

2010 – 2011 Marching Band Registration

Dear Robinson "Marching Ram" Band 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 2010 – 2011 academic year and the 2010 Marching Rams Season! This year's marching show is entitled "A Night at the Symphony".

To the families new to Robinson or new to the 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 long 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. So, 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. We will talk in detail about this at the Marching Band parent night on Tuesday, August 24th, so mark your calendar 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! Most questions that you may have about the marching season will be answered at the Parent Meeting during Marching Band Week on August 24th. If you have questions that require an answer sooner, please do not hesitate contact me or one of the Directors. Additionally, 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 website for each reference, and all parents are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and provide input for our operations. We hope to see you there!

One final note, almost everything we do – from calendars and forms to a great photo gallery - is available on our website. We also highly encourage you to sign up for "B-Mail" band email notifications for band and events throughout the year. It is a terrific way to stay up to date.

We have an experienced, dedicated board that is preparing for a great 2010 - 2011 year. I am looking 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!

Paul McMahan
RBOPO President

E-mail: paulgmcmahonjr@aol.com

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

B-Mail (Band Email): <http://www.robinsonband.org/machform/view.php?id=5>

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

The cost of the 2010 Marching Band Season is **\$395**.

This fee covers: Show costs, clinicians, lunches during band week, marching uniforms, show t-shirts (for everyone), sweatshirts (for rookie marchers), and all travel to local and away events. You may use any available Student Credit towards your marching fees.

Marching Band Fee Calculator:

_____ \$200.00 Deposit - **Due July 1, 2010**
 _____ \$195.00 Final Payment-**Due no later than August 9, 2010**
 _____ \$ Deduct student credits if applicable (if returning, see student account statement)
 _____ \$ Subtotal Basic Marching Fee

Add-on Fee Calculator:

_____ \$30.00 Marching shoes for Rookies (or for replacements as needed)
 _____ \$25.00 Marching Rams Sweatshirt (mandatory attire - Rookies receive one free)
 _____ \$ Subtotal Add-on Fee

Concert Uniform Fee Calculator:

_____ \$25.00 Basic Concert Uniform Fee (**Marching Rams** receive more than a 50% discount off the \$55 Uniform Fee!)
 _____ \$15.00 Tuxedo Shirt (required for all freshmen or new high school band students, and as needed for returning students ~ please try yours on and make sure it fits!)
 _____ \$ Subtotal Concert Uniform Fee

Total for Marching Band & Concert Uniform Fees

_____ \$ Add subtotals from above ~ Marching Band, Add-on, and Concert Uniform Fees

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/registration2010-11.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.

CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR MARCHING BAND WEEK

Rookie Parents' First Day Coffee: Wed., Aug. 18 at 11 AM, Band Parking Lot

Parent Meeting: Tuesday, August 24, 7:00 PM, High School Band Room

Summer Rehearsals (music only indoors + color guard): Wed., July 14, Tues., Aug. 3, Thurs., Aug. 12, 7 – 9 PM, HS Band room

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
August 16 Drumline 9 AM – 1 PM Student Leaders 9 AM – 1 PM	August 17 Drumline 9 AM – 1 PM Student Leaders 9 AM – 1 PM	August 18 Drumline 9 AM – 1 PM ROOKIES & Section Leaders 8:30 – 11:30 AM	August 19 ROOKIES & Section Leaders 8:30 – 11:30 AM	August 20 ROOKIES & Section Leaders 8:30 – 11:30 AM	No Rehearsal
August 23** FULL BAND 8:30 AM – 4 PM 6 – 9 PM	August 24** FULL BAND 8:30 AM – 4 PM 6 – 9 PM PARENT MTG. 7pm	August 25** FULL BAND 8:30 AM – 4 PM 6 – 9 PM	August 26** FULL BAND 8:30 AM – 4 PM	August 27** FULL BAND 8:30 AM – 4 PM	No Rehearsal
August 30 FULL BAND 6 – 9 PM	August 31 FULL BAND 6 – 9 PM	September 1 FULL BAND PICTURES- 4 PM Picnic for marchers Family Performance	September 2 Morning Rehearsal Time TBA	** = uniform fitting days. See schedule below.	

