

Music for All

NEWSLETTER

Grand National Championships

First year in Lucas Oil Stadium

Page 2-7

BOA Fan Network

Video On Demand and Live Webcasts

Page 5

Fall Championships

It's Bands of America Season!

Page 10

Music for All, NAMM and Sesame Street to Create a 'Musical Extravaganza' for the 2009 Rose Parade

Page 12

2009 Music for All National Festival Invited Ensembles

Page 20

Music for All Advocacy & Research News

page 32

...and the latest Music for All program news!



Music for All
RESEARCH & ADVOCACY



Programs of Music for All

National Presenting Sponsor

BE HERE FOR HISTORY

THE FIRST GRAND NATIONALS IN LUCAS OIL STADIUM

LUCAS OIL STADIUM UNVEILED MFA CEO Scott McCormick Part of Lucas Oil Stadium Ribbon-Cutting

Music for All President and CEO Scott McCormick (pictured right) joined other Indianapolis leaders and dignitaries at Lucas Oil Stadium Saturday morning, August 16, to officially open the \$720 million project to the public.



Lucas Oil Stadium will be the new home of MFA's Bands of America Grand National Championships this November. Just as Bands of America presented the first marching event in the stadium's predecessor, the RCA Dome, BOA's Sound Check at Lucas Oil Stadium on September 27 will be the first marching event in the new venue. BOA will also present a Regional Championship in Lucas Oil Stadium, Saturday, November 8. Lucas Oil Stadium will host the Super Bowl in 2012 as well as other marching events including the Indiana State School Music Association Marching Band Championships and the Drum Corps International Championships in 2009.

VISITOR GUIDE

Visit our online Grand National Visitor Guide for:

Hotels: Reserve your hotel rooms through the Grand National Housing Bureau online

Maps: Downtown Indianapolis, Lucas Oil Stadium, stadium seating charts

Hospitality Partners: Music for All is proud to be partners with Buca Di Beppo and the Omni Severin Hotel. Learn more about our Indianapolis Hospitality Partners on the online Visitor Guide

Suggestion Box: Tell us what you'd like to see on our online Visitor Guide!

MUSIC FOR ALL CLUB EXPERIENCE AT GRAND NATIONALS

The Music for All Club Experience offers Club seats and more. Lucas Oil Stadium Club Seats are perfect for fans who want to enjoy Grand Nationals from optimal sightlines, as well as the convenience and luxury of an exclusive Club Lounge.

Club seat amenities and privileges

- "Best seats in the house," with prime seat locations between the 30-yard lines
- Upscale, padded 21" seats
- Extra leg room between rows (approximately 4 more inches of leg room versus the Club Seats at the RCA Dome)
- Access and private entrance to Club Lounge, including Club only concessions and restrooms
- Complimentary light refreshments
- Large multi-image HDTV video wall (8' 10" by 15' 2") plus 35 32" LCD HDTV monitors
- Table and lounge seating
- MFA amenities & hospitality



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The Hub is the new online multimedia experience from Yamaha. Building on award-winning Yamaha podcasts, The Hub is a truly unique resource to serve all of your musical needs.

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2008 BANDS OF AMERICA

GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

presented by  YAMAHA

Get a view from the seats
online at musicforall.org

TICKETS

Finals MFA Club Experience	\$115
Semi-Finals MFA Club Experience	\$90
Finals Super	\$65
Finals Premium	\$51
Finals 20-30 Yard Line	\$41 SOLD OUT
Finals 10-20 Yard Line	\$35
Finals Outside 10 Yard Line	\$24
Saturday Semi-Finals	\$35
2-DAY Preliminaries	\$34
Thursday Preliminaries	\$20
Friday Preliminaries	\$20
Wednesday IPS Tournament	\$10

Music for All Network members order online at musicforall.org, at Ticketmaster.com or Ticketmaster by phone 317.239.5151. For more info, call 800.848.2263.

TIM LAUTZENHEISER STUDENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Sponsored by Marching Show Concepts

Friday, Nov. 14 • 5 - 7 p.m.



