August 11, 2014

Dear Prospective Wind Ensemble and Concert Band members;

Can you believe the school year is almost here? I am very excited about the upcoming year! I have some really fun projects planned and I know that you will enjoy digging into them as much as I will. Ensemble placement audition web page links: school start up information, audition schedule, and audition preference form.

This year we will be doing a number of wonderful pieces. Each year for the last 9 years the Wind Ensemble has performed a world premier, this year shall be no different. This year Dr. Youtz will be writing us a major work for our J-Term Nashville Tour. The commitment for the group is assumed to be for the entire year and this includes J-Term.

Those who make it into the Wind Ensemble will be expected to go along on our tour to Nashville in January. Any exceptions will be decided after the auditions and will be case-by-case. There is a very reasonable tour fee, you may find out more from the music office. We are VERY excited about this amazing opportunity.

If you are an Instrumental Music Education Major, it is highly recommended that you have experience with more than one ensemble each semester. It is our desire to provide you with as broad a base of experiences as possible. This is a challenge to do in nine semesters. Where work is important to put food on your table, I ask that you consider trying to accommodate your schedule, this investment of time now will pay rich dividends in the future.

Students in my conducting classes, it will be very beneficial for you to make the Wednesday night Concert Band time available. You will play a secondary instrument and may be involved with sectionals etc.

Concert Band will be a little different this year. It will be conducted by our newest faculty member, Dr. Ron Gerhardstein. He is very excited and we will be working together to continue to provide you with a fun and musical experience. He looks forward to programming and working with you. He is also excited about working with the student conductors as well.

Please take note of these dates and times:

- The Ensemble auditions will be during the weekend before classes start (Bring the enclosed ensemble preference form,) If you wish to play in the Wind Ensemble, you must be present for a live audition. Any exceptions must be cleared by me first.
- The first rehearsal for the Wind Ensemble will be held at **Monday, September 8th @ 3:40 pm.**
- The first rehearsal for the Concert Band will be held **Wednesday September 10th @ 7:15 pm**

**Percussionists, please note:** All percussionists on a music scholarship must audition on the weekend if they want to also audition for the Jazz Ensemble. It is also highly recommended for non-scholarship percussionists.

Please fill out the enclosed audition form and bring it with you to your audition. Make sure you sign up for an audition time when you arrive on campus. I have really missed rehearsal! Enjoy the rest of your summer. I am VERY excited about this new season! It is really going to be great!

Sincerely,

**Edwin Powell**
Edwin Powell, DMA
Director of Bands
Pacific Lutheran University