****Marching and Concert Uniform Fittings:** Parent volunteers needed to assist with fittings. No experience or sewing necessary. Contact Sue Johnson, johnsons7@hotmail.com, to join the fun!
 Monday, August 23: Senior Boys 1-2 PM, Senior Girls 2-3 PM
 Tuesday, August 24: Junior Boys 1-2 PM, Junior Girls 2-3 PM
 Wednesday, August 25: Sophomore Boys 1-2 PM, Sophomore Girls 2-3 PM
 Thursday, August 26: Freshmen Girls 1 - 3 PM
 Friday, August 27: Freshmen Boys 1 - 3 PM
 Monday, August 30: optional fitting if necessary, 4-6 PM

Rehearsals:

September & October: Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 3:00 to 5:00 PM
 Sectionals may occur on Tuesdays.

Home Game Performances: (all at 7:30 pm, call times vary)

Thursday, September 16
 Friday, September 24
 Friday, October 8 (8th Grade Night)
 Friday, October 22 (Homecoming)
 Friday, November 5 (Senior Night)

Competition Weekends, Locations TBA (plan on all day Saturday)

September 25
 October 2
 October 16
 October 30 (VBODA State Marching Festival)

TAG Day: (**mandatory** fundraiser): Saturday, September 11, 8 AM until 2 PM

BAND WEEK INFO

Congratulations on your selection for the 2010 - 2011 Robinson Marching Rams! Robinson boasts a fine tradition of award-winning marching bands. This year, with approximately 160 members – including 3 Drum Majors, 20 Color Guard, and 150+ instrumentalists, the Marching Rams will once again take the field with an impressive organization. In addition to performing at all home football games, we will march in two or three competitions, and Virginia Band & Orchestra Director's Association (VBODA) Festival.

As a Marching Ram, you are expected to:

- Know your music or guard work before Marching *Band Week* begins.
- Be in attendance for 100% of rehearsals during Marching *Band Week* and the fall season.

What to bring:

Please think “comfortable” when planning your Marching *Band Week* wardrobe!

- Shorts, a cool top, **sunglasses** and a hat are essential.
- Sunscreen is HIGHLY recommended.
- You **must** wear sneakers and socks in order to learn proper marching technique.
- **MANDATORY** : A **flexible three ring binder** for carrying your music and show charts

And...don't forget your **instruments**, your **music**, **reeds**, **oils**, etc. You won't need much money since lunch is provided, but sodas may be available when we're inside.

Attendance

- Attendance at every session is mandatory.
- Plan to be away from your job for the entire week.
- **Please** do not schedule medical appointments or family outings during *Band Week*.
- Once at Robinson, you may not leave school grounds without permission.
- On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday you will be released between the afternoon and evening sessions. However, your prompt return to school at 6:00 p.m. is expected.
- Transportation **will not** be provided to get you between home and school. Plan to carpool.

Contact number during Band Week: 703-978-7243 – Band Phone

Student Responsibilities

- A genuine interest in all aspects of the program
- Willingness to accept and carry out musical and organizational responsibilities
- Serve in leadership capacity as required.
- Demonstrate self-discipline.
- Know your music.
- Perfect attendance at all rehearsals and performances. Time missed from full band and/or group rehearsals cannot be made up. Any individual's absence is harmful to all.
- Fulfill all requirements as stated in the grade guidelines to the best of your ability at all times.
- Be an excellent representative of the school when appearing in public as a member of the Robinson Secondary School Band Program.
- Show appreciation and consideration for other musical groups when participating in competitions and festivals.
- Show respect and consideration for other students and instructors.
- Membership in the Robinson Marching Band is subject to all School and County policies regarding behavior, and all such policies will be strictly followed. In addition, for the protection of

<http://www.robinsonband.org>

the organization, certain other consequences may result from the infraction of school or band policies. This may include exclusion from all band performance organizations.

Marching Band Guidelines

Please adhere to these few guidelines so that our performance year will be enjoyable and successful.

