

# Kamiak Symphony Orchestra Newsletter

Welcome to our busy season!!! There is so much going on, I thought you might enjoy a little info about what is happening in the symphonic world. After each item, in parentheses, are the students included in the event, to help you figure out what applies to your child. Of course, everyone is welcome to any event with an audience!!!!

## Events

### **Solo/Ensemble** (all students who signed up to compete)

This coming Saturday, February 6 is a big day for us. Many of our students will be competing at the new Lynnwood High School in the solo/ensemble festival. Be sure to come out to support our kids. Come and hear your child and stick around to catch some others, as well. It is well worth the time to listen to the kids play. For me, it is such a thrill to hear the caliber of performers that we have in our programs. The master schedule is attached for your convenience, but be forewarned that some kids have swapped time slots. So if there is someone you really want to hear, be sure to confirm the time.

On a financial note, if your student is playing in a quartet or other small ensemble, ASB is covering the fee. If your student is performing as a soloist, you must get your \$15.00 payment (made out to Kamiak ASB, if you write a check) to the Kamiak Bookkeeper. The fee is \$10.00 for duets for each player. Failure to pay fee this will interfere with obtaining future parking permits and graduating. These fees will not show up on your student's KPAB account.

### **Vienna Ball** (PSI and PSII strings will perform, IO students are welcome to come, free of charge)

Before you can even catch your breath from solo ensemble, it is time for the Vienna Ball. The fun starts at 6 pm in the Kamiak Commons with dancing lessons from a professional dance instructor. And then at 7 pm Mr. Steves will take up his baton and you can waltz the night away. Ticket envelopes were sent home last week with PSI and PSII students and are due back on Thursday, February 4. If you haven't seen this envelope yet, check those backpacks!!! Tickets are also on sale in the Commons during lunch on Thursday, February 4 and at the door. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors and \$10 for adults.

In addition to dancing the night away, at the Vienna Ball you can purchase desserts and beverages, raffle tickets for a Valentine's basket, order scrip (the newest KPAB fundraiser) and bring your student's account balance up to date. It is not too late to volunteer to help with this fun event. If you want to pitch in, contact event chair Deb Varner at [debvarner@aol.com](mailto:debvarner@aol.com).

### **All State** (Students who auditioned and qualified)

Congrats to our all-state musicians!!! We will be well represented at this honors event taking place February 12 – 14 in Yakima. Again, the fees associated with this event must be paid to Kamiak ASB with the Kamiak Bookkeeper. Students have been excused from school all day February 12. The Kamiak bus is leaving school at 8:30 AM. The cost for the bus is \$20 for each student, and again, payable to KHS ASB. Note that there is no transportation back from Yakima! Most parents will want to watch the Gala Concerts on President's Day – if not, please make carpool arrangements to get your student back home.

### **Gresham Orchestra Camp** (PSI, PSII, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds)

In preparation for the Gresham event, we will have coaches and a guest conductor work with our students on Saturday, February 27. PSI with winds/brass/percussion meets from 8 am to noon (breakfast snacks provided) and PSII with winds/brass/percussion meets from 10 am to 2 pm (bring a sack lunch). We need a couple of adult volunteers to help with the refreshments. If you can spare a little bit of time on Saturday morning, please contact Melanie Field at [melanie1004@gmail.com](mailto:melanie1004@gmail.com).

All Gresham paperwork (medical forms, permission slips) and fees (\$110) are due at this time. All the forms, including financial aid forms, are on the KPAB website. All SKMEA forms (permission slips) are also due on this day. Most students completed the necessary paperwork in the fall. If you did not or it was incomplete, you will be notified in class. If you have questions about your paperwork, contact Judy Werenka at [werenkaja@hotmail.com](mailto:werenkaja@hotmail.com).

## **THE BIG WEEK**

**District Festival Concert** (all stringlings – PSI, PSII and IO and PS I winds/brass/percussion)

All the orchestras from the west side of the district perform, both separately and all together, from the little 4<sup>th</sup> graders all the way up. It is a great way to see **ALL** your neighbors. 7:00 pm in Kamiak gym, on Wednesday, March 10.