Tim Lautzenheiser is a well-known name in the music education world as a teacher, clinician, author, composer, consultant, adjudicator, and, above all, a trusted friend to anyone interested in working with young people in developing a desire for excellence.

The Grand National Leadership Workshop with Tim Lautzenheiser is open to all high school leaders with a desire for serious leadership training. This two hour program is for student leaders from all bands. Don't miss this incredible workshop and make it a part of your total Grand National experience! Groups of 10 register by November 1 and save.

Download the Registration Form at musicforall.org or call 800.848.2263.

2008 Grand National Bands

As of 9/12/08

Includes bands currently on the "wait list"

American Fork H.S., UT	L.D. Bell H.S., TX
Avon H.S., IN	Lafayette H.S., LA
Avon H.S., OH	Lake Central H.S., IN
Beechwood H.S., KY	Lake Orion H.S., MI
Bellbrook H.S., OH	Lake Park H.S., IL
Ben Davis H.S., IN	Lakeland H.S., MI
Blue Valley West H.S., KS	Larue County H.S., KY
Boiling Springs H.S., SC	Lawrence Central H.S., IN
Brentwood H.S., TN	Lebanon H.S., OH
Broken Arrow Sr. H.S., OK	Limestone Community H.S., IL
Carlisle H.S., OH	Lincoln-Way North H.S., IL
Carlton J. Kell H.S., GA	Louisville Male H.S., KY
Carmel H.S., IN	Marian Catholic H.S., IL
Carroll H.S., OH	Marietta H.S., OH
Center Grove H.S., IN	Martinsville H.S., IN
Centerville H.S., OH	McNicholas H.S., OH
Central Crossing H.S., OH	Meade County H.S., KY
Clayton H.S., NC	Metamora Township H.S., IL
Clinton-Massie H.S., OH	Milford H.S., OH
Colleyville Heritage H.S., TX	Milton H.S., GA
Collinsville H.S., IL	Milton-Union H.S., OH
Columbia Central H.S., MI	Monrovia H.S., IN
Columbus North H.S., IN	New Palestine H.S., IN
Crestwood H.S., OH	Nicholas County H.S., KY
Daviess County H.S., KY	North Laurel H.S., KY
Dawson-Bryant H.S., OH	Northmont H.S., OH
Dixie Heights H.S., KY	Northside H.S., AL
Dobyns-Bennett H.S., TN	Norton H.S., OH
Eastern H.S., KY	Norwell H.S., IN
Edgewood H.S., OH	O'Fallon Township H.S., IL
Farmington Harrison H.S., MI	Odessa H.S., MO
Father Ryan H.S., TN	Ooltewah H.S., TN
Firestone H.S., OH	Plymouth-Canton Ed. Park, MI
Fred J. Page H.S., TN	Ryle H.S., KY
Gateway H.S., PA	Shelby County H.S., KY
Gibson Southern H.S., IN	Springboro H.S., OH
Hart County H.S., KY	Tarpon Springs H.S., FL
Herscher H.S., IL	Tippecanoe H.S., OH
Hidalgo H.S., TX	Union H.S., OK
Highlands H.S., KY	Victor J. Andrew H.S., IL
Indian Hill H.S., OH	Vista Murrieta H.S., CA
Jackson Academy, MS	Waterford H.S., OH
Jenison H.S., MI	West Bloomfield H.S., MI
Kennesaw Mountain H.S., GA	West Clermont H.S., OH
Kickapoo H.S., MO	Western Brown H.S., OH
Kings H.S., OH	William Mason H.S., OH
Kiski Area H.S., PA	

Watch BOA Championships wherever you are



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BOA Fan Network Plus Subscription – \$69

Access to Video On Demand, plus Grand Nationals and three Super Regionals Live Webcasts

Fan Network Subscription – \$39

Access to delayed Video on Demand

LIVE WEBCASTS

Super Regionals

St. Louis Super Regional – October 17-18

Atlanta Super Regional – October 31-November 1

San Antonio Super Regional - October 31-November 1

Pricing is per Super Regional:

