



Sound Off!

The Official Newsletter of the World Famed Tiger Marching Band



Winter 2025 Edition



Dr. Nikole Roebuck, Director of Bands, center

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we reflect on the close of an extraordinary season, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for what has truly been a landmark year for the World Famed Tiger Marching Band. The dedication, discipline, and passion of our students—alongside the commitment of our staff and the unwavering support of our alumni—made this one of the most exciting and rewarding seasons in recent memory.

Throughout the year, the World Famed continued

to shine on major stages across the country. From high-profile performances in Dallas and Las Vegas, including our unforgettable collaboration with King George at Allegiant Stadium, to our heartfelt Tribute to Cancer Survivors during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, our band consistently uplifted audiences and set the standard for excellence wherever we performed.

The season culminated in spectacular fashion at the Bayou Classic, where the World Famed delivered a show for the ages inside the Caesars Superdome. Sharing the field with international recording artist superstars GloRilla and Stokley, our students rose to the moment—bringing power, precision, and presence to a performance that electrified the Dome and perfectly capped a monumental year. It was a defining moment that showcased not only the band's versatility and depth, but its ability to perform at the highest level alongside world-class artists.

This year also marked significant growth for our program. The band surpassed 270 members, welcomed over 100 freshmen, achieved all of our recruiting goals, and expanded our halftime productions to feature six company fronts—a true testament to the strength and balance of our instrumentation, retention, and training.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated staff, the steadfast support of university leadership, and the loyal World Famed alumni family. Together, we continued a legacy of excellence and extraordinary achievement that defines who we are.

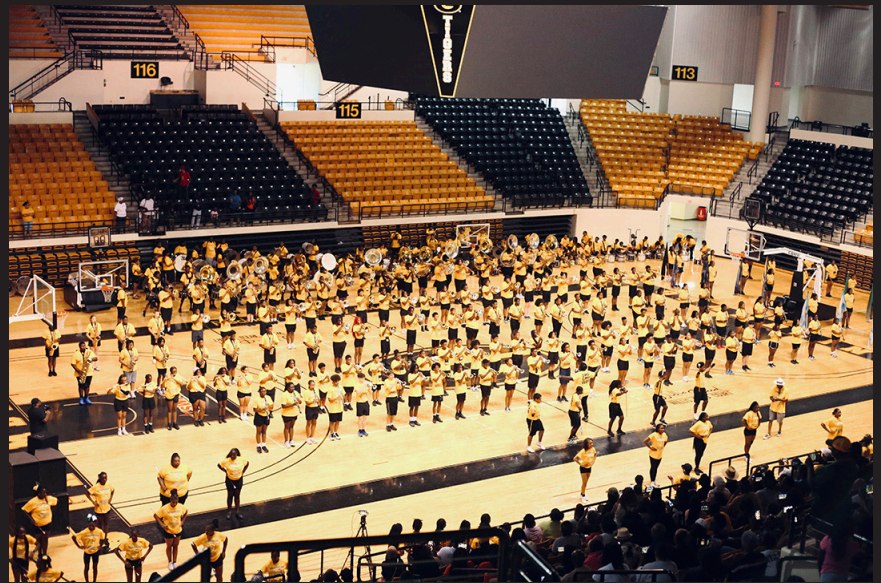
As we now turn our attention toward the World Famed Centennial Celebration in 2026 and the anticipated rollout of the official World Famed Louisiana License Plate, I am confident that the best chapters of our story are still ahead.

GS! GS! GSU!

Dr. Nikole Roebuck

Where Talent Meets Tradition: Inside the World Famed Summer Band Camp

From June 22–28, 2025, the campus of Grambling State University was alive with music, movement, and momentum as 330 students from across the country gathered for the World Famed Summer Band Camp. Open to students in grades 6–12, the camp delivered a comprehensive and immersive experience designed to develop musicianship, leadership, and lifelong connections.



Participants received hands-on instruction across a wide range of disciplines, including Marching Band, Concert Band, Beginner and Intermediate Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Instrument Master Classes. Students also explored performance and leadership opportunities through the Leadership Academy, Drum Major Workshop, and auxiliary tracks such as Twirling, Flag Line, and Dance—offering something for every interest and skill level.



Whether a beginner picking up an instrument for the first time or an advanced musician preparing for the next level, campers were challenged and inspired by the excellence and discipline that define the World Famed Tiger Marching Band. Daily rehearsals emphasized technique, musical growth, and performance standards, giving students a true glimpse into what it means to train with one of the nation's most respected band programs.

