our students celebrating both Music In Our Schools Month and Youth Art Month with a variety of concerts and art exhibits at the district and state levels. I am so proud of the work and efforts of our amazing students and staff.

Spring is always a busy season for the Fine Arts Department as we prepare for our end of year concerts, for the Town Wide Art Exhibit, and for celebrating the Class of 2023 as they culminate their time at Westborough High School. This time of year always brings feelings of excitement and nostalgia as we inch closer to summer vacation.

I want to thank everyone for all of their support towards our program throughout the year, whether that be through volunteering, supporting students, or attending performances. It is an honor to be part of such a wonderful community.

I hope to see you at one of our many Spring events!

Sincerely,

Christopher Martin



UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 28th & 29th:

WHS Musical
Guys and Dolls

May 2nd, 7pm:

GMS Band Concert

May 9th, 7pm:

WHS Chamber Concert

May 10th, 7pm:

Grade 4 Chorus Concert

May 11th, 7pm:

GMS Orchestra/Chorus
Concert

May 12th:

Grade 4 Instrument
Petting Zoo

May 15th/16th:

Town Wide Art Exhibit

May 17th 6pm:

POPS Night

May 26th, 6pm:

Acappellooza

June 5th, 4:30pm:

Jazz Stock

Bay State Commons

June 6th, 7:00pm:

5th & 6th Grade
Chorus Concert

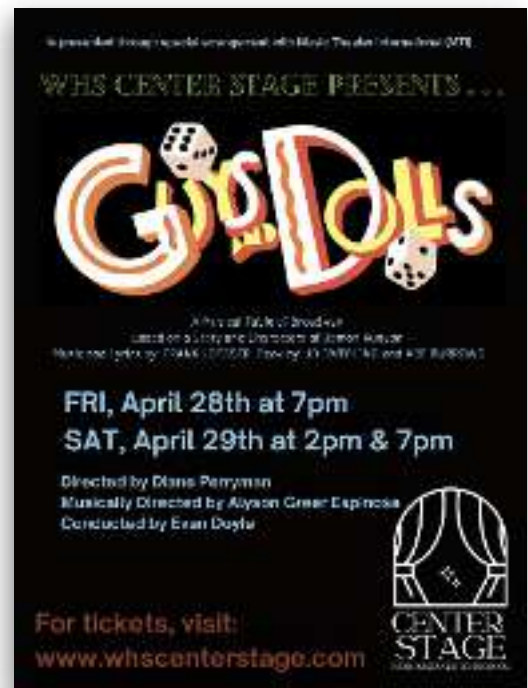
June 8th, 7:00pm



Please support
Center Stage
by going to see the
WHS Spring musical:
GUYS AND DOLLS

Friday, April 28th
7pm

Saturday, April 29th
2pm and 7pm



**For link to full
Westborough
Fine Arts Calendar**

Click here



POPS NIGHT - MAY 17TH

Join us for a spectacular Pops Night at Westborough High School! It's time to celebrate the end of the school year with a night of unforgettable performances by our talented band, orchestra, and chorus students.

See the flyer below for information and how to buy tickets!



Please join us for a joyful evening of pop music as the WHS ensembles present their final concert of the 2022-2023 school year!

May 17, 2023

6:00 pm Appetizers and Live music

7:00 pm Large ensemble performances



Adults: \$15

Senior Citizens: \$10

Students: \$5

Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.wfaea.org/product-page/pops or by sending a check in with your student by May 12. Tickets will also be available at the door on May 17th.



Scholarships



The Westborough Fine Arts Education Association (WFAEA) awards scholarships to qualified seniors attending Westborough High School.

Scholarships offered include:

Participation in the Arts Scholarship:

This scholarship is awarded to WHS seniors who have dedicated themselves to participating in courses and activities within the Fine Arts Department for all 4 years of their high school career and earned at least an A average in any fine arts classes.

Passion for the Arts Scholarship:

This scholarship is offered to WHS seniors who plan on pursuing post-secondary studies in the Fine Arts. Eligible students must have a declared Fine Arts major and have dedicated themselves to participating in courses and activities within the Fine Arts Department for all 4 years of their high school career, earning at least an A average in any fine arts classes.