Two Day Super Regional Prelims Pass – \$14.95

Saturday Evening Finals – \$24.95

Grand National Championships – Nov. 13-15

Prelims: Thursday & Friday – \$14.95

Semifinals: Saturday – \$19.95

Finals: Saturday evening: – \$24.95

Live Webcasts:

Grand National Championships

Super Regionals:

San Antonio, St. Louis, Atlanta

Video On Demand

NEW THIS YEAR:

All BOA Regional Prelims & Finals available as delayed Video On Demand (VOD)

Plus: Grand National Prelims, Semi-Finals & Finals* VOD, Super Regional Prelims & Finals

VOD *See details when you order.

Watch for archival, past-season BOA video to be online soon.

visit www.musicforall.org

** Wired high speed internet connection required for Live Webcast and Video On Demand.*



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SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Indianapolis Public Schools Marching Band Tournament
presented by Yamaha and Sharp Business Solutions

The IPS Tournament kicks off the Grand National
Championships for the fifth consecutive year.

7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Preliminary Performances Day One

Grand National Expo

Concourse Level Lucas Oil Stadium

Thursday through Saturday

Music industry, souvenir/novelty booths, drum corps,
color guard, colleges, gaming and more!

Friday, Nov. 14

Preliminary Performances Day Two

Student Leadership Workshop with Dr. Tim
Lautzenheiser

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Leadership Workshop enrollment is open to all student
leaders from any high school band!

Saturday, Nov. 15

Semi-Finals Performances

Top 30 contenders vie for Class Championships and a
spot in the evening Finals

Grand National Finals

7:00 p.m.

One of the most exciting nights of marching music
on the planet!

2008 BANDS OF AMERICA

GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

presented by
 YAMAHA

VOLUNTEER AT GRAND NATIONALS

People volunteer for many reasons – it connects you with others who share your interests, it gives you a chance to give back to what's important to you, it gives you a chance to make a difference! Music for All relies on passionate supporters of music and arts to help make our programs possible. This fall, nearly 300,000 young performers and audience members will come together at Bands of America Championships. Music for All is now taking applications for fall volunteers, including for the Grand National Championships. Whatever YOUR reason, we can't do it without you! Complete our online volunteer form at musicforall.org or call 800.848.2263 and let's band together this fall!

IN EXHIBITION

Two of the nation's finest college marching bands help initiate Lucas Oil Stadium by returning to Grand Nationals in special exhibition.

Riverside Community College Marching Tigers Riverside, CA • Gary and Sheila Locke, Director

Since its humble beginning with only 16 members showing up for the first band camp in August of 1984, nearly 3,000 people have walked through the doors of HG 101. In 2008, the RCC "Marching Tigers" will celebrate its 25th Anniversary. Known as "Hollywood's Band," the RCC Marching Tigers' IMDB.com entry lists 22 film and television appearances, not counting their performances as part of televised parades and football games. Learn more at rccbando.org.

Western Carolina University Pride of the Mountains Cullowhee, NC • Bob Buckner, Director

One of the most exciting and innovative marching bands in the southeast, the "Pride of the Mountains" perform at all home football games and perform exhibitions at high school band events each fall. Approximately 60% of its members are non music majors. Director Bob Buckner is a member of the Bands of America Hall of Fame. Learn more at prideofthemountains.com.



FEEL THE INDY BEAT IN 2009: GRAND NATIONALS AND PASIC

Grand Nationals focuses the nation's music and band fans on Indianapolis each fall. If ever there was a year to be in Indy in November, it's 2009 when the BOA Grand Nationals and Percussive Arts Society International Conference will be held concurrently, November 11-14. Music for All and PAS are strategic partners and both organizations are headquartered in Indianapolis. We're excited about the opportunities 2009 presents for music-lovers to enjoy two of the nation's premier gatherings of performances, musicians and educators.

Mark your calendars for November 11-14, 2009 and watch for details about how you can enjoy both incredible musical events.