**SKMEA Festival** (all stringlings – PSI, PSII and IO and all symphonic winds/brass/percussion)

An all day festival at the Shoreline Center on Thursday, March 11. Chaperones are needed. If you are interested, please contact Melanie Field at [melanie1004@gmail.com](mailto:melanie1004@gmail.com). To be a chaperone, you will need to complete the chaperon requirements, which are described in detail on the KPAB website, orchestra page.

**Gresham, Oregon Festival** (PSI, PSII, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds)

Midday on Friday, March 12 we will load up the buses and head off to Oregon for this wonderful festival. Lots more info will be coming to you about the Gresham trip in the coming weeks. Please note: the cost for this trip is \$110, which includes charter bus, hotel stay, including breakfast, and dinner on Saturday evening. Through our orchestra fundraising – Messiah Concerts and Vienna Ball – we do have scholarship money available. Financial aid forms are available on the KPAB Website and are due Monday, February 22.

**And last but not least, our Winter Concert** (all stringlings – PSI, PSII and IO and all symphonic winds/brass/percussion)

On March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Kamiak PAC, all our orchestral and symphonic students will perform the pieces they have been preparing for all these events. In case you missed Gresham or SKMEA, this is your chance to hear them at their finest.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Student Accounts**

New attention to the fiscal health of KPAB has lead to new policies regarding student debt. KPAB is now implementing a procedure that requires all student account balances must be \$0, prior to a student participating in a trip. This means that all fees must be paid in advance. We recognize that these are particularly difficult economic times and we would like to enable all our students to fully participate in all our programs. To that end, scholarships are available and payment schedules can be negotiated, in advance, for families with economic need. Students who would like to take advantage of either of these options, should contact Mr. Steves to discuss their specific situation.

Payments can also be made using credit cards. Please contact MaryLynn Birney at [kpab.studentaccounts@yahoo.com](mailto:kpab.studentaccounts@yahoo.com) for more information about how to use your credit card to make payments to KPAB.

Many students have outstanding debt for unreturned Entertainment books, T-shirts or other charges. Please be sure to include these payments, along with your \$110 Gresham fee, to balance out your student's account prior to the payment deadline, February 27.

Please note that due to cuts in our ASB funding, a new fee will be showing up for PSI and PSII gentlemen who use Kamiak tuxedos. A \$7.00 cleaning fee should appear on your February statement. If you have any questions about this, or any other charges on your account, please contact MaryLynn Birney at [kpab.studentaccounts@yahoo.com](mailto:kpab.studentaccounts@yahoo.com).

## **Fundraisers**

KPAB has a new fundraising program in place. The Scrip program is like getting "free" money. Extensive information about this new fundraiser is available on the KPAB website. Brochures are available from Mr. Steves and will also be at the Vienna Ball. Stop by the scrip table and find out how it works!!!

Spring is already in the air and it is not too early to start thinking about the spring bulb sale. Nora Cheek will be coordinating this fundraiser. See the attached info sheet for all the details.

## **Summary of Volunteers Needed**

2/6 Vienna Ball – contact Deb Varner at [debvarner@aol.com](mailto:debvarner@aol.com)

2/27 Gresham Camp Refreshments – contact Melanie Field at [melanie1004@gmail.com](mailto:melanie1004@gmail.com)

3/11 SKMEA Chaperones – contact Melanie Field at [melanie1004@gmail.com](mailto:melanie1004@gmail.com)

## **Calendar Summary**

2/4 Vienna Ball ticket envelopes due to Mr. Steves

2/6 Solo/Ensemble at Lynnwood High School, all day

2/6 Vienna Ball in Kamiak Commons, 6 pm lesson, 7 pm live music begins

2/8 Gresham financial commitment form due

2/9 Ballots on the school levies must be postmarked for return

2/11 KPAB Booster Meeting in Choir Room in the PAC at 7 pm

2/12-14 All State in Yakima

2/22 Financial Aid forms due for Gresham scholarships

2/27 Gresham Camp at Kamiak PAC PSI w/winds etc 8 to noon PSII w/winds etc 10 to 2

2/27 All Gresham paperwork and fees due

3/10 District Festival concert in Kamiak gym at 7 pm

3/11 SKMEA Festival at Shoreline Center, all day

3/12 –13 Gresham, Oregon Festival

3/25 Orchestra Concert at Kamiak PAC 7 pm

Hope this info helps. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Melanie Field, Orchestra Liaison

425-355-2625, [melanie1004@gmail.com](mailto:melanie1004@gmail.com)