
ALUMNI NEWS

| RAMS |

Upcoming Events

The WCU School of Music has the following upcoming events:

June 30: 5th Annual GRMB Golf Tournament Fundraiser

July 14-18: Wind Conducting Symposium

August 23: Golden Rams Marching Band Family & Friends Preview Day

Officer Elections

Mark your calendars! The Alumni Association will be nominating and electing officers during the Friday Homecoming Rehearsal (October 17, 2014).

Questions?

Email Rachael Smolinsky at wcupabaa@gmail.com with any questions or to update an email address.



Homecoming 2014

October is right around the corner, and that means Homecoming 2014 will be here before you know it! We are looking forward to having a record number of alumni participants this year.

Homecoming is Saturday, October 18. In order to participate in the 2014 Alumni Band, you will need to fill out the attached information sheet.

The day's events will include:

- alumni breakfast
- music & drill rehearsal
- Homecoming Parade
- tailgate lunch
- football game with combined halftime performance
- BBQ dinner @ Swope

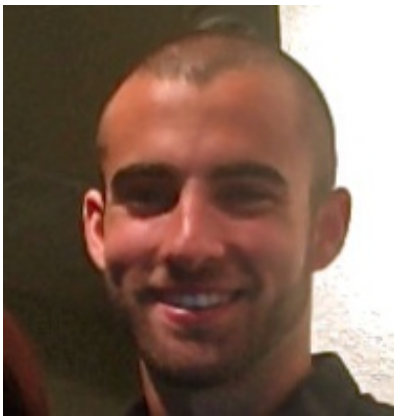
Homecoming Alumni Band Rehearsal

We will hold an additional rehearsal on Friday, October 17 (the night before Homecoming) from 7-9 PM in order to better prepare for the Halftime presentation with the Golden Rams Marching Band. Please come prepared to play and move during this rehearsal.

If you are unable to make this rehearsal, you will absolutely still be able to play in the Alumni Band!! Simply indicate on the Homecoming Registration form whether or not you anticipate being able to attend the 10/17 rehearsal. However, we hope that you can make it! Following the rehearsal, there will be an informal welcome reception at Timothy's (929 S High St) from 9:30-11:30 PM.

In order to help you with your travel/lodging plans, we have a room block at the West Chester Days Inn (943 S High St) for both October 17 and 18. Please reserve your room under the "WCU Alumni Band" room block no later than September 17, 2014 to secure our \$109 + tax rate. If you reserve after 9/17, we can not guarantee room availability or rate, and if you need to cancel your reservation within 24 hours of the date of arrival, you will be billed for one night's room & tax. Check-in time is 3:00 PM and check-out time is 12 noon. Please let Rachael know if you need assistance with the room block!

Featured Alumni



Mike Roche graduated from WCU in May 2013. After graduation, he accepted a position as Associate Director of Bands at Stephen F Austin High School in Sugar Land, Texas. Mike was a member (2009-2012) and coordinator (2010-2012) of the Golden Rams Marching Band and euphonium player in both the Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble where he served as President of each of those ensembles.

Since his graduation from WCU, Mike has continued his musical involvement not only through teaching, but by starting an AP Music Theory class at Stephen F Austin. He also takes on the roles of Visual Staff member, Leadership Consultant, and Drum Major Clinician at Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps. Most recently, Mike was inducted as an Honorary Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi.

Mike, who was named the Stephen F Austin Rookie Teacher of the Year for 2013-14, states that his favorite memory of being involved with bands at WCU would be "my three years as a Student Coordinator of the [Golden Rams] Marching Band. It is impossible to narrow it down to one single event or interaction with someone because there are simply too many things that I will never forget. I cherish the opportunities that I had to learn from Dr. Yozviak, Dr. Martin, Dr. Villella, Todd Marcocci, Amy Walp, the entire staff, and certainly my fellow students. I got to collaborate and teach with the other Coordinators and Drum Majors, whom I miss dearly. Each year, I got to teach and learn from three hundred people who came together to work hard for the sake of being excellent. I miss each and every one of you!"