PERCUSSIVE
ARTS SOCIETY

www.pas.org

Follow BOA Championships Online



musicforall.org is your source for the latest Bands of America and Music for All news. Whatever your interest, you can find info on all Music for All programs and activities at www.musicforall.org. Watch for our behind-the-scenes blogs this fall!

Join the conversation: the Network is your online music community!

Sign up at www.musicforall.org for the free MFA Network – an online community of teachers, students, parents, alumni and fans. After a quick and easy sign up process, you can access:

- Discussion forums with thousands of posts and current conversations
- BOA Championship results and judges' recaps
- MFA eNewsletter with the latest news
- First chance at offers like Grand National tickets, discount Symposium registration



YouTube **www.youtube.com/musicforalltv**

Visit our YouTube channel for video highlights from 2008 BOA Champion performances, event news reports, honor ensemble concert excerpts and, this December, highlights from the BOA Honor Band experience at the 2009 Rose Parade®.



Facebook

Become a fan of Bands of America and Music for All. Search "Bands of America" and "Music for All" to find us under "Pages" and become a fan.



MySpace

We'll add you on MySpace - <http://www.myspace.com/musicforallmusic>

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2008 BANDS OF AMERICA

Fall Championships

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IT'S BANDS OF AMERICA SEASON

AFTERMATH

All of us at Music for All and the entire Music for All family have our friends and colleagues and the affected communities on the Gulf Coast and the Nation's heartland in our thoughts and prayers. We are committed to helping support and restore the wellbeing and activities of our friends as soon as possible. We expect to operate ALL of our scheduled fall events.

See what we can all do to help at www.musicforall.org

ARE WE CLOSE TO HOME?

Is there a BOA Regional or Super Regional near you? We know travel costs are high; a BOA Championship near you gives you and your students an opportunity to witness outstanding performances by some of the finest high school marching bands in the nation.

TICKETS

Sign up for the free MFA Network to order online at www.musicforall.org, where you can also download a ticket order form, or call 800.848.2263.

MEANT TO PRINT!

Print out this schedule for your fridge, corkboard, locker, etc.

Schedule of Events

Sept. 20, 2008

- ▶ Tulsa, OK
Fall Preview Experience
Union High School

- ▶ Centerville, OH
Centerville High School

Sept. 27, 2008

- ▶ Indianapolis, IN
Sound Check at Lucas
Oil Stadium

- ▶ Massillon, OH
Paul Brown Tiger
Stadium

Oct. 4, 2008

- ▶ Murray, KY
Murray State University

- ▶ Arlington, TX
University of Texas at
Arlington

Oct. 11, 2008

- ▶ Houston, TX
Pearland Stadium
(The RIG)

