



Sound Off!

The Official Newsletter of the World Famed Tiger Marching Band



Spring 2026 Edition



Dr. Nikole Roebuck, Director of Bands, center

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we move deeper into this historic Centennial season, I want to take a moment to reflect on just how active and energized this time has been for the World Famed Band Department.

From early planning efforts surrounding the Centennial...

To an intense and focused recruiting season...

To preparing for A Day With the World Famed...

And continuing our commitment to musical

excellence through performances like the Musical Spectrum Concert...

It has been a full and exciting season of growth, preparation, and purpose. And through it all, one thing continues to stand out:

The legacy we celebrate is not confined to a single moment in time.

It lives across generations—through every student, every alumnus, every director, and every supporter who has contributed to what the World Famed represents today. As we approach 100 years, we are reminded that while each era has its own story...

The sound has always been one. The legacy has always been shared.

That spirit continues to guide the work we are doing now—honoring those who came before us, while preparing those who will carry it forward.

In the weeks ahead, you will see continued updates, opportunities to engage, and ways to be part of this Centennial journey.

I encourage you to take a moment to review the information shared below, stay connected, and most importantly—remain engaged as we build toward this milestone together.

Thank you for your continued support of the World Famed.

Dr. Nikole Roebuck



As the excitement around the Centennial continues to build, the World Famed is already being recognized and celebrated across multiple platforms.

Here are a few highlights you may have missed:

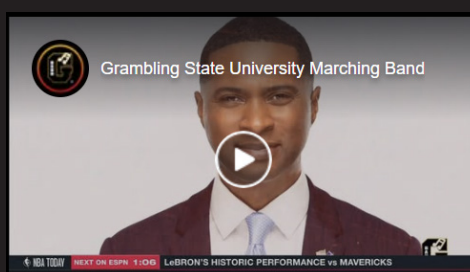
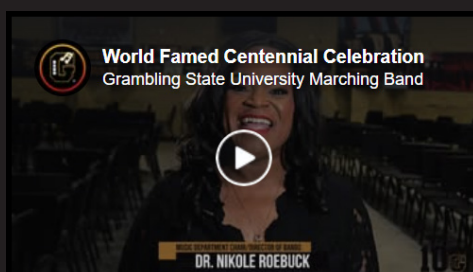
Dr. Roebuck's Centennial Announcement

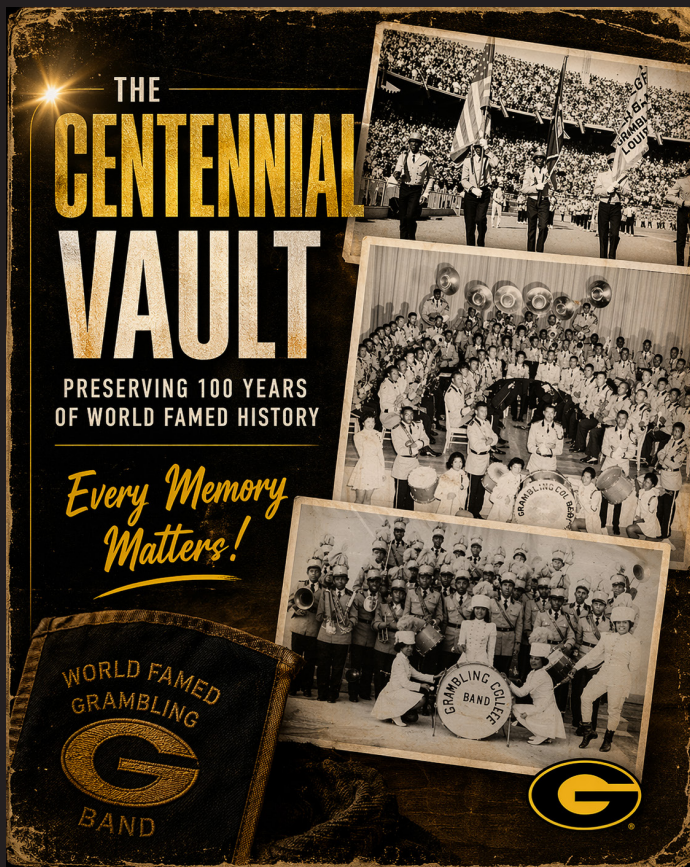
Dr. Roebuck officially set the tone for this historic milestone with her Centennial announcement—launching what promises to be a powerful year of celebration, reflection, and connection.