Any application submitted for the Passion for the Arts Scholarship will automatically ALSO be eligible for the Participation Scholarship. All applications will be reviewed by Fine Arts Faculty and scholarships will be awarded at Graduation.

Deadline to apply is noon EST on May 2, 2023.



CENTER STAGE



This past January, WHS students involved in Center Stage put on an amazing production of the play 'The Laramie Project.' The performance left the audience in awe with its powerful message and flawless execution.

For those who are not familiar with the play, 'The Laramie Project' is a docudrama that tells the story of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student who was brutally beaten and left to die in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998. The play portrays the aftermath of the incident and the impact it had on the town's residents.

The students' performance was a testimony to their dedication and hard work. They aptly captured the emotions and sentiments of the play, leaving the audience captivated and emotionally touched.



SEAT OF RECOGNITION

Looking for a way to recognize your graduating Senior? Dedicate a seat in the high school auditorium!



Recognize someone special with a brass plate on the arm of a Westborough High School auditorium seat! A perfect way to honor your graduating senior, thank a favorite teacher or leave your favorite quote behind.

Donate \$40 for a 4" x 1 1/2" plate with a message of your choice, up to 3 lines of 18 characters (including spaces). Your donation will help support arts education and fund our scholarship program. \$33 of the donation is tax-deductible. Please note, donation of a plate does not reserve seating at auditorium events.

To order, go to www.WFAEA.org and complete the form on our fundraiser page.

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

We are so happy to welcome Rachel Rose Burke to Westborough High School and are very excited to see what she and the crew are working on for the upcoming Center Stage Production of *Guys and Dolls*. In a recent email she said "Preparation for the musical is going very well! We are well on our way and focusing on paint this week in preparation for tech after April vacation. My job as technical director is to oversee the shop and paint side of things for the show, and to support the students in the construction and painting of the set, as well as sourcing furniture and larger props as needed."



Rachel Rose Burke (She/Her): Rachel is happy to be back in the Greater Boston area after earning her Master of Fine Arts degree in scenic design from Indiana University (Bloomington) this past Spring. Recent design credits include *Boulevard of Bold Dreams* (Greater Boston Stage Company), *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *All Shook Up* (Dean College), *The Wolves* (Merrimack College), *Silent Sky*, *Black Coffee*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (The Barnstormers Theatre), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The 39 Steps*, *Sueño*, *The Well of Horniness* (Indiana University), and *Uncommon Women and Others* (Salem State University). She would like to thank the members of the creative team as well as her friends, family, and partner for their everlasting support throughout life thus far. She would also like to thank JRR Tolkien for creating the inspirational story that inevitably led to her passion for scenic design.

Website: rachelrosescenicdesign.com.

Awards: SETC Scenic Design Competition Honorable Mention Recipient (2022), Richard L. Scammon Award & Scholarship Recipient (2021), Salem State University Creativity Award Recipient (2019), Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region 1 scenic design nominee (2019).

SAVE THE DATE!
Senior Banquet Night • May 23, 2023
Look out for invitations coming soon!

SUMMER BAND CAMP

Summer Band Camp 2023

The Westborough Public Schools Fine Arts Department will be hosting Summer Band Camp 2023!

Summer Band Camp is offered to students entering Grades 5 and 6 as beginners in our school band program.

Where: Westborough High School

When: Summer Band Camp is a two week camp. **Attendance for campers is required for all days, both weeks.** The camp will run from Monday, July 10, 2022 through Friday, July 21, 2023, from 8:00am - 12:00pm.

Transportation: Families will be transporting their students to and from Westborough High School. Pick up time is at 12:00 noon, unless students will be staying for the afternoon Community Ed program.

All Band Camp students will receive a free T-Shirt!



Instrument information for beginner band students entering Grades 5 or 6:

Selecting a band instrument that is most appropriate for each individual student is a very important part of the beginning band process. This will be determined through the Band Instrument Petting Zoo at Mill Pond, which will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 during school for all rising fifth graders, as well as rising sixth graders who did not participate in band during their fifth grade school year. The Petting Zoo is an opportunity for your student to try all of the band instruments, and will receive a recommendation based on which instrument appears to be the best fit for them.