- ▶ Orlando, FL
Citrus Bowl

- ▶ Ypsilanti, MI
Eastern Michigan
University

Oct. 17 - 18, 2008

- ▶ SUPER REGIONAL
St. Louis, MO
Edward Jones Dome

Oct. 18, 2008

- ▶ Towson, MD
Towson University

Oct. 25, 2008

- ▶ Las Vegas, NV
University of Nevada,
Las Vegas

- ▶ Doylestown, PA
War Memorial Stadium

Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2008

- ▶ SUPER REGIONAL
Atlanta, GA
Georgia Dome

- ▶ SUPER REGIONAL
San Antonio, TX
Alamodome

Nov. 8, 2008

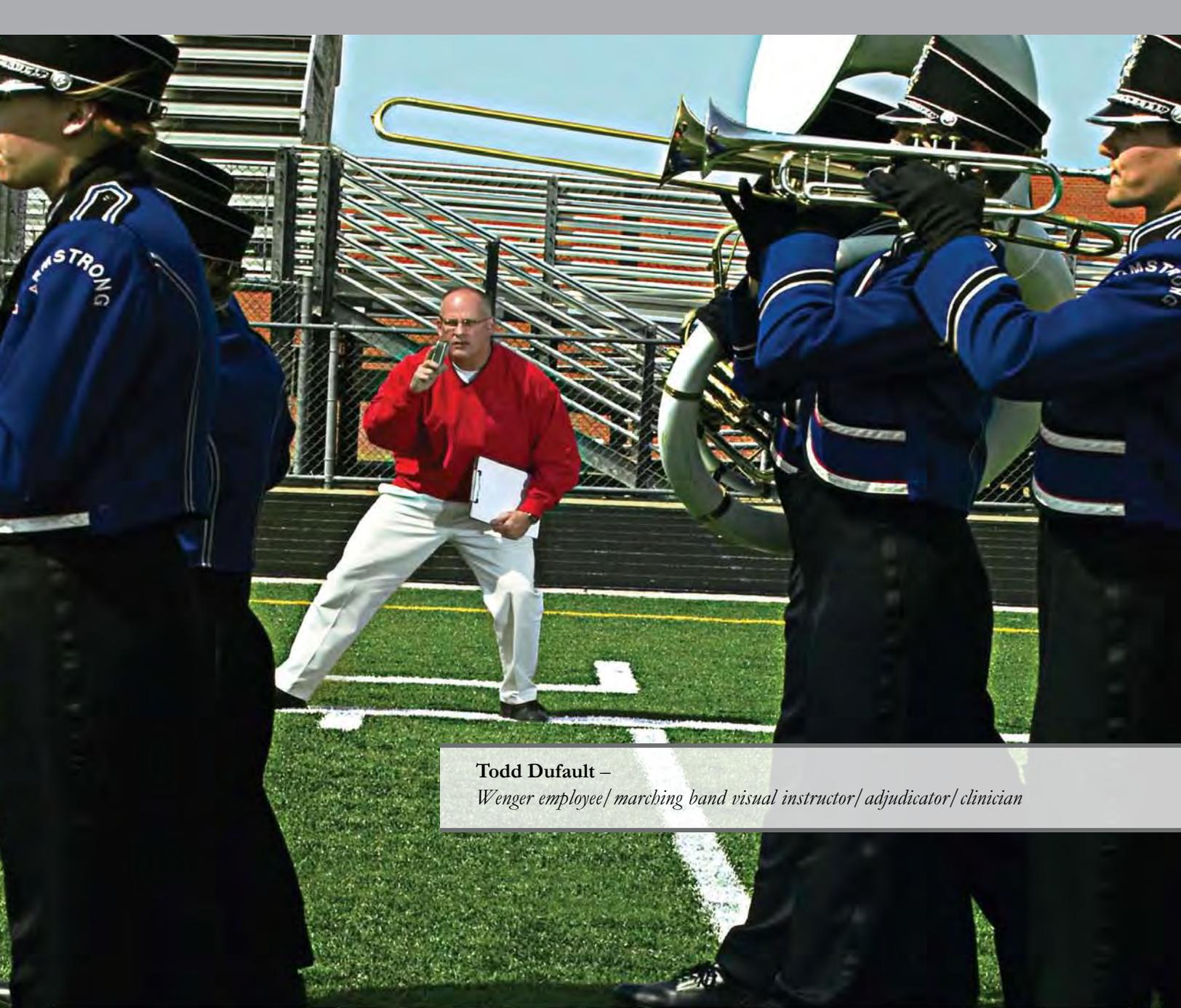
- ▶ Indianapolis, IN
Lucas Oil Stadium

- ▶ Monterey Park, CA
East Los Angeles College

Nov. 12-15, 2008

- ▶ GRAND NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
Indianapolis, IN
Lucas Oil Stadium

Come to the events near you and
follow the action online at
www.musicforall.org



Todd Dufault –

Wenger employee/ marching band visual instructor/ adjudicator/ clinician

WE LIVE FOR MUSIC. Being a music lover isn't a 9 to 5 job. It's an around the clock, last your whole life love affair. We understand. At Wenger, our people are passionate about music-just like you, be it marching band, choir or orchestra. That's why it's so easy for Todd to keep in step with the latest needs of educators and performers. From risers to folio cabinets, music stands to instrument storage and more, Wenger offers the music equipment musicians want most.