Equally important to the experience was the sense of community built beyond the rehearsal field. While campers worked hard throughout the day, evenings were filled with memorable social activities, including a trip to the local cinema to watch a box-office blockbuster, a pool party, a talent show, and a lively end-of-camp block party. These moments allowed students to unwind, bond, and build friendships that extended well beyond the week.

Campers traveled from near and far to be part of the experience, with students attending from as far west as Oakland, California, and as far east as Atlanta, Georgia. Many participants left expressing how much they had grown - not only as musicians, but as confident, motivated young performers - while also highlighting the friendships and memories made along the way.

The 2025 Summer Band Camp once again proved that the World Famed doesn't just teach music - it creates experiences that shape the future.



World Famed Alumni Return Home for a Memorable Homecoming Weekend

Homecoming 2025 was a powerful celebration of tradition, connection, and pride as Dr. Nikole Roebuck and the World Famed Tiger Marching Band welcomed alumni back to campus for an activity-filled weekend. Centered on strengthening ties and building deeper relationships with alumni, the weekend reflected Dr. Roebuck's continued commitment to honoring the World Famed family - past and present.

The celebration began on Friday, when alumni reconnected with the current World Famed through multiple shared performance moments. Alumni marched with the band to the university pep rally, where they joined current members in energizing the crowd and setting the tone for the weekend. Later that day, alumni and current band members came together for the World Famed breakdown,

performing side by side in a powerful display of unity, tradition, and pride that resonated deeply with everyone in attendance.

Alumni were also invited to attend a special open rehearsal for the Homecoming halftime show at Eddie G. Robinson Stadium, affectionately known as “The Hole.” This behind-the-scenes experience offered alumni a firsthand look at the preparation, discipline, and excellence that continue to define the World Famed today.

In addition to performances, alumni gathered with Dr. Roebuck and the band staff for a relaxed mixer featuring food, music, and fellowship. The event created space for meaningful conversation, reflection, and renewed connection between alumni and the leadership guiding the program forward.

On Saturday, alumni proudly joined the World Famed in the Homecoming Parade, marching through campus and drawing cheers from students, supporters, and fans lining the route. The presence of alumni throughout the weekend reinforced the enduring bond that connects generations of the World Famed.

Following Homecoming, alumni took to social media to share their appreciation for the experience, with many noting how welcomed and connected they felt. Several also expressed excitement for the upcoming Centennial Celebration Homecoming in 2026, which promises to be an even larger and more historic reunion for the World Famed family.



World Famed Shines Bright in Las Vegas

The World Famed Tiger Marching Band delivered a weekend to remember as it brought Grambling State University's sound, spirit, and showmanship to Las Vegas, Nevada for the highly anticipated Jackson State vs. Grambling State matchup. Traveling by chartered air flight, the band arrived on Friday ready to represent the World Famed brand on one of the biggest stages of the season.

The weekend began with a lively and well-attended pep rally on Fremont Street, where both bands performed in front of an energetic crowd of fans, alumni, and HBCU supporters. The World Famed immediately set the tone, captivating the audience with precision, power, and unmistakable Grambling flair. The crowd's response made it clear - the World Famed's presence elevated the entire atmosphere of downtown Las Vegas.

On game day at Allegiant Stadium, the band delivered a spectacular performance that left the stadium buzzing. The highlight came when national recording artist and Southern Soul superstar King George joined the World Famed on the field for a live performance of his signature hit, "Keep On Rollin." The collaboration electrified the crowd and created a moment that seamlessly blended HBCU tradition with contemporary Southern Soul, drawing thunderous applause from fans across the stadium.

The World Famed kept the momentum going with a dazzling dance routine that showcased creativity and precision, followed by a commanding fifth-quarter performance that demonstrated the depth of the band's musical book. Song after song, the World Famed energized the stands, proving once again why its repertoire and execution remain second to none.

From Fremont Street to Allegiant Stadium, the World Famed Tiger Marching Band delivered excellence at every turn. The Las Vegas trip added another landmark performance to the band's storied legacy and reaffirmed its reputation as one of the most dynamic and respected marching bands in the nation.





When the Dome Shook: World Famed Steals the Show at the Bayou Classic

The outcome on the scoreboard may not have gone Grambling's way, but one thing was undeniable—the World Famed Tiger Marching Band dominated the Bayou Classic stage in unforgettable fashion. Performing before more than 63,000 passionate fans inside the Caesars Superdome, the World Famed delivered a powerhouse performance that became the talk of the weekend and beyond.