Cost: The tuition is \$475.00 per student. Students who will be beginners will also need to obtain a band instrument. More information on this at a later date. Families who have financial questions or needs please contact Chris Martin at martinc@westboroughk12.org.

Registration: In order to register for Summer Band Camp, please complete the registration form below, which includes an additional step for tuition payment by registering via FamilyID.

****Registration Deadline is Friday, May 19, 2023**

Questions? Please contact Karen Forrest, Summer Band Camp Coordinator, at forrestk@westboroughk12.org.

CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER

WFAEA GRANTS & DONATIONS

VISITING CLINICIAN AT GMS



Contributions from parents and our community help WFAEA fund wonderful opportunities such as this one. Visiting clinician, Mike Keough, worked with the 7th & 8th grade band and the GMS Jazz band.



* Photo credit Doug Dufresne

Michael is the band director at King Philip Regional High School where he directs the Concert Band, Symphony Band, Jazz Ensemble, and the King Philip Regional High School "Pride and the Passion" Marching Band. He is a 2009 graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he earned bachelors degrees in Music Education and Trumpet Performance.

In addition to arranging for the King Philip Regional High School Marching Band, Michael's arrangements have been performed by the UMass Minuteman Marching Band, UMass Hoop Band, UMass Jazz Ensemble I, UMass Studio Orchestra, Chelmsford High School Studio Orchestra, and Metropolitan Wind Symphony.

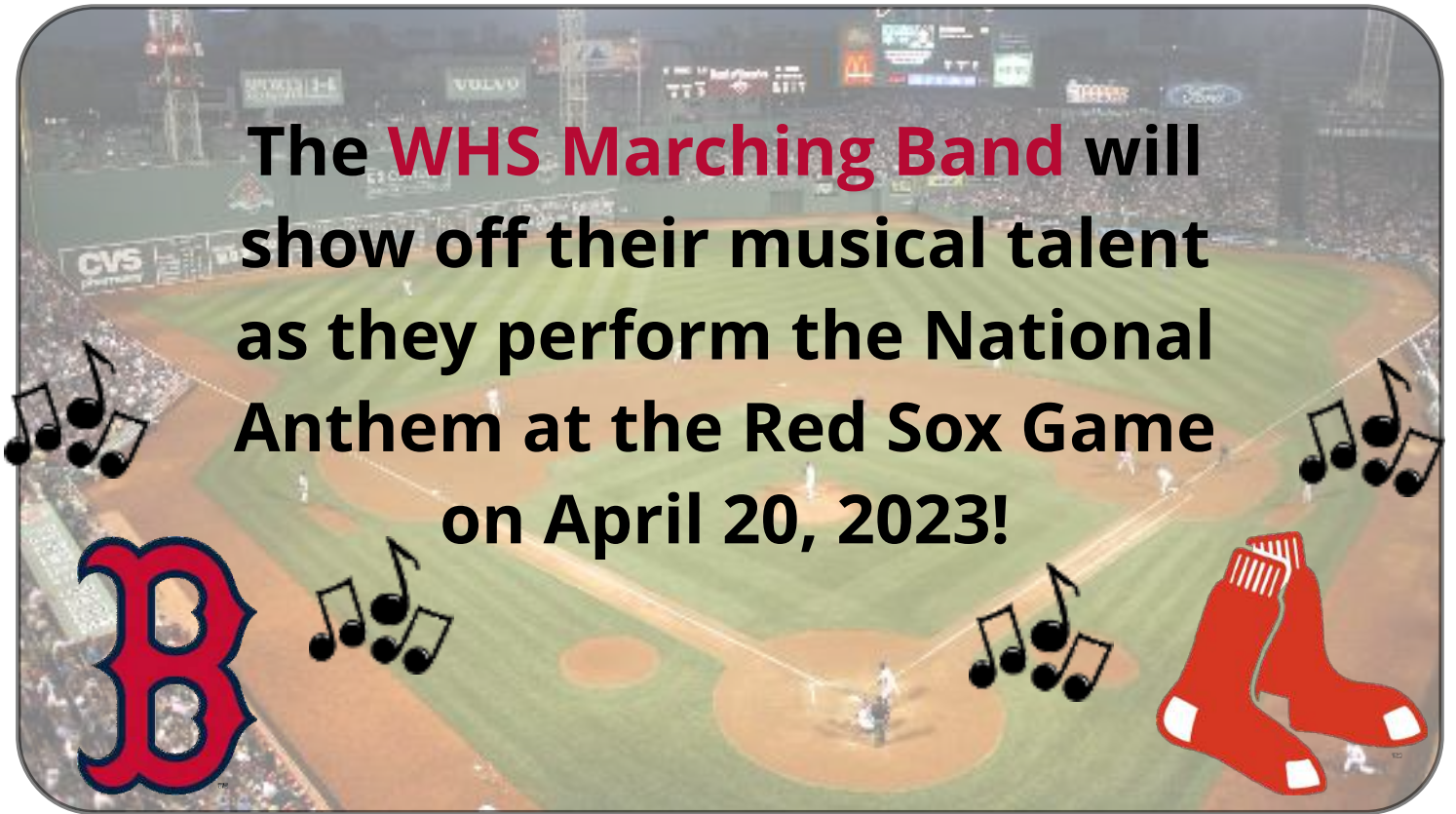
**WFAEA is happy to support our next generation of musicians and artists!
Recent funding requests have been approved for multiple clinicians, art supplies, and support for the music ensembles and visual arts classrooms.
Thank you for contributing through memberships, ads, donations and volunteering. It makes a difference!**