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Ringling in the New Year

Music for All, NAMM and Sesame Street to create a 'Musical Extravaganza' float for 2009 Rose Parade

To celebrate the joys and benefits of playing music, Music for All has teamed with NAMM and Sesame Workshop to create a "musical extravaganza" float, which will be a special feature for the overall 2009 Parade theme of "Hats Off to Entertainment."

Sesame Workshop, producers of "Sesame Street," is a non-profit educational organization and a well-known advocate for integrating music into its program to help children viewers learn and grow. This is the fourth year that Sesame Workshop has collaborated with NAMM on a float for the Tournament of Roses Parade.

Music for All's mission is to create, provide and expand positive life-changing experiences through music for all. This year is the second time since the 2005 Tournament of Roses® Parade that Music for All has formed the Bands of America Honor Band, an ensemble representing high schools nationwide.

This year's band comprises more than 300 performers, including a dance team of 16 and 32 member flag team. The performers will meet for the first time in Southern California on Dec. 27, 2008, to prepare for performances in the

Tournament of Roses' BandFest and Rose Parade on January 1.

George N. Parks, a prominent trainer of drum majors in the country and director of the University of Massachusetts Minuteman Marching Band, will lead the Honor Band, assisted by an all-star staff comprising directors of some of the nation's top high school music programs. Selected band members auditioned and have rehearsed the music using the latest music teaching technology, MakeMusic's SmartMusic®, which has allowed the teaching staff to help prepare the musicians despite the geographic distances between them.

The Honor Band will play an original medley of "Sesame Street" hit tunes, compiled by award-winning arrangers Michael Klesch and Thom Hannum, and a variety of other musical pieces celebrating the joys of making music. The musical compilation will feature six different solo breaks to highlight each of the individual segments of the marching band ensemble.

NAMM is returning to the parade for the sixth year in a row and is once again showcasing its message to the general public that the benefits of playing music are powerful for people of all ages. Overflowing with live music and depictions of how much fun playing music can be for everyone, the NAMM float and Music for All's Honor Band have joined to form a featured "mega" unit.

The flower-covered creation will comprise a larger float with three smaller satellite "pods" riding alongside it, and will feature a variety of musical talent. Onboard the main float will be an animated Big Bird shown playing a horn, and celebrity Bob McGrath, original cast member of "Sesame Street" who plays the music teacher on the show.





Performing on the main float will be a string quartet, a jazz combo, and two backup vocalists—all against the backdrop of the traditional “Sesame Street” lamppost.

The three pods will feature a sculpted Elmo character along with a vocalist; a crafted Abby Cadabby and a Latin guitarist; and a large sculpture of Oscar the Grouch and two garbage can percussionists. A 24-person World Drumming unit will perform alongside the float with the marching band ensemble.

Fundraising Tool to Help Provide Their Positively Life-Changing Experience

Traveling to the Tournament of Roses is for many a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but amazing experiences usually have a cost. That’s why Music for All is providing a fundraising opportunity to Honor Band in the Rose Parade participants. Through the program, participants send emails and letters to their friends and family requesting their support. Donors contribute online or via mail. New Year’s Day is still months away, but these students are in a fundraising-frenzy! To date, 100+ participants have raised over \$47,000.

Two participants have already reached their goals. Marissa Louthan is a junior clarinetist from Haltom H.S. in Haltom City, TX. She had her first MFA experience at the recent Summer Symposium and is hooked. Marissa is also auditioning for the Honor Band at the 2009 Music for All National Festival and hopes to return to camp next year. Marissa wishes to become a music educator and believes these experiences will help her towards that goal. Samuel Insana, a recent graduate of Portsmouth H.S. in Portsmouth, RI, is also looking forward to the trip.

A Few Outstanding Players Needed to Complete the BOA Honor Band for the 2009 Rose Parade®

Just a few more very special musicians are needed! Join the 271 students from across the nation already selected to perform in the second version of the Bands of America Honor Band that will be featured in the 2009 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, Bandfest and Disneyland performance. This seven night, eight day experience is a once in a lifetime opportunity for participating students and their families. The band is looking for outstanding high school musicians on trumpet, trombone, tuba, clarinet, flag, musicians for String Quartet, Jazz Combo and Vocalists. Call or email Music for All right away at 800.848.2263 as remaining positions will be filled on a first come, first served basis for qualified musicians.

