



Western Canada High School BAND PROGRAM



The Band Program at Western is among the finest of its kind in Canada. This nationally recognized program has garnered a demand that sees enrollment of 300 students annually, making us the largest program in the City of Calgary. With performance as a focus of the program, we have three large instrumental ensembles (the Grade 10 Concert Band, the Grade 11 Symphonic Band, and the Grade 12 Wind Ensemble) and a Senior Jazz Ensemble. Each ensemble is open to students with previous experience in instrumental music.

"From the very first day, the Band Program has been a place of awe and inspiration for me. There is a level of excellence upheld in the program that pushes everyone, both as musicians and caring people, to work towards our greatest dreams. Here, I am inspired to be the best version of myself, and to believe in myself, as I grow alongside my amazing peers, supported by the welcoming Band community."

- Ivy Cheng, Class of 2024

Band Program courses are designed to be a co-curricular to our outstanding academic program. Our grade specific performance ensembles are each worth 5-credits and meet twice a week in the AM block. Courses in the AM block schedule make it possible for students to enroll in the Band Program even when they have a full academic timetable. Incoming Grade 10 students may also choose to take advantage of our uniquely offered Band IB stream to fulfill one of their requirements for the IB registration.



"Cherished memories, unforgettable experiences, and a tight-knit community are the three words that come to mind when I think of band. It is not only a place where fellow musicians can come together through their shared passion for music, but a place you can call home. I have grown both as a musician and a person thanks to the hospitality and support I have received from everyone here."

- Ashley Yu, Class of 2024

Tours

The Band Program travels internationally to participate in workshops at world class institutions such as: UCLA and CSUF, while performing at International Festivals and Disneyland. When remaining in Canada, the Band Program engages in workshops at UBC, UVic and performs regularly at the Whistler Band Festival and Canadian Rocky Mountain Festival. These annual tours provide students with amazing experiences that create memories that they will treasure for a lifetime.



What Western Band Offers

The Band Program provides an enriching experience of immense value, offering students a safe community in which they will grow as musicians and young adults.

Some of the reasons students should join Band are:

- Join a supportive community of peers to grow alongside over the next 3 years of high school
- Achieve CAS outcomes for the IB programme (over 80% of our current Grade 10 Concert Band are also enrolled in the IB programme)
- Engage in valuable learning experiences, such as tours and competitions, not offered in other academic classes
- Perform twice a year at the Jack Singer Concert Hall and travel internationally to compete in festivals

Band Leadership Executive

The Western Band Leadership Executive is a group of outstanding Grade 11 and Grade 12 students who work to build a positive community-oriented environment for all students in the Band Program. Through their work, they uphold the values of Passion, Class, and Excellence, which are a core part of the Western Band Program's identity.



For more information, please follow us @western.band on Instagram.