ESPN Highlights the World Famed Centennial

The national spotlight is already beginning to shine. Check out these ESPN features celebrating 100 years of excellence.

These moments capture the energy, tradition, and cultural impact that have defined the World Famed across generations. Be sure to like, comment, and share to help keep the momentum going and the World Famed front and center.





The Centennial Vault Is Coming

Behind the scenes, we are preparing to launch something special:

The World Famed Centennial Vault — a digital archive dedicated to preserving the history, memories, and moments that have defined the band for the past 100 years.

And we need you to help build it.

Now is the time to:

- Go down in the basement
- Dust off those scrapbooks
- Dig through those photo boxes and old tapes

We're looking for classic, powerful, unforgettable moments—on the field, on the road, in the stands, and behind the scenes.

The official submission link is coming soon.

Get your materials ready—because your memories deserve to be part of this legacy.

Alumni Band Participation — Get Ready

We will soon be releasing the official sign-up link for Centennial Alumni Band participation. The response will play a major role in shaping what this experience becomes.

Your participation will help determine:

Instrumentation and section balance

Overall band size and structure

Show design and musical selections

Rehearsal flow and weekend itinerary

In short—your decision to show up will help shape the moment.

So when the link drops... be ready.

Honoring The Legacy - One Director at a Time

As we celebrate 100 years, we are also taking time to honor the leaders who built the foundation.

We've already begun sharing tributes highlighting the legacies of:

- [Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones](#)
- [A.D. Sarge King](#)
- [J.S. Pop Lee](#)





These stories are more than history—they are the roots of everything we celebrate today.

Each month, we will continue this Legacy Series, honoring the directors and visionaries who helped shape the sound, the culture, and the standard of the World Famed.

Take a moment to revisit these tributes and reflect on the journey that brought us here.

This Is Just The Beginning.

Start gathering your memories. Get ready to sign up. And take pride in the legacy that we're all a part of. Because when the time comes... We don't just show up as individuals. We show up as one.

One Sound. One Legacy. 100 Years Strong.

Sustaining the Sound: Recruiting the Next Generation

As we prepare to celebrate 100 years of the World Famed, the work to sustain the legacy continues every single day.

Behind the scenes, we are in the heart of recruiting season—connecting with talented young musicians, building relationships with band directors, and identifying the next generation of students who will carry the tradition forward.

Our goal remains the same as it has always been: To find talented, high-achieving students who not only perform at a high level—but who are ready to grow into leaders.

Students who will:

- Uphold the standard of excellence the World Famed is known for
- Represent Grambling with pride and discipline
- Develop the character, work ethic, and leadership that extend far beyond the field

Because what makes this band special isn't just the sound— It's the people it produces.

Leaders in their professions. Leaders in their communities.

That is the legacy.

Expanding the Reach

This year, that work has been strengthened in a powerful way through the support of our World Famed Ambassadors.

Thanks to alumni and supporters stepping up across the country, we've been able to:

- Connect with schools we haven't traditionally reached
- Open doors with band directors and programs in new areas



- Coordinate both in-person visits and virtual auditions

That kind of reach doesn't happen by accident. It happens when the family comes together with a shared purpose: to keep the sound alive.

Join the Ambassador Network

If you're an alumnus or supporter who wants to help identify and connect us with talented students in your area, we invite you to be part of the effort. Becoming a World Famed Ambassador is simple:

Email us at worldfamedband@gram.edu. Let us know you'd like to assist, and we'll follow up with next steps.

Whether it's making an introduction, sharing information, or helping us connect with local programs—every connection makes a difference.

