



WHEATON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL  
FALCON BANDS  
JON S. NOWORYTA, *DIRECTOR OF BANDS*

Dear Eighth-Grade Band Students and Parents,

The Band Department at Wheaton North High School would like to introduce you to its various performing groups and their fall performance schedules. We invite you to visit one or more of our performances and observe for yourself the excellent musical opportunities available to you when you enter high school. In January of 2010 you will be deciding what courses you will be taking as a freshman in high school, and we would love to see you continue your pursuit of musical skills for the purposes of academic growth and personal pleasure! Consider being involved in:

**Wheaton North Wind Ensemble, Symphonic and Concert Bands** – These bands are classes for which you must register in January at your middle or private school when you schedule your freshman coursework. High school credit is given for these classes. Selection for Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band is by audition only, which takes place in the spring. Wind Ensemble is open to students in grades 10 – 12. No audition is required for Concert Band. All three bands perform at concerts throughout the year and at contests/festivals in the spring, learning a wide variety of music throughout the year. The music is challenging and the experience rewarding! Opportunities to play with the Wheaton North Orchestras and in the pit orchestra for the Wheaton North spring musical are also available and provide other exciting avenues of musical experience!

**Percussion Studies** – Percussion studies is a class for all high school percussionists (drummers), regardless of grade. It is a class which focuses on the proper playing techniques needed to master the performance of all the instruments in the modern percussion section. In addition to band music, students in this class will also perform in percussion ensembles throughout the year. ALL freshmen percussionists should sign up for percussion studies. This is the equivalent of your Band class. Students in Percussion Studies will perform with either Concert Band or Symphonic Band, based on your spring audition. In fact, all opportunities given to members of Concert or Symphonic Band are also given to students in Percussion studies.

**Wheaton North Jazz Bands and Combos** – These bands are extracurricular, small-group opportunities to play in both larger jazz ensembles and in smaller jazz combos. They are by audition only in the fall and provide unique opportunities to work with professional jazz clinicians, teachers, and performers throughout the season. They compete in area contests, festivals, and concerts in the spring, and the students involved never get enough of that jazz!

**Wheaton North Falcon Marching Band and Color Guard** - This is an extracurricular band program that performs at all home football games as well as at selected corps-style marching contests through the end of October or the football season, whichever comes later. Marching fundamentals and the fall show are mastered at a two-week August band camp, where the camaraderie begins and continues to grow throughout the entire school year. Join us for fantastic Falcon fun and great personal enjoyment! Information for joining the marching band and color guard is sent out in May to eighth-grade students. Interested students must send in registration forms and a portion of the fees in July.

Please make note of the schedule of events we have provided on the back of this letter of introduction to the Wheaton North Band Department. Make a point of visiting us at the performance of your choice. We would love to have you as our guest! **Call us at (630) 784-7470** if you have questions, and check out our **website at [www.wnband.org](http://www.wnband.org)** for more information!

Welcome to the Wheaton North Band Program!

Mr. Jon Noworyta, *Director*