



2022 WLP: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**1) What is Walled Lake Percussion?**

- WLP is a competitive marching percussion ensemble. It is very similar to marching band performed indoors and generally without wind instruments or color guard. WLP learns and perfects the same show throughout the season.
- There are two sections involved: the front ensemble (mallet percussion, timpani, synthesizers, and other concert percussion instruments) and the battery (marching drums and cymbals).
- In Walled Lake, we currently have 1-2 ensembles that you can think of as Varsity and JV teams. Depending on the amount of students in the group, we will either have 1 team or 2 teams.
- WLP is a shared district activity that is open to students in the district from grades 7-12. It is run under the umbrella of the Walled Lake Central Music Boosters.

**2) How do I audition? Are their "cuts" for WLP?**

- Simply put, you just need to show up and you will be given a spot. WLP does not cut anyone that wants to be in the group. You obviously have to commit to the financial obligations involved as well. High School wind players that want to be in the group are welcome, but we do handle that on a case-by-case basis as sometimes it is not beneficial for a wind player to be in the group for their musical development. Middle school wind player are not allowed in the group. If you have never done music and are not in a musical ensemble, you can still join!

**3) What are the different teams I can join in WLP?**

- The JV Drumline is WLP's beginning level group. It is comprised primarily of 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders. The typical rehearsal days are Monday (2 hours) and Wednesday (2 hours).
- The Varsity Drumline is WLP's advanced level group. It is comprised primarily of 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders (and some 9<sup>th</sup> graders). The typical rehearsal days are Tuesday (3 hours), Thursday (3 hours), and Saturday (8-10 hours).

**4) What instruments are available to play?**

- marching snare - marching tenors - marching bass - marching cymbals
- synthesizer - drumset - marimba - vibraphone
- glockenspiel - xylophone - timpani - mixer operator
- bass guitar - auxiliary percussion

**5) What are the costs involved? What do I get for the money?**

- Fee's for the upcoming season are not finalized, but usually the JV is \$250-\$350 and the Varsity is \$800-\$1,000. This will be finalized closer to the season starting.
- There are a number of scholarships available and we give you a number of other things you can do to help reduce the costs (sponsorship letters, working bingo, bottle drive flyer)
- Costs include basically everything (travel, most food while traveling, instruction from professional teachers, show design costs, show costs, uniform, a WLP t-shirt, etc..)
- We also teach many leadership skills with the main idea of teaching students how to go from a dependent person to self-sufficient to collaborative to selfless.
- We encourage you to really think what you get for the money. This is a 5 month long season and one of the highest performing ensembles in the world. A 1-week trip somewhere or a summer camp would likely cost more than that.

## 6) What is the schedule?

- There is a tentative schedule on the WLP webpage. The full schedule won't be released until November.
- The Varsity generally rehearses on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The JV generally rehearses on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- There are some rehearsals over breaks (Varsity) and you must make an effort to attend all of these. Spring Break rehearsals (Varsity) are required to be in the group.

## 7) Where does the group rehearse?

- Most rehearsals are at Walled Lake Central HS, which is the sponsoring school for the group. Occasionally we will rehearse at a different local school.

## 8) Can I be in WLP if I play a winter or spring sport?

- Yes! The only sports that conflict in a major way are basketball, swimming, and ski. All other sports have minor conflicts. There is an overlap of 3-4 weeks for spring sports that you will have to work out, but we have had WLP members in girls soccer, softball, baseball, and track.

## 9) What do I get out of it by joining?

- There is a lot you get out of it. You will be taught by professional music educators that do this for a living. You will become a much better musician and performer because of WLP. You will meet new people and form lifelong relationships. You'll get to perform in front of many people. You will learn how to become a better leader and you will learn how to take ownership for yourself. You will truly learn what it takes to be great at something and to know what it takes to be one of the best in the world at something.

## 10) What are some facts about WLP?

- WLP competes in 2 circuits - MAPA (Michigan Alliance for Performing Arts) and WGI (Winter Guard International).
- WLP has competed for 18 years and has had 2 groups for 11 of those years.
- WLP has won a total of 22 medals (top 3 finishes) in Michigan between the 2 ensembles. 12 of which are State Championships. WLP has also won 2 medals in the national circuit. 1 of which is a National Championship. The varsity team has qualified for World Class finals 10 times and has been ranked in the top 20 in the world 14 times.
- WLP has performed for many charity events (Jammin' for Joseph, Passion for Like, etc..) and has put on clinics for MCGC.
- WLP is endorsed by multiple companies: Yamaha, Innovative Percussion, Zildjian, and Remo. Basically, every instrument we play on and every stick/mallet we use is endorsed.
- WLP has had many students go on to perform and now teach in many of the top ensembles in WGI and DCI.
- WLP is insanely fun and one of the most rewarding things you will do in high school! This is a fact based on the many years of students that have gone through the program.

Check out some videos on our YouTube Account!  
Link is on our webpage: [www.wlcbands.com/wlp](http://www.wlcbands.com/wlp)