GIBBONS MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR. - MARCH 24 & 25



MARCHING BAND

The **WHS Marching Band** will show off their musical talent as they perform the National Anthem at the Red Sox Game on April 20, 2023!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Tim Chen on being chosen to perform with the Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps!

What an incredible honor to be part of such a prestigious organization and represent them in the world-class DCI Circuit while touring the country!

His hard work, dedication, and talent has paid off and his passion for music is truly inspiring. We know that Tim will bring his very best to every performance this summer.

You can find snippets of their past performances here:



and here:



2023
CROSSMEN
DRUM & BUGLE CORPS

CONCERTS

Missed a show? No worries! Thanks to Westborough TV, you can still enjoy the magic of these concerts!



Stringfest

March 21, 2023



WHS Concert and Symphonic Bands

March 22, 2023



WHS Choral Concert

March 23, 2023

WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL



PROJECT GRADUATION

PROUDLY KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE SINCE 1991

**HELP MAKE WESTBOROUGH
PROJECT GRADUATION A SUCCESS
AND KEEP OUR SENIORS SAFE.**

DONATE

A donation of any amount supports the all-night event complete with food, entertainment, decorations, and activities.

VOLUNTEER

Many volunteers are needed throughout the night of the event.

Scan QR code below for more details about the event and ways to help.



WWW.PROJECTGRADUATIONWESTBOROUGH.ORG

Parent Volunteers Needed:

WHS Pops Night

Event Concessions Coordination

WFAEA Senior Banquet

If you enjoy event planning, team work & fundraising and would like to learn more, email us at

info@wfaea.org



Seniors!

Look for invitations soon to the



Fine Arts
SENIOR RECOGNITION

Tuesday, May 23, 2023
6-8pm

Westborough High School Cafeteria

All Fine Arts Seniors are invited to attend free of charge.

Parents, family members, and guests are \$25

MMEA ALL-STATE FESTIVAL

We would like to congratulate all of the talented WHS musicians who were selected to participate in this year's Massachusetts All-State Festival. We are very proud of their hard work and dedication. Our students participated in rehearsals with other musicians from around the state on March 3rd in Westford, MA, but unfortunately, the planned Concert at Boston's Symphony Hall was canceled due to a storm.



CHORUS

Ian Chace, tenor
Chase Crandall, tenor
August Duncan, tenor
Susannah Gordon, alto
Sofia Holmes, alto
Sam Mattson, bass
Esha Prasad, alto



ORCHESTRA

Diya Karthick, violin
Joel Lee, cello
Zhouli Wang, violin
April Zhang, violin



The 69th Annual Massachusetts All-State Festival and Concerts featured more than 500 of Massachusetts' most dedicated up-and-coming musicians in chorus, orchestra, concert band, and jazz.