- Remember that you represent the school and the band during performances. Your first responsibility is to show respect and appreciation for the football team and other groups.
- Follow instructions as directed by Staff, Chaperones, Drum Majors, and Section leaders
- In order to protect uniforms and instruments, do not bring food or drink (except water) into the stands or invite others to sit in the band area. (The visiting school's Marching Band is welcome during our show.)
- Students will be excused during the 3rd quarter of football games and must return by the beginning of the 4th quarter. This will continue as long as time regulations are followed.
- Students are to remain seated within their own section at games and other performances.

Marching Band Regulations

Rehearsal and performance attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is REQUIRED. Directors are very considerate of our students' time, and take pride in the fact that we minimize the number of rehearsals per week. We ask that students and parents give the organization the same consideration. *Students who work should speak with their employers and arrange work shifts so as not to conflict with rehearsal schedules.* Participation in rehearsals and performances are **part of the course grade guidelines**. Excused absences are generally **emergency** situations, and must be cleared by the director. An **unexcused absence from a performance** may result in the loss of membership in the performance ensemble.

Marching Uniform Responsibility

The RBOPO uniform committee will be responsible for the distribution and maintenance of all uniforms. Students must verify that all parts of the uniform are in performance condition as well as take responsibility for their own shoes, black socks, and gloves.

Band T-shirts must be worn under the uniform jacket for the protection of the uniform. Cut-offs, jeans, or regular trousers may not be worn under the uniform pants. Elastic waist shorts, spandex or long underwear are appropriate. For performance situations, all parts of the uniform will be worn, unless the director announces exceptions.

No makeup or jewelry of any kind may be worn (including finger nail polish and pierced earrings). Long hair (ladies & gentlemen) should be secured up and off the collar (in the hat). Uniform infractions may result in loss of marching band letter points and/or grade reduction.

Color Guard Guidelines

You are considered an **integral part of the marching band**, and as such are expected to adhere to all the above guidelines for band membership. **Equipment** is to be treated with respect and care at all times. Lost or damaged performance equipment is your responsibility. **Performance** equipment is only to be used for performances, or when authorized for practice by a staff member or captain. Color Guard fees will be published as soon as possible ~ check with Mrs. Donais, and visit the website for updates! In addition to Color Guard fees, all concert uniform fees apply at the 50% discounted rate.

Marching and Concert Band Uniform Fittings

Concert uniforms are worn during stage performances by all students in all high school band ensembles. 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 and alters the uniforms to the measurements of the individual student. Both concert and marching uniforms for all Marching Rams are fitted in August during band week; see schedule below. Concert uniforms are issued to each student for use during stage performances throughout the school year.

Marching uniforms stay at school all year!

The fitting dates are shown on the Marching Band rehearsal schedule. For fittings you will need to wear lightweight T-shirt and lightweight shorts. **If a student cannot attend one of the scheduled fitting sessions, please email: bandwebmaster@robinsonband.org.**

	Ladies	Gentlemen
Issued by RBOPO as part of marching band fees	Marching Pants / Jacket Marching hat with plume Sweatshirt for rookie marchers only Marching Show T-shirt 1 pair white gloves Concert Skirt / Dress	Marching Pants / Jacket Marching hat with plume Sweatshirt for rookie marchers only Marching Show T-shirt 1 pair white gloves Tux Jacket / Pants Tie / Cummerbund
Parent purchase through RBOPO	Black Marching shoes (must order through RBOPO \$30) Additional white gloves as needed \$2 Sweatshirt replacement for returning marchers \$25 (if needed)	Tux Shirt (\$15 for new or replacement) Black Marching shoes (must order through RBOPO \$30) Additional white gloves as needed \$2 Sweatshirt replacement for returning marchers \$25 (if needed)
Provided by Parents	Black socks 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 – they will be ruined. 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.

PROGRAM FEE for all middle school and high school band and orchestra students is \$55.00. All members of the Marching Rams receive more than a 50% discount, making the program fee \$25.00 for the school year. Gentlemen must also either own from a previous year or if needed, purchase a concert tuxedo shirt for \$15.00; please indicate on the registration form.

MARCHING SHOES – MUST be purchased FROM RBOPO at \$30/pair for all ROOKIES. If needed, returning Marchers may purchase replacement shoes at \$30; please indicate on the registration form.