

2008 – 2009 Middle and High School Band & Orchestra Registration

Dear Robinson Band & Orchestra Parents:

On behalf of the Music Directors and staff as well as the officers of the Robinson Band and Orchestra Parent Organization (RBOPO), welcome to the 2008 – 2009 academic year! To the families new to Robinson or new to our band and orchestra programs, we look forward to meeting and working with you. To our returning families, we thank you for your support in the past, and look forward to your continued involvement with the Robinson music program.

Robinson has a long-standing reputation for musical excellence - both in Fairfax County and across the nation. Middle School and High School, band and orchestra - all are award-winning groups. With exciting music programs, dedicated staff, talented students and enthusiastic parent volunteers, we look forward to continuing the tradition!

RBOPO also has a history of terrific family support, which allows us to provide for the needs of our Robinson students and music staff. Since 1975, RBOPO has provided financial and physical assistance to all Robinson Middle and High School bands and orchestras. Although Fairfax County provides school space, directors, some music and some instruments, we need to supplement the county's contributions. As a registered non-profit organization, RBOPO independently raises funds to supply uniforms, additional music and instruments, and to augment the staff with part-time instructors and clinicians. We also provide volunteers (parents!) to care for the uniforms and accessories, chaperone various events, raise needed funds, provide field and maintenance support, along with many other supporting roles. In order to continue the Robinson tradition of excellence, we need your help, as it takes a lot of financial and logistical support to bring everything together. The band and orchestra staff members will present their programs and discuss their needs at "back to school" nights in the fall, so watch for those dates and plan to attend!

Please take the time to read all the information here and on our websites, and thoughtfully consider volunteering. Many hands are needed to support our music program at Robinson, but through our efforts, we make friends and have fun, so join us! RBOPO meetings are generally scheduled at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month during the school year – you will find us in the high school band room. Meeting dates are posted on the websites for easy reference, and all band and orchestra parents are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and provide input for our operations.

One final note, almost everything we do – from calendars and forms to a great photo gallery - is available on the band and orchestra websites. We also highly encourage you to sign up for FCPS Keep in Touch email notifications for band and orchestra events throughout the year. It is a terrific way to stay up to date, and a KIT link is conveniently provided on the opening page of the websites.

We have an experienced, dedicated board that is preparing for a great 2008 - 2009 year. I look forward to working with them, with our Directors, and with you, to provide a wonderful music experience for your Robinson student. Thank you for your support!

Barry Sharp
RBOPO President
E-mail: rbopo@robinsonband.org

Band website: <http://www.robinsonband.org>

Orchestra website: <http://www.robinsonorchestra.org>

Robinson Band & Orchestra Parent Organization webpage: <http://www.robinsonband.org/rbopo.html>

BAND & ORCHESTRA CONCERT UNIFORMS

Uniform fee for all middle school and high school band and orchestra students is **\$50.00 and due prior to uniform distribution, but no later than October 6, 2008. Tuxedo shirts are an additional cost.**

___ **\$50.00 Registration Fee**

___ **\$15.00 Tuxedo shirt** (Required for all new **high school** students, or if a replacement is needed for returning HS students; these shirts belong to the student and are not returned at the end of the school year.)

___ **Total fee**

Payments may be made online via our secure Paypal link! You do not need to have a Paypal account to use this option. http://www.robinsonband.org/registration_08_09.html

Or mail to: RBOPO, P.O. Box 39 Fairfax Station, VA 22039 (Please make checks payable to "RBOPO.")

Please note there is a \$25 fee for any Non-sufficient Funds (NSF) charges on returned checks.



High school students: Please make every effort to attend concert uniform fittings in August!

Concert Uniform Fittings:

Tuesday, August 19: Senior Boys 1-2 PM, Senior Girls 2-3 PM

Wednesday, August 20: Junior Boys 1-2 PM, Junior Girls 2-3 PM

Thursday, August 21: Sophomore Boys 1-2 PM, Sophomore Girls 2-3 PM

Friday, August 22: optional for any upperclassmen missed earlier in the week

Monday, August 25: Freshman Girls, 4-6 PM

Tuesday, August 26: Freshman Boys, 4-6 PM

(Please note that **all middle school band and orchestra students** will be fitted in September. **High school non-marching band and orchestra students** who are not fitted during band week will also be fitted in September. We will make those dates/times available as soon as possible, and in accordance with the availability of our seamstress.)

Concert uniforms are worn during performances by all students in all band and orchestra ensembles, both high school and middle school. The majority of the uniform is provided by RBOPO. A fee is collected from each student to cover the cost of cleaning and maintaining the uniform in performance condition, to include alterations and wear & tear repairs. A qualified seamstress fits uniforms, and the sleeves, trouser legs, and/or skirt lengths are altered to fit the student. The items not provided by RBOPO are available in most area stores. Concert uniforms are issued to each student for use during performances throughout the school year.

	Ladies	Gentlemen
Issued by RBOPO	Concert Skirt & Blouse / Dress	Tux Jacket / Pants Tie / Cummerbund Tuxedo Shirt (\$15, as needed for High School students)
Provided by Parents	Black hose Black concert dress shoes	Black socks Black concert dress shoes

TUXEDO CARE

Tuxedos, cummerbunds, and bow ties are DRY-CLEAN ONLY. Do not attempt to wash these items. White tuxedo shirts may be washed with warm water and machine dried. If the shirt is hung up immediately, it will not need to be pressed. After each wearing, the tux and shirt should be hung up immediately to allow time to air out before the next performance.

DRESS CARE

Dresses may be machine washed in warm water and machine dried. If hung immediately out of the dryer, they will not have to be pressed. We DISCOURAGE PRESSING of these dresses.