

EAST LAKE  SILVER SOUND

TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA

WINTER GUARD ENSEMBLE COMMITMENT PACKET

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Congratulations! You have been selected as an ensemble member of the East Lake High School Winter Guard. We are excited to have you along on our journey this season.

If you are a returning member of the Winter Guard ensemble, the requirement of a commitment packet may feel different than prior years. Winter Guard, and Color Guard beginning in the 2023-24 season, will be held to the same level of standards and expectations as the members of our bands, formalized by a code of conduct similar to the handbook our student musicians and their parent/guardian are required to sign at the beginning of each school year. This code of conduct is designed to provide every Winter and Color Guard ensemble member a positive and enriching environment in which to flourish and develop; become a strong, cohesive team; make lifelong friendships; and perform as ambassadors of East Lake High School in our community and across the state of Florida.

All Winter Guard Ensemble members and their parent/guardian must read and complete the enclosed Fair Share Responsibility and Code of Conduct forms. Forms must be submitted to either Mrs. Bert, Director Assistant for the East Lake bands, or Brett Stalnaker Guard Director, for the East Lake Band Boosters, no later than the last rehearsal of November. (Attention may be given by Guard Director to submit required documents) Failure to return the signed forms may result in dismissal from the ensemble.

Further, we need parents and family members to be active within our East Lake Band Booster organization for many activities, including fundraising and supporting year-round events as a Level 1 or Level 2 volunteer. The East Lake Band Boosters general monthly meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the East Lake High School Band Room. All dates are on the East Lake Band online calendar at www.eastlakeband.com/calendar. Monthly meetings give us the opportunity to regroup and direct ourselves to do what is needed to support our student musicians and performers. Successful music and guard programs around the country are always fueled by a robust booster organization.

If you have any questions, please contact Brett Stalnaker colorguard@eastlakeband.com or Whitney Vincent, Winter Guard Chair of the East Lake Band Boosters. Questions regarding Fair Share should be directed to Brett Stalnaker or Jen Trinidad, East Lake Band Boosters A/R Treasurer, at accounting@eastlakeband.com.

Winter Guard Fair Share Responsibility

Fair Share contributions from participating families are expected for both the Color Guard marching season and the Winter Guard seasons. Each season requires its own Fair Share contribution, which is determined in partnership between the East Lake Band Boosters Executive Board and the budget submitted by the Guard Coach through a combination of factors, including but not limited to, the number of team members, number of performance events, and complexity of program.

We are fortunate to be able to maintain the **Winter Guard Fair Share fees at \$500 per ensemble member**. There is no Pinellas County School Board funding available for this extracurricular activity.

Fair Share spreads the financial responsibility for the Winter Guard program equally between ensemble members. The Fair Share amount of the Winter Guard ensemble represents only a portion of the actual ensemble cost for participation, with East Lake Band Booster fundraising providing the balance of necessary funds to provide a robust, enriching program. Combined, we are able to fund a high-quality coaching team, performance development specialists, competition fees, and key performance needs.

Due to restrictions regarding 501(c)(3) organizations and non-profit Outside Service Organizations (OSOs), paid Fair Share funds are non-refundable, regardless of reason. If your Winter Guard ensemble member becomes inactive at any point after fees are paid, those contributions may either remain attached to your ensemble member's account as a credit toward a future Color/Winter Guard season or considered a direct donation to the East Lake Band Boosters. The East Lake Band Boosters accountants will request your choice upon notification of inactivity.

The second page of the Winter Guard Fair Share Responsibility is the form which will include your Winter Guard Fair Share payment selection. This form must be completed and returned with your ensemble member's Winter Guard commitment packet no later than November 30 of that year. Check payments may be placed in the blue barrel in Mr. Black's office or paid via PayPal to fundraising@eastlakeband.com. If paying by PayPal, please include your ensemble member's name in the comments so we can appropriately credit the account.

Should you have questions, please contact East Lake Band Boosters A/R Treasurer, Jen Trinidad, at accounting@eastlakeband.com.

Winter Guard Fair Share Contribution Selection

IMPORTANT: Return this page with your ensemble member's Winter Guard Commitment Packet no later than November 30, 20__.

Payment Option	Selection
1. I will be sending \$500.00 for Winter Guard Fair Share by check with my ensemble member no later than Thursday, December 1, 20__.	Yes / No
2. I will be paying \$500.00 for Winter Guard Fair Share via PayPal no later than Thursday, December 1, 20__.	Yes / No
3. I will be paying Winter Guard Fair Share in four equal installments of \$125.00 (December through March), paid no later than March 31, 20__.	Yes / No
4. I need financial assistance and would like to discuss my options.	Yes / No

Print name of Winter Guard Ensemble Member _____

Print name of Parent/Guardian _____

Print Parent/Guardian email address _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Winter Guard Code of Conduct

IMPORTANT: Return this page with your ensemble member's Winter Guard Commitment Packet no later than Tuesday, November 30, 20__.

	Student Initial	Parent/ Guardian Initial
Ensemble members agree to approach the duration of every rehearsal with an open mind and positive attitude.		
Ensemble members agree to remain coachable by their Winter Guard Coach and specialists. Ensemble members understand that these experts are here to help every ensemble member grow and develop as both an individual performer and ensemble member.		
Ensemble members understand that the Coach is solely responsible for determining the performance program, including but not limited to choreography, stunts, accessories, props, and all uniform components, including hair and makeup. Failure to do so is grounds for immediate dismissal from the ensemble at the sole discretion of the Coach.		
Bullying of any kind is strictly prohibited and is grounds for immediate dismissal from the ensemble at the sole discretion of the Coach. This includes bullying of other ensemble members, as well as any other student.		
Ensemble members will treat each other and other students, as well as all coaches, specialists, and affiliated adults, with respect and dignity. Failure to do so is grounds for immediate dismissal from the ensemble at the sole discretion of the Coach.		
Ensemble members will carry themselves in a manner which reflects their role as ambassadors of East Lake High School, both in the local community and across the state of Florida, at all events. Failure to do so is grounds for immediate dismissal from the ensemble at the sole discretion of the Coach.		
Ensemble members will abide by all other rules and expectations set forth by the Coach. Ensemble members will abide by all code of conduct and/or academic expectations as outlined in the Pinellas County School Board student handbook as well as any school-specific expectations required by East Lake High School.		

I understand that failure to abide by any aspect of the Winter Guard Code of Conduct may result in my/my Ensemble Member's suspension or dismissal from the ensemble at any time, at the sole discretion of the Coach.

Print name of Winter Guard Ensemble Member _____

Winter Guard Ensemble Member Signature _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____