



November 23, 2015

Dear YRDSB Principal and/or Music Teacher,

The York Region District School Board is pleased to announce the 6<sup>TH</sup> year of the Area West Elementary Enrichment Band. This program is designed to provide an enriched musical experience for York Region elementary students from grades 6 to 8. Musicians with a *minimum of 1-year experience* on a band instrument will have the opportunity to improve their performance and music skills, as well as participate in sectionals and master classes in a concert band environment. Last year, our success involved over 80 elementary musicians representing 15 schools in the West area of York Region.

The program will be housed at Westmount CI on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm from January 20 to May 25, 2016. The band will be instructed by York Region District School Board music teachers and will perform a variety of concerts throughout the term. The cost of the 18-week program (March Break is excluded) is \$75, which includes a music folder, sheet music, a band T-shirt and a three-day school tour.

We are asking each school to identify potential musicians from grade 6 to 8 who would benefit from this experience. The musicians should display the interest and responsibility necessary to participate in a large performing ensemble; although significant experience is not essential. Please distribute the Area West Elementary Enrichment Band information letter and registration form to your musicians, to be completed and returned it to you, with payment by **Wednesday, December 9, 2015**. All registration forms must be in the courier by **Friday, December 11, 2015**, addressed to **Farishteh Eriksen c/o Enrichment Band @ Glenn Gould Public School**. All additional information regarding the program and registration can be found in the letter below.

In an effort to be environmentally friendly, please note that paper copies of the Area West Band information letter and registration form will no longer be sent to each Area West school through the board courier. Please print and photocopy only as many forms as needed for your students. All of our correspondence will be through email.

For more information regarding the Area West Elementary Enrichment Band please contact:  
[areawestband@gmail.com](mailto:areawestband@gmail.com)

Thank you for your support,

Farishteh Eriksen, Glenn Gould P.S.  
Jessalyn Parina, Willowbrook P.S. (on leave)  
Cristina Chern, Herbert H. Carnegie P.S.





# Area West Elementary Enrichment Band

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November 23, 2015.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to the Area West Elementary Enrichment Band! We are excited to invite your child to be a part of our band as we begin the prep work for our 6<sup>th</sup> season (starting January 2016). In previous years, the band consisted of over 80 musicians representing 15 schools from across the West end of York Region. We are excited to bring this opportunity to you, and look forward to an even bigger and better band this year!

This program is designed to provide an exciting and enriching musical experience to York Region elementary students. This educational program is offered to students who wish to improve their performance and music skills in a band environment. To be part of this band, he/she should be participating in their home school band program (if there is one) and demonstrate *above average ability* on his/her instrument as well as a high degree of responsibility in music classes. Band members are expected to attend all practices (except for illness) and to perform at all concerts. Music should be practiced at home in order to ensure that all students are prepared for the rehearsals.

Musicians will have the opportunity to perform in a concert band, as well as participate in sectionals and master classes on their band instrument. Various concerts will be included in the program: the week before March Break, at the final evening session in May, for the Music Alive festival, and for a school concert tour. Other performance opportunities may arise throughout the season. In such an event, notices will be sent home.

## The Schedule

The Enrichment Band will rehearse each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 pm starting on Wednesday January 20, 2016 and will conclude on Wednesday May 25, 2016. The schedule includes 17 practices (including two concerts and a school tour), excluding the Wednesday during March Break.

## Teaching Faculty

The teaching faculty will include York Region District School Board instrumental music teachers Farishte Eriksen, Jessalyn Parina and Cristina Chern. Guest conductors and student volunteers will also assist the faculty in delivering a diverse high quality program that will meet the strengths and needs of all participants.

## The Cost

The cost of the Enrichment Program is \$75. This includes a music folder, sheet music, a band T-shirt and all costs associated with our school tour. **All students must bring their own instrument, mouthpiece and equipment (reeds, valve oil etc...) to each rehearsal.**

## Location and Directions

The Area West Elementary Enrichment Band will take place in the music room (Rm.108) at Westmount Collegiate Institute. Westmount C.I. is located at 1000 New Westminster Drive at the corner of New Westminster Drive and Bathurst Street in Thornhill. This provides our young musicians the opportunity to have access to a wide range of percussion instruments (including timpani, concert bass, marimba) and the opportunity to become familiar with the arts high school in the community.

## Registration and Payment

All registrations are due to your Music Teacher by **Wednesday December 9, 2015** so that your teacher can place it in the courier by **Friday December 11, 2015**. To register, please complete and return the Registration Form with payment to your home school Music Teacher, he or she can courier it to:  
**Farishteh Eriksen c/o Enrichment Band @ Glenn Gould Public School.**

## Great Opportunities!

Great opportunities make a long lasting impact on our young musicians. Such examples include:

- learning and having fun in a non-threatening atmosphere;
- increasing your playing and performance ability;
- master classes and sectionals for individual attention;
- rehearsing and performing with other students who want to play at a higher level; and,
- meeting and getting to know other music students from around York Region.

For more information about the Enrichment Band please contact us: **areawestband@gmail.com**

We look forward to working with your child in this enrichment opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Farishteh Eriksen, *Glenn Gould Public School*  
Ms. Jessalyn Parina, *Willowbrook Public School (on leave)*  
Ms. Cristina Chern, *Herbert H. Carnegie Public School*





OFFICE USE ONLY:  
Cheque #: \_\_\_\_\_

## Area West Elementary Enrichment Band

### REGISTRATION FORM

MUSICIANS: Due to your home school Music Teacher by WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2015.

MUSIC TEACHERS: Please place in your school courier by FRIDAY DECEMBER 11, 2015 addressed to  
**Farishte Eriksen c/o Enrichment Band @ Glenn Gould Public School**

**SESSION DATES: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20 TO WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016**

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUMENT \_\_\_\_\_

#### EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(\*Please note that email will be our standard communication\*)

ALLERGIES/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRT SIZE (Adult Sizes) Circle One:      Small                      Medium                      Large                      Extra-Large

**COST: \$75.00 CHEQUE (enclosed) PAYABLE TO "York Region District School Board"**  
and write **"Area West Elementary Enrichment Band"** on memo line of the cheque.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of parent/guardian) understand and agree to the expectations of  
membership in the Area West Elementary Enrichment band and give permission for  
\_\_\_\_\_ (name of child) to participate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### TEACHER'S COMMENTS (To be filled out by the musician's home school Music Teacher)

Please rate the student's skills and abilities on a scale of 1-5 (1 = Needs Improvement, 5 = excellent)

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Student is able to play the Bb concert scale fluidly   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Student reads grade level music with ease              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Student is highly involved in the school music program | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Student practices his/her instrument regularly         | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Student shows a passion for music                      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

# of years playing instrument \_\_\_\_\_