



## **Dayton Public Schools Inaugurates *DPS Big Gig* Event for Band Students**

Indoor percussion and winds comes to the Greater Miami Valley the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>, when WGI Sport of the Arts, headquartered in Dayton, brings its beat. The ensembles keep company with some amazing talent and all will create beautiful music with the 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade band students from Dayton Public Schools.

Yamaha Corporation of America and WGI are partnering with DPS because of public school music veteran, Marcia Neel whose pro bono services are her way of giving back to the local community. The former Kettering (Ohio) resident and Fairmont West High School alumna is president of Music Education Consultants, Inc., and serves as Senior Director of Education with Yamaha. She has created collaborations that will further develop the skills of band students in the Dayton Public Schools during the WGI Percussion World Championships April 16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Yamaha is sponsoring renowned percussion artist and educator, Lamar Burkhalter, that same week and WGI is sponsoring their esteemed Director of Winds, Wayne Markworth. Not only will they provide workshops for DPS instrumental music students, but Neel has also arranged a professional development event for DPS music educators on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. As WGI calls Dayton home, executive director, Ron Nankervis couldn't be happier about this new partnership with DPS. "This partnership is a priority with our organization and we are thrilled about becoming involved." WGI is providing DPS Instrumental Music students with complimentary access to its annual international competition which begins on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Referred to as the *DPS Big Gig*, this inaugural event will take place at Wright Brothers Middle School, 1361 Huffman Ave., 45403, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> with students attending WGI preliminary competition on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

This collaboration with Dayton Public Schools, Music Education Consultants, Inc., Yamaha Corporation of America and WGI Sport of the Arts is another link to DPS advancing instrumental music opportunities throughout the district. For further information, contact Alex Price, Director of Bands at Belmont High School, at 937.542.6460.

**Wayne Markworth**  
**WGI Director of Winds**



Wayne Markworth was Director of Bands at Centerville High School in Ohio for 35 years. He also served as Fine Arts Coordinator for the Centerville City Schools for five years and High School Music Department Chair for twenty years.

During his tenure the Centerville Band program involved over 250 students including three concert bands, three jazz ensembles, marching band, and Winter Guard and Percussion. They received consistent superior ratings and awards and the Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensembles, and Marching Band performed at OMEA state conventions.

Wayne developed the marching band, known as "The Centerville Jazz Band", into a unique and entertaining ensemble of 200 members that performed an all-jazz format on the field. They were finalists in Bands of America Regionals and Grand Nationals 57 times, with 14 regional championships and the 1992 Grand Nationals Championship.

Wayne has been a consultant, arranger, and instructor for many bands and drum corps. His articles have appeared in several national music publications. He also performed for four years as principal trumpet with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and studied trumpet with Vincent Cichowicz of the Chicago Symphony. Wayne received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Indiana University and a Master of Music degree from Northwestern University.

Wayne has presented many clinics and workshops for students and directors on such topics as brass performance, the total band program, stress and performance, contemporary music and general effect in the marching band. He has taught music classes and workshops at the college level as well, including Miami University, Wright State University and the University of Dayton. In 1992, he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Dayton-Montgomery County Public Education Foundation and in 2000 received the Centerville Education Foundation Teacher of the Year Award. In recognition of his 35 years of service, Wayne was selected the Grand Marshall of the 2005 Centerville Americana Parade. Wayne is an active clinician, adjudicator, arranger and trumpet performer and President of the music & consulting business Shadow Lake Music. He is currently teaching at Wright State University part time and writing a textbook on Marching Band Methods.

**Lamar Burkhalter**  
**Yamaha Performing Artist and Educators**



Lamar Burkhalter is an active percussion educator, clinician, arranger, and performer. He serves as the Music Director for the NFL Houston Texans and Director of Events for the NCAA EV1.net Houston Bowl. Lamar is also the Founder/Director of Percussion One, the renowned Houston based independent percussion group, which currently performs at various venues in the Houston area including the NFL Houston Texans, EV1.net Houston Bowl, IHL Aeros, MLB Astros, Six Flags Astroworld, and corporate and city wide events. Under his direction this group won the "Call for Tapes" in 1997. Percussion One previously performed a ten day concert tour of Moscow, Russia with the Red Army Band in 1997, and performed at the World Expo in Hanover, Germany in the summer of 2000.

Lamar's previous experience includes serving as the Percussion Director of the award winning Westfield HS Band, which includes the national high school division winner of PASIC's "Call for Tapes" in 1989 and 1994, and six 5A State Marching Band Championships. He has extensive teaching and arranging experience with numerous Drum and Bugle Corps including the Troopers, Sky Ryders, and Blue Knights. Lamar has served as percussion instructor for the Stephen F. Austin State University and the University of Houston marching bands. In addition, he has served as a clinician/performer for the Texas Bandmasters' Association, Texas Music Educators Association, the Percussive Arts Society, and the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic.

Lamar is endorsed by Yamaha, the Latin Percussion Music Group, Evans Drumheads, and Zildjian Cymbals. Lamar helped design and develop the "Zildjian Essential Stadium Series" mallet line to include his own signature sticks.