The Festival offered talented high school students the opportunity to rehearse under the direction of nationally recognized conductors.

Students were selected to audition based on their individual district audition results. Only about 500 were accepted.



MICCA WEEKEND 2023

A Weekend of Musical Excellence at WHS! We are thrilled to announce that WHS hosted an unforgettable weekend of performances, clinics, and concessions for 42 outstanding choral ensembles. With a stellar turnout and exceptional performances, our fine arts community shone bright.

Our talented musicians from Mill Pond, GMS, and WHS bands and orchestras also attended neighboring schools for adjudications and workshops with esteemed guest clinicians. It was a weekend of musical brilliance, and we couldn't be prouder of our students and their remarkable achievements.

Westborough earned 10 medals:

Mill Pond 6th Gr. Band - Gold

GMS Orchestra - Gold

WHS Symphonic Band - Gold

WHS Chamber Orchestra - Gold

WHS Soprano & Alto Chorale - Gold

GMS 7th & 8th Grade Band - Silver

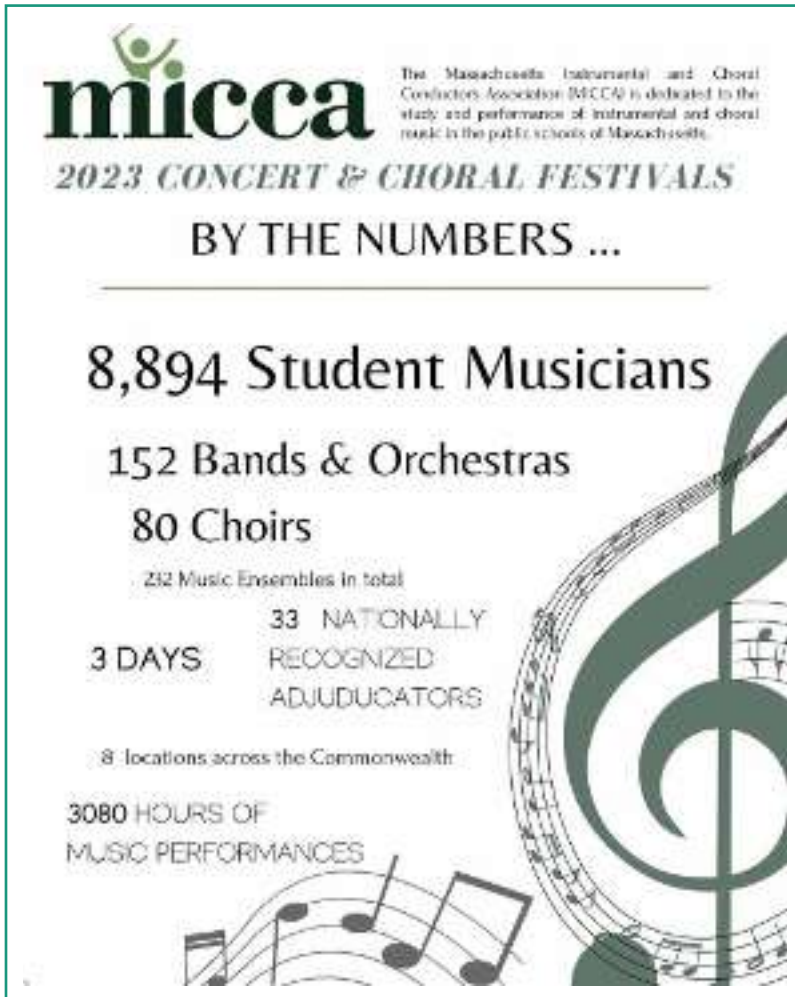
WHS Concert Band - Silver

WHS Concert Orchestra - Silver

WHS Chamber Singers - Silver

WHS Concert Choir - Gold

Congratulations to all who participated in MICCA 2023!



The Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association (MICCA) is dedicated to the study and performance of instrumental and choral music in the public schools of Massachusetts.

2023 CONCERT & CHORAL FESTIVALS

BY THE NUMBERS ...

- 8,894 Student Musicians
- 152 Bands & Orchestras
- 80 Choirs
- 212 Music Ensembles in total
- 3 DAYS
- 33 NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ADJUDICATORS
- 8 locations across the Commonwealth
- 3080 HOURS OF MUSIC PERFORMANCES



Thank you volunteers!

