

G.R.I.T.

For Smaller Bands



PRESENTERS:

**GENE INGLIS, SAKS HIGH SCHOOL
GENA RAE NIX, GASTON HIGH SCHOOL**

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**SEVENTIETH ANNUAL
MIDWEST CLINIC
MCCORMICK PLACE
ROOM W187
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2016
12:00 PM**

G.R.I.T.: Gaining Resources in Teaching *the Smaller Band*

Gene Inglis, Director/Saks Middle/High Schools/ginglis.sh@ccboe.us

Consider Your Past to Inspire the Future

Developing Your Teaching Philosophy:

- * Remember your beginning experience.
- * Who or what inspired/inspires you?
- * Insure your philosophy connects your inspiration to each child you are entrusted to teach with compassion.
- * It should reflect positive advocacy for music.

Develop Your Teaching Ability

Professional Development:

- * Continue to develop the knowledge of each instrument & listen to the greats!
- * Attend Clinics, Conferences, Workshops
- * Talk to your mentors & master teachers, conductors & musicians.
- * Define the concept of sound you want/use chorales/balance/blend/intonation/etc.

Expectations: Everyday, your will to teach must be stronger than your students will to give up/Keep the rehearsal moving!

- * Be patient – What’s your definition? Inform students what patience looks like?
- * Connect your passion to your students/Use analogies & real life examples to inspire.
- * Plan, be consistent, teach all day and all of each period. In the midst of frustration breathe, slow down and think. You are the guide and role model for the students. Anger will not help and is dangerous. Stay in control.

Use technology:

* Record your rehearsals; listen to the band, but especially yourself; let the students listen; give them a chance to compare & contrast.

* Listen to recordings of masterworks for conceptual learning. Guide their thinking & musical awareness in the direction you are training them to go. i.e. when playing a transcription, it’s ok to listen to an orchestra!

* Sing, it’s the fast track to playing in tune; don’t be afraid.

* Online resources:

Websites/YouTube/Journals/Books/Smart Mu.

BE AN ADVOCATE FOR YOUR PROGRAM

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

* Scheduling! Express the educational need to meet in class each day.

* Articulate the importance of musical quality and what it takes to attain it/Explain judges’ evaluation/process/sell your program!

* Be inclusive in thinking – remember who’s boss. Keep everyone informed of all activities, promote performances & community events.

* Develop professional communications & relationships with administration, faculty, staff, parents, students & community i.e. remind 101/newsletters/web-sites (Facebook/Twitter/be careful w/social media)

* Make them feel part of the process...i.e. Invite your principal to conduct the fight song.

Booster Organization

* Help organize/know your role through administrative knowledge & support/be supportive/professional with clear division of responsibilities. Uniform design? Etc...

Developing Musicians

Persistence:

* Be faithful to your plan, but be flexible.

GRIT & Perseverance: Set the example for hard work and consistency!

* Setting goals for our programs and having passion for the goals we set, even on the tougher days. Be enthusiastic!

* Be faithful to the basics and establish student accountability pass offs, test, scales, tuning, exercises.

* Pick good literature; “Teaching Music through Performance in Band”, Review Music Performance Assessment Programs for ideas

* Use diagnostic questioning skills to locate student understanding.

* Think small group/sectional work

* Encourage participation in All State/Honor Bands/Private Lessons/Student Leadership/Peer Tutoring.

Instrumentation:

* You have what you have. What are you going to do with it?

* Long range planning for beginners

* Challenges of moving students to different instruments/re-score parts

* Developing a Foundation to assist low income students.

FINALLY: Don’t Quit!

G.R.I.T.: Gaining Resources in Teaching *the Smaller Band*

Gena Rae Nix-Band Director Gaston School; gena_nix@ecboe.org

GRIT

“Grit is living life like it’s a marathon, not a sprint.”

Angela Duckworth

- People with grit embrace challenge and hard work making us good role models for young people.
- Not just the plain hard headed, but they have set goals for themselves and their program: working hard, overcoming defeat, and going on to success.

