

# Winds

Advisory Board Members will vote for two (2) individuals to fulfill a two-year term for the Winds Steering Committee and one (1) individual to fulfill a two-year term for the Board of Directors.

<b>Steering Committee Nominees</b>	<b>Board of Directors Nominees</b>
Stephen Alia	Steve Aylward
Andrew Muth	Chris Wing
Wesley Pendergrass	

# Stephen Alia

Primary Affiliation: Horizon Winds (WIW)

Interested in the following Position: Winds Steering Committee

## Bio/Introduction:

Stephen Alia is honored to serve as the Executive Director for the Horizon Pageantry Arts Association, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit organization, as well as the Director of Horizon Winds. Horizon Winds was the 2024 WGI Winds Independent World Class Silver Medalists as well as the 2022, 2023, and 2025 WIW Bronze Medalists.

As the owner of Stephen Alia Visual Design, LLC, Stephen's active visual design clientele includes high school and college marching bands, color guards, and percussion ensembles from Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, and Tennessee.

In the WGI Winds world, Stephen is the designer for the 2022 Independent A and 2023 Independent Open World Champions, LSM Winds, as well as LSM East, LSM West, Newnan High School Winds, and Carlisle High School Winds. In addition, has served on the WGI Winds Steering Committee since 2019.

Stephen served as the Program Coordinator and Visual Designer for the Legends Drum and Bugle Corps, from Kalamazoo, Michigan from 2011 through 2013. Under his artistic direction, Legends was named a Drum Corps International Open Class Finalist each year and the 2012 DCI Open Class "Most Improved" corps. He was also the Program Coordinator and Visual

Designer for the Medellin Gran Banda from Medellin, Colombia, South America.

Previously, he was a public school band director in central Florida for seventeen years and a member of the music education faculty of Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. Stephen was the Frostproof Middle-Senior High School Teacher of the Year in 2005 and has been listed in "Who's Who of American Teachers" twice.

Stephen earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the University of Central Florida, where he studied trumpet with Lyman Brodie and John Almeida. He performed as a member of the Magic of Orlando Drum and Bugle Corps.

Stephen adjudicates marching bands as a member of the Central States Judges Association, indoor guard, percussion, and winds with the Florida Federation Judges Association, and auxiliaries for the Florida Bandmasters' Association. He was previously a Visual Judge for Drum Corps International and has judged internationally in Central and South America. He also serves a member of the Board of Directors and as the Education Director for the Central States Judges Association.

Stephen enjoys sharing this pageantry-filled life with his beautiful wife Sabrina and their blended family of six crazy, fun, talented, and sweet children.

#### Other Affiliations:

- LSM Winds (WIW)
- Newnan HS Winds (WSA)
- LSM West (WIA)
- LSM East (WIA)
- Southgate HS Winter Guard (SA)
- Southgate High School JV Winter Guard (SRA)
- South Orlando Independent (IA)

# Andrew Muth

Primary Affiliation: Westfield World Winds (WSW)

Interested in the following Position: Winds Steering Committee

## Bio/Introduction:

My name is Andrew Muth and currently I serve as the Director of Bands and Performing Arts Chair and Westfield High School in Westfield, Indiana. Over my time at Westfield I have seen the wonderful impact that the winds division has had on our program here at Westfield High School. We have participated at every level of WGI from a class a program all the way to participating as a world class group the last two years. I also serve as a designer for groups in WGI activity, helping to further spread the word of all Al the wonderful ways in which WGI helps creates outstanding young performers.

## Other Affiliations:

- Westfield Indoor Percussion (PSO)
- Westfield Open Guard (SO)
- Purdue University Winter Guard (IO)
- Elevate Winds (WIO)

# Wesley Pendergrass

Primary Affiliation: Lake Hamilton (WSW)

Interested in the following Position: Winds Steering Committee

## Bio/Introduction:

I have served on the guard, percussion, and winds advisory boards off and on for 19 years. I have been involved with WGI-Winds since its inception and have participated in all events and roles a non-voting member is eligible for.

## Other Affiliations:

- Vaquero Winds (WIW)
- Miamisburg Winds (WSO)
- Bellevue West Winds (WSA)

# Steve Aylward

Primary Affiliation: Miamisburg HS (WSO)

Interested in the following Position: Winds Board of Directors

## Bio/Introduction:

My entire professional career has been directly linked with WGI. It's hard to fully explain what it is like teaching in a place where WGI permeates through the community like it does in Miamisburg. I have been tangentially linked with one of the best color guard programs in the country for almost 25 years.

I have worked with the band program at Miamisburg since 2001, becoming assistant director in 2003, and then the high school director in 2007. The program has grown in stature substantially since I took over. In the fall, our marching band is one of only three Ohio schools to be a Bands of America Regional Finalist every competitive year since 2014. We are also a three-time BOA Grand National semifinalist, receiving 3rd place in Class AA both in 2015 and 2019.

I founded the Miamisburg Winds in 2016, and we have been WGI Finalists each year, including being named Scholastic Open Champion in 2022. To the best of my knowledge, we had the second largest scholastic group in the country this past year. I also serve on the Board of Directors and handle administrative duties for Valhalla Winds, the Independent Open Champion in 2024 and 2025.

Additionally, I have administrative experience outside of Miamisburg. I currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Mid-States Band Association,

and also serve as the General Effect Caption Head on the adjudication side for the Ohio Music Education Association.

I currently reside in Miamisburg, Ohio with my wife Katie, and my children Stephen, Annie, and Adam and my dog Brady.

Other Affiliations:

- Miamisburg HS (SW)
- Valhalla Winds (WIO)

# Chris Wing

Primary Affiliation: Greenfield Central HS (WSW)

Interested in the following Position: Winds Board of Directors

## Bio/Introduction:

I have been the Director of Bands at Greenfield Central HS since 2012. During that time, we have had groups participating in all 3 division of WGI, including the Winds Division since it's inception in 2015. I have been on the Winds Advisory Board and Steering Committee since 2015, as well as being on the Board of Directors 8 of the 10 years the position has been available.

I have been a band director for over 20 years. I have been married 20 years this July to my wife, Annie. Together, we have 4 kids, Brooklyn (14), Bethany (12), Brennan (11), and Brylee (5). Brooklyn and Bethany are both members of our guard program, and have already participated in WGI as performers.

I've cherished my time on the Steering Committee and Board of Directors, and have taken very seriously my role as a leader in the development and continued growth of the Winds Division.

## Other Affiliations:

- Greenfield Central HS (SO)
- Greenfield Central HS (PSO)