The nationally televised matchup on NBC Sports provided a massive platform, and the World Famed seized the moment. From the opening notes of halftime, the field was set ablaze with precision, power, and unmistakable Grambling swagger. Social media lit up almost instantly, with clips circulating across platforms and the performance becoming a hot topic on podcasts, radio shows, and television recaps nationwide.

The highlight of halftime came when international superstar recording artist GloRilla joined the World Famed on the field. Accompanied by the Orchesis Dance Company, GloRilla dazzled the crowd with a choreographed routine set to the signature World Famed sound, wowing audiences both inside the Dome and watching from home. The moment perfectly blended contemporary hip-hop energy with HBCU tradition, creating a performance that felt historic.

The World Famed momentum carried throughout the weekend. At the Battle of the Bands the night before, fans were treated to a spectacular live collaboration featuring Stokely, lead singer of the R&B classic "Pretty Brown Eyes" by Mint Condition, performing alongside the World Famed. The celebration continued as the program also featured the King of Trailride Blues, Jeter Jones, performing the Southern Soul smash "Country Girl."

From modern chart-toppers to classic R&B and Southern Soul, the World Famed showcased the depth of its musical book - moving effortlessly across genres and generations, as it has done for decades.

At its core, the Bayou Classic is more than a rivalry. It is a celebration of HBCU excellence, culture, and tradition - and once again, the World Famed ensured that Black culture was on full display on one of the nation's biggest stages.

GS! GS! GSU!



Carry the Sound Forward: Become a World Famed Ambassador

The legacy of the World Famed Tiger Marching Band has always been built on excellence, pride, and community—and alumni play a vital role in keeping that tradition strong. We are now calling on World Famed alumni and supporters to help us identify and connect with the next generation of Famed musicians by serving as World Famed Ambassadors in their local cities.

As a World Famed Ambassador, you can help bridge the gap between talented students and the band by connecting our recruiting team with local high schools, band directors, and prospective students who embody the World Famed standard. Your insight, relationships, and regional presence can open doors and expand our recruiting reach nationwide.

If you are interested in serving, please email worldfamed@gram.edu and include “WF Ambassador Program” in the subject line. A member of our team will follow up with additional information.

Together, let’s carry the sound forward—and help shape the future of the World Famed.



A Century in the Making: Official Centennial Rollout Ahead

The World Famed Tiger Marching Band is proud to share that plans are actively underway for an official Centennial Celebration rollout as we prepare to commemorate 100 years of excellence, tradition, and impact in 2026. This historic milestone represents a century of musical achievement, cultural influence, and generations of students who have carried the World Famed legacy forward.

The Band Office is currently developing a comprehensive Centennial framework in coordination with university leadership, ensuring that all programming and announcements align with established university guidelines and reflect the significance of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration. As details are finalized, official information will be shared with our alumni and supporters.

We appreciate the enthusiasm and excitement from alumni and component groups who are eager to participate in the Centennial celebration. At the same time, we affirm that all official, sanctioned Centennial announcements and events will be communicated directly by the World Famed Band Office, providing clarity and consistency throughout the yearlong observance.

More information will be released in the coming months. We look forward to celebrating this remarkable milestone together as we honor a century of sound, spirit, and excellence.

Centennial Moments: The World Famed Everywhere (Official Centennial Photo Feature)

As we prepare to celebrate 100 years of the World Famed Tiger Marching Band, we invite alumni, supporters, and friends to help us capture the legacy—past and present—through photos that reflect what it truly means to be World Famed.

Centennial Moments: The World Famed Everywhere highlights images from across generations and across the globe, including throwbacks, travel photos, reunions, performances, Homecomings, Bayou Classics, and everyday moments of pride. Whether the memory was made decades ago or just yesterday, each photo tells a piece of the World Famed story.

To be considered for inclusion in an upcoming issue:

- Share photos on Facebook or Instagram using #WorldFamedEverywhere, or
- Email submissions to worldfamed@gram.edu with “Centennial Moments” in the subject line.

By using the hashtag #WorldFamedEverywhere or submitting photos via email, contributors grant Grambling State University and the World Famed Tiger Marching Band permission to feature images in official Centennial and band publications, with credit when available.

Together, we will preserve, honor, and celebrate a century of sound, spirit, and excellence.



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