What drives us in our daily profession?

Passion: *a strong feeling of enthusiasm for what we’re doing.*

- Why continue to pursue anything if we’re not passionate; it’s a matter of the heart.
- Have passion for the goals we set, even on the tougher days.
- Stick with your plan daily...not just when you feel like it.
- Recovering from failure in our profession can sometimes be the greatest lessons for us and our students.
- When facing adversity, be transparent with your students.
- Have an enthusiasm that will encourage students we influence daily.

Demographics of your School

Extracurricular Activities:

What is the dynamic at your school?

- Each school is different; we can’t compare our present school/job to our past school(s).
- Students should not be forced to choose between a sport and band.
- Communication about this with your admin/coaches/colleagues/students/parents is key.

As educators, we must work together to create unity in all programs throughout the school.

Our goal as educators should be finding common ground for student success in all areas; the whole student, not just the band student or athlete.

Communication: Small School Challenges

Administration: What’s our common language?

- We must communicate to the administration on the importance of our program.
- Be active in the scheduling of your students in band.
- Educate what’s important to quality of your band.
- What role does the band play in the mind’s eye of your administration?

FIND COMMON GROUND

Coaches: What’s our common language?

- Typically, coaches and band directors want the same things.
- We both share passion for our programs and its success; it’s our livelihood.
- Our philosophies are quite similar: Coaches need their athletes scheduled daily and Band Directors need their musicians scheduled daily.
- What happens when both band and seasons of sports are active at the same time? (Cheerleaders, Volleyball, Football and Marching Band, etc.)

We want student success in all areas creating a whole student, not just a successful band student; creating the ‘whole student experience’.

BE AN ADVOCATE FOR YOUR PROGRAM

About Our Presenters

Gene Inglis, a graduate of Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama has been working as a music educator for forty-four years. His first position was at Scottsboro Junior High School in Scottsboro, Alabama. Mr. Inglis then moved to Rome, Georgia where he served for six years at West Rome Junior High School, twelve years at West Rome High School, and eleven years as Director of Bands for Rome City Schools. While in Georgia, Mr. Inglis also served as adjunct percussion instructor for Berry College from 1980-2003. Mr. Inglis is currently in his fourteenth year as Director of Bands for Saks High School in Anniston, Alabama.

Under his leadership, the marching, concert, and jazz bands in Rome City Schools received superior ratings at GMEA festivals and approved events, as well as performances at GMEA, AMEA, and IAJE Conferences. The Saks High School Concert Band has received superior ratings at District and State Concert Band Assessments each year from 2004 through 2015 and had the distinct honor of performing as part of the AMEA In-Service Conference in both 2007 and 2012. The Wildcat Sound Marching Band has consistently received superior ratings, best in class awards, and division championships at marching band contests in Georgia and Alabama.

Mr. Inglis has served as adjudicator, conductor, and clinician throughout the southeast for marching, concert, and jazz performances. He is an active member of Music Educators National Conference, Alabama Music Educators Association, National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu Honorary Professional Music Fraternity, and Phi Mu Alpha Professional Music Fraternity. He has served in various leadership positions in these organizations over the past forty-three years, including serving as the State Band Chair for Georgia Music Educators Association from 2001-2003. Mr. Inglis is past president of the Calhoun County Band Directors Association and current president of the Gray Echelon, JSU's Marching Southerners Alumni Association.

Mr. Inglis's professional honors include Teacher of the Year at West Rome Junior High, 1976; Outstanding Band Director Award for the State of Georgia, presented by the American School Band Director Association, 1983; Teacher of the Year at West Rome High School, 1990; recipient of the "Legion of Honor" presented by the John Phillip Sousa Foundation and the National Band Association at the Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago, IL, 2002; nominee to the Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame, 2004 & 2010; "Citation of Excellence" presented by the National Band Association, 2007 & 2012; Alabama recipient for the "50 Directors Making a Difference" in Band and Orchestra Magazine, 2007; Alabama Music Educators Association's "Outstanding Music Educator Award," 2013; Inducted into the Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame, 2015.