We want to thank each of you for the time and goods donated this weekend to support the 2023 MICCA event. WHS hosted a very successful weekend of performances, clinics and concessions for 42 choral ensembles.

We are so proud of our WHS fine arts community!

On behalf of WFAEA, we send you all a huge THANK YOU!

Kim Keogh & Kathy Swanson

MICCA WEEKEND - 2023 (CONTINUED.)



March 31 - April 2, 2023

micca



WESTBOROUGH JAZZ BANDS - SWING INTO SPRING

On April 11, 2023, the WHS and GMS Jazz Bands held their annual "*Swing into Spring*" concert. This performance showcases these ensembles' hard work throughout the year in mastering new rhythms and skills such as improvisation, jazz harmony, and solo performance. If you missed this performance, stop by Bay State Commons on June 5th at 4:30 for *Jazz Stock*.



Photos courtesy of Michelle French



WHS FINE ARTS HONOR SOCIETIES



Find out more about NAHS here!

The National Art Honor Society programs provide national recognition and opportunities for students who exhibit outstanding scholarship in the visual arts and for their teachers.

Participation in NAHS provides your students, faculty, school and community with invaluable benefits, including peer recognition, leadership growth opportunities, college and career preparation, recognition of our art program, and so much more. - NAEA Website



The WHS Chapter of NAHS was established in 2021-2022 and currently has 16 members. This year's induction ceremony will be held in the spring.



Tri-M is the national honor society for student musicians. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership. Currently, there are over 2,100 chapters in all 50 states, involving more than 84,000 students.

To learn more about Tri-M and requirements for membership, [follow this link](#).

WFAEA BUSINESS SPONSORS



Exciting news ! WFAEA has purchased a large screen TV and stand to be used to electronically display the logos of our Orchestra-level business sponsors as well as important fine arts news during WHS fine arts concerts and events. This new addition will provide a platform for local businesses to showcase their support for the arts. We're looking forward to adding additional fun content as we move forward! Look for the display outside of the auditorium at the next event!

Become a sponsor and have your Logo presented on the new electronic display at an upcoming event.



Become a Sponsor

THANK YOU

TO OUR GENEROUS 2022/2023 SPONSORS!



WFAEA thanks our generous 2022-2023 supporters

Standing Ovation (\$300)

Eric & Michelle French
The Keogh Family
Patrick and Jennifer Guadiz
The Knox Family

Bravo (\$100)

The Niece Family
The Chace Family
The Henderson Family
The Crandall Family
Anonymous
Marc and Mary Levesque Family
The Swanson/Fitch Family
The Cushman Family
Liza Hubbard
The Northrup Family
Roberta Di Terlizzi

Applause (\$50)

The Burow Family
The Plunkett Family
Maria and Zahid Ahmed

Encore (\$150)

The Chong Family
The Kinsky Family
Josh Gordon & Naomi Botkin
Anna Leduc and Mark Zepf
The Datta/Dasgupta Family

Salute (\$30)

The Gros Family



Cheer (\$75)

The Martin Family



You can also make a donation without becoming a WFAEA member.

DONATE



Become a WFAEA Member

Special Events We Support:

MICCA
Choral Collage
Band-o-Rama
Senior Banquet
POPS Night
Center Stage Concessions

Membership funds support:

Student scholarships
Funding for clinicians
Replacing/repairing instruments and uniforms
Providing art and theater equipment
Need-based financial assistance for activity fees



WFAEA 2022-23 OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Lisa Chace
	Jessica Crandall
Vice President	Debra Cushman
Treasurer	Jennifer Niece
Secretary	Kathy Swanson

WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH WFAEA?

We are looking for volunteers to help!
There are many fun ways to be a part of
Westborough's Fine Arts



JOIN US!

smile.amazon.com

Shop at **smile.amazon.com** and
Amazon will donate to your favorite
charitable organization,
at **no cost to you.**

Attention Businesses

We invite our local businesses to help support
fine arts in the Westborough Public Schools

Find out more here:



Questions? Email INFO@WFAEA.ORG