

We Got The Beat Youth Percussion Band

Handbook Synopsis

Welcome to We Got The Beat Youth Percussion Band!

This is your guide to the group. Here are some things you need to know about WGTB.

We Got The Beat is an independent, non-profit (through Jazz Fresno) community-based organization.

WGTB Mission Statement: We Got The Beat provides a comprehensive musical experience for youth that enriches lives and builds community.

WGTB Vision Statement: Participants of diverse backgrounds develop music appreciation, performance skills, proficiency on a variety of percussion instruments, learn to improvise, compose and teach music, and to care for their instruments. These skills build creativity and self-confidence and teach life-long values of discipline, cooperation, leadership, responsibility and community.

COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN WE GOT THE BEAT

Member Responsibilities

- Being a member of WGTB means that you agree to:
- **Act like a professional**—listen, help pack and unpack, load equipment and represent the group with pride and maturity.
- **Be persistent**—You must **try** in order to have success. Don't give up on yourself or your band. Have a positive attitude; smile, share, cooperate, help and be nice to your fellow Beaters!
- **Be dependable**—Know your parts and come to rehearsals and performances **ON TIME!**

DEFINITION OF "ON TIME": In the music world, showing up EARLY is considered **ON TIME**. Showing up at the time of the rehearsal or performance is considered **LATE**. Please **PLAN** to be **ON TIME**

Behavior

Misbehavior while at our practice space, during rehearsals or at gigs will not be tolerated. When a Beater is with WGTB in rehearsals, at performances, or any time they are wearing a WGTB shirt, they are representing our group. We pride ourselves on professional behavior. Individuals with consistent behavior issues may be dismissed from the group.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are not optional.

The more time your Beater misses in rehearsal or performance the less they feel part of the group.

Rehearsals are from 4:00pm-6:00pm

WGTB Rookie group practices on **Tuesdays** of each week.

WGTB Secondary group practices on **Wednesdays** of each week.

Performances

The purpose of this group is to perform, so we want your Beater to make as many gigs as possible. Please let Brenda know ASAP if you have a conflict with a performance so she can prepare the band for your Beater's absence.

Performance Attire

All performers must have the following:

- **Solid black** pants w/**SOLID BLACK** socks (no other colors, sport stripes, belts, etc. on pants or socks, please)
- **Solid black** shoes (no other colors on shoes, please. Place black tape over other colors if necessary)
- WGTB 2023-24 Performance T-shirt
- **Please do not deviate from this uniform as everyone is expected to look alike!**

Optional Attire:

- **Solid black** shorts w/black socks (for casual, warm weather gigs)
- **Solid Black** long-sleeve Turtleneck/mock/T-Shirt (to wear under official WGTB shirt for cool weather gigs)
- **Solid Black** skirts/skorts (Extra-short skirts/skorts are not OK!)
- **WGTB Baseball Hat** (these are the only acceptable baseball hats to wear when WGTB performs)
- **WGTB Visor** (these are the only acceptable visors to wear when WGTB performs)
- **WGTB Beanie** (these are the only acceptable beanies to wear when WGTB performs)

Tuition

- Contract Year (September through the end of the CUSD school-year) Tuition: \$1050 (that breaks down to \$105.00 per month, for 10 months, August 1-June 7). **THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE YOUR PAYMENT FOR AUGUST.**
- **Family Discount:** Contact Brenda if you are interested in a family discount.

How do I pay?

You may choose to pay the total amount now (1050.00), half now and half in January (\$525ea.) or monthly (divided into 10/\$105.00 payments). Payments for the upcoming month will be due the last rehearsal of the previous month. Your first official payment is due when you turn in your contract. The October payment is due BY Wednesday, September 27. Your last payment will be due April 24, 2024.

Please make all tuition checks out to Brenda Myers

- You may also choose to pay on-line through our WGTB Members Page.
- You may also pay me through PayPal: wegotthebeat@me.com

If your child needs to leave the group in the middle of the year for any reason, the balance of the tuition becomes due at the time the student departs the group.

FUND-RAISING GOAL

Every Family (regardless of how many Beaters) is asked to generate at least \$250.00 a year in fund-raising.

This can be accomplished by:

- A donation made out to Jazz Fresno for We Got The Beat.
- On-line donations can be made through our website's home page <https://www.wegotthebeat.org>. Just scroll down to Ways To Help.
- Selling Jamba Juice 2-for-1 cards. They are available in our storeroom. Just ask one of the parent helpers or Brenda for cards.
- Selling tickets to our annual BIG Show.
- Donating snacks, buying pizza, etc. when WGTB needs them (give receipts to the parent helper in our room.. Please make sure your Beater's name is written on each receipt).
- Finding WGTB a grant. A percentage of the grant will be given in credit to the family who is responsible for the grant.
- Finding and arranging WGTB an especially lucrative gig. A percentage of the amount will be added in credit to the family responsible for the gig.
- Having a parent-run fund-raiser.
- Any other fund-raising opportunities that come up throughout the year.

All fund-raising money goes directly towards making WGTB a more enriching program for your kids.

Who's Who – 2023/24 WGTB Staff

WGTB Executive Director	Brenda Myers	559-930-1784 wegotthebeat@me.com
Ensemble Director	Roman Rivera	559-326-4772 romanplaysdrums@gmail.com
Assistant	Brandy Ruelas-Moore ensemble, soloing	559-916-0616 brandyruelas@gmail.com
Assistant	John Martin – Hand drums, drum set, ensemble	559-284-5128 info@cerronegro.net
Tech	Landon Peckham – (Both groups) Current Beyond The Beat member: Drums & Keyboard	Dad Derrick: 559-250-2412 derrick_1234@yahoo.com Landon: (559) 803-1745 landon_p@icloud.com
Tech	Cade Peckham – Bass player for Rookie & Secondary. Helps Beaters with parts	Dad Derrick: 559-250-2412 derrick_1234@yahoo.com
Parent Helper Tuesday/Wednesday	Tuesdays: Lauren Lieder (Nolan's mom) Wednesdays: Rebecca Jones (Luke & Sam's mom)	559-244-1489 (559) 286-6444
Trailer hauler	We could use someone other than Brenda who can pull a trailer, back it up, park, etc.	

**WGTB is a parent-volunteer based organization,
and we need your help to make things run smoothly!**

Please contact Brenda to find out what you can do to become involved today!

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