A Day With the World Famed: The Future Took the Field

“A Day With the World Famed” proved to be an overwhelming success, as the next generation of talent came to Grambling State University on Saturday, April 18 for an unforgettable experience during the GSU Spring Football Game.

With over 450 students in attendance from across the region, the event delivered one of the most impactful and high-energy recruiting days in recent memory.

A Full Immersion Into the World Famed Experience

From the moment students arrived, they were fully immersed in what it means to be part of the World Famed. Participants:

- Checked in and connected with band staff and current members
- Took part in sectional rehearsals and full ensemble run-throughs
- Learned music and performance elements alongside the band

- Experienced the culture, energy, and expectations firsthand
- Performed in the stands during the GSU Spring Game

From the first warm-up to the final note, students didn't just observe—they became part of the sound.

Moments That Matter

For many students, this was more than just a visit—it was their first true experience of the World Famed.

Their first time hearing the sound up close. Their first time feeling the energy of the stands. Their first time seeing themselves in the tradition. And for many, it was the moment everything clicked.

Connections were made. Confidence was built. And futures began to take shape.

A Pipeline for the Future

Events like “A Day With the World Famed” continue to play a critical role in building the next generation of the band.

What started as interest quickly turned into inspiration—and for many students, a clear vision of what their future could look like at Grambling State University. The level of engagement, enthusiasm, and talent on display made one thing clear: The future of the World Famed is strong.

Summer Band Camp 2026: Help Us Reach the Next Generation

The World Famed experience doesn't stop when the school year ends.

We're excited to announce that registration is now open for Summer Band Camp 2026, taking place June 7–13 on the campus of Grambling State University.

[Camp Registration Link](#)

A Full Musical Experience

This year's camp is designed to give students a well-rounded and engaging musical experience across multiple areas of performance. Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Perform in marching band, concert band, and jazz band settings
- Take part in full ensemble rehearsals
- Attend instrument-specific masterclasses focused on growth and development
- Learn directly from experienced instructors and staff
- It's an environment built to develop skill, confidence, and discipline—on and off the field.

What truly sets our camp apart is the full experience. Each day is centered around growth and musicianship—but each night, students get the chance to connect, relax, and enjoy the experience.

Evening activities include:

- Talent shows
- Pool party
- Movie night
- And more

These moments build friendships, create memories, and help students feel part of something bigger.

This Is Where You Come In

For many students, opportunities like this don't come through advertising— They come through someone opening the door. If you know a young musician with potential... A student in your local band program.... A kid who just needs exposure, encouragement, or a chance...

- Send them this link.
- Encourage them to attend.
- Consider sponsoring a student if you're able.

Sometimes all it takes is one connection to change a student's path. Because the students who show up this summer...

Are the ones who will carry the sound into the future.





Missed Day of Giving? You Can Still Make an Impact.

If you missed GSU Day of Giving on April 15, there's still an opportunity to support what matters most. You can give directly to the World Famed and be part of sustaining the legacy:

[Make your contribution here](#)

Whether you choose to give one time, annually, or monthly, every contribution directly supports the continued growth and success of the band.

Investing in the Legacy

As we approach 100 years, this moment is about more than celebration— It's about preservation and progression.

Your support helps:

- Develop the next generation of student leaders
- Expand recruiting and outreach efforts
- Enhance the overall World Famed experience

Because the legacy we honor didn't build itself— It was invested in. And now, we have the opportunity to do the same.

The Momentum Is Building

From official announcements to national recognition, the Centennial is already making waves. What makes it special is simple - every era, every member, every generation is part of the story. This isn't just something to watch - **it's something to be part of.**

How You Can Help

Be a part of building the momentum:

- Forward this newsletter to classmates, section members, and anyone in your network who may not be connected
- Encourage others to sign up for updates using the links below
- Engage on social media—like, share, and tag fellow alumni when Centennial content is posted
- Help us reconnect the family by bringing more people back into the conversation

Every share. Every tag. Every connection. It all matters.





SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

✉ **Forward**

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