Gene is married to the former Shenley Back of Gadsden, Alabama. They have one son, Tony, and two daughters, Gena Nix & Allison Brown. They are the proud grandparents to five grandchildren: Taylor and Emma Nix, TJ Brown, Claire and Kinley Inglis.

Gena Inglis Nix, a graduate of Jacksonville State University, was a member of the Leadership Staff in the Marching Southerners as Drum Major from 1997 - 1999. She began her career at J.B. Pennington High School in Blountsville, Alabama in 2000. In 2001, she moved to Dalton, Georgia and taught at Northwest Whitfield Middle School. Gena is currently in her 17th year as band director. She is in her 15th year as band director at Gaston School (K-12) in Gadsden, Alabama.

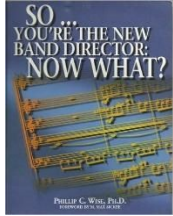
Gena is an active member of Music Educators National Conference, Alabama Music Educators Conference, Alabama Bandmasters Association, and Sigma Alpha Iota (professional music fraternity for women). Under her leadership, her bands have received superior ratings in the areas of marching and concert bands. In 2005, the Gaston Concert band received superior ratings at District Band Assessment; taking the band to State Band Assessment for the first time in school history. Her marching and concert bands continue their success in receiving superior ratings in festival and competition. Gena has been an active adjudicator for marching bands throughout the Southeast.

Gena is married to Jonathan Nix of Gadsden, Alabama. Jonathan is the head football coach at Pleasant Valley High School. They have two daughters, Taylor Brooke (12 years old) and Emma Grace (8 years old).

RESOURCES PAGE

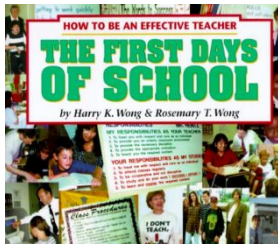
So Now You're the New Band Director, Now What?

Wise, Phillip C.; C.L. Barnhouse Company



The First Days of Schools

Harry Wong and Rosemary Wong; Harry K, Wong Publications



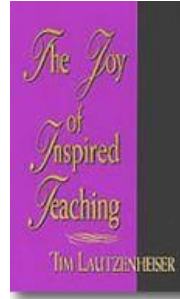
Teaching Music through Performance in Band, Volumes 1-10

Compiled and edited by Richard Miles; GIA Publications



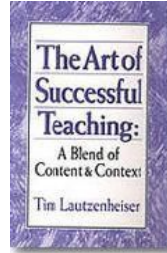
The Joy of Inspired Teaching

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser; GIA Publications



The Art of Successful Teaching

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser; GIA Publications



Tim Lautzenheiser's Classic Leadership: A Curriculum for the Development of Student Leaders

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser; GIA Publications



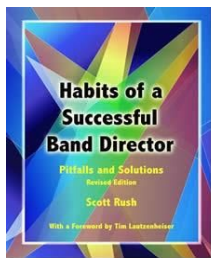
Leadership: Vision, Commitment, Action

Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser; GIA Publications



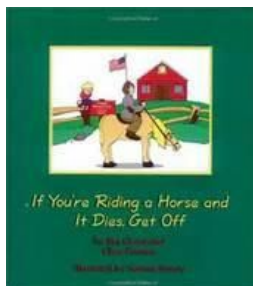
Habits of a Successful Band Director

Scott Rush, Tim Lautzenheiser; GIA Publications



If You're Riding a Horse and It Dies, Get Off

Jim Grant and Char Forsten; Crystal Springs Books



GRIT: The Power of Passion and Perseverance

Angela Lee Duckworth; Ted Talks

<http://digitalpromise.org/2015/01/14/the-research-behind-the-ted-talk-angela-duckworth-on-grit/>

