

WAME Alert!

*This is a WAME Alert! The **Wisconsin Advocates for Music Education** will email timely and important music education information on a monthly basis to keep you informed and involved. If you have ideas to contribute, please email Rich Mannisto, WAME Chair: rmannisto@aol.com.*

MUSIC PARENT — perpetual fundraiser or comprehensive volunteer?

Parents of music students have always risen to the challenge of fundraising for costumes, competitions, transportation, equipment and more. But music parents are also a valuable resource for many other activities including:

- Setting up, printing and folding concert programs
- Building sets for musicals
- Sewing costumes
- Researching background information on the internet
- Creating a music events calendar
- Posting music events flyers/calendars in area businesses, senior centers
- Writing and sending press releases (and the music events calendar) to local media
- Running errands—music stores, print shop, costume shops, etc.
- Staffing ticket booths or ushering for concerts and musicals
- Planning and facilitating receptions before/after concerts
- Organizing group ticket sales for concerts and musicals to area businesses, senior centers, neighboring schools
- Inviting local school board members and administrators to concerts
- Organizing and providing transportation for students to attend and support music concerts and events of neighboring schools
- Writing letters to the editor of the local paper in support of music events
- And last, but certainly not least, creating a visible presence at school board meetings and always representing the importance of music education in our schools

Parents have a vital and unique role in music education. They can testify to the importance of music education to the children — their children. Music makes a difference -- and that is what advocacy is all about.