Download the application packet at musicforall.org.

“It is a dream come true for me to be chosen to perform in this elite band with students from around the country representing the USA in the Rose Bowl!” Participants have supplemented the program with creative fundraising methods of their own. Marissa designed a raffle and a flier for her family’s restaurant customers to show their support (pictured).



Rachel Quitevis of L.V. Berkner H.S. in Richardson, TX sold candy bars to her classmates utilizing slogans like “Take me to BOA.” Others, like Noelle Werner of Whitewater H.S. in Whitewater, WI, have used a quite fitting method to raise funds – musical performances. Good fundraising, good publicity and good practice as our Honor Band participants eagerly await the New Year and the sunny city of Pasadena.

Know Someone Deserving of “Parent/Booster of the Year?”

Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award



Music for All is accepting nominations for the 2008 Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award. Music for All announced the creation of this new national music parent and booster award during last fall's Bands of America Grand National Championships. The award will be presented to the 2008 recipient at Grand Nationals, November 12-15

in Indianapolis' new Lucas Oil Stadium.

The Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award recognizes the extraordinary support, involvement and contributions of music parents and boosters by shining a spotlight on a recipient who exemplifies these qualities.

The award is named in honor of Patrick John Hughes, the father of Patrick Henry Hughes, a remarkable young man who was born without eyes and without the ability to fully straighten his arms and legs, making him unable to walk. Additionally, two steel rods were surgically attached to Patrick's spine to correct scoliosis.

Despite circumstances that seem overwhelming to many, Patrick has overcome these physical issues to excel as a musician and student. Patrick started playing the piano at the age of only nine months, and also plays the trumpet and sings. He even participates in the University of Louisville School of Music Marching and Pep Bands with help from his father, who tirelessly maneuvers his wheel chair through the formations with the other 220+ members of the Cardinal Marching Band.

Mr. Hughes attends every practice and game with Patrick and learns all the drill. Patrick focuses on his playing while his father is focused on being his son's eyes and legs. Mr. Hughes works an overnight shift at UPS, getting four or five hours of sleep so he can attend Patrick's classes and rehearsals with him all day. Patrick's mother, Patricia Hughes, works full time, while taking care of the household, Patrick's medical needs and two brothers, Jesse and Cameron.

Patrick John Hughes, his wife Patricia Hughes and sons Patrick Henry, Jesse and Cameron were all on hand for the 2007 award unveiling. Members of the University of Louisville marching band, under the direction of Dr.

Gregory Byrne, and including Patrick Henry Hughes, performed “My Old Kentucky Home” as part of the ceremony for Mr. Hughes before a Grand National crowd of nearly 20,000.

“I'm just a parent of a young man that wanted to be in band,” said Hughes. “I'm truly humbled beyond words that Music for All is choosing to honor me in this way.”

“The commitment and support of music parents are vital to the success of students achieving their goals,” said Scott McCormick, President and CEO of Music for All. “Music for All's Parent/Booster Award shines a spotlight on that dedication. We are honored to name this award to honor Patrick John Hughes.”

Just two days before the award presentation, the Hughes family moved into their new house in Louisville, as part of ABC's “Extreme Home Makeover.” The University of Louisville marching band's practice field was also renovated for the show, which was aired in February and July 2008.



Nominate the remarkable Parent/Booster in your life!

While the deadline for 2008 nominations has past, now is the time to start thinking about the Parent/Booster in your program who deserves this recognition. Here's how: Download the nomination form at musicforall.org or call 800.848.2263 to get a form. Nomination procedure includes the completed form with essay, letters of support and an optional video nomination.

Selection criteria:

- Value of service
- Level of involvement with the music program
- Strength of the letters of support
- Results achieved by nominee
- Power of story to motivate others.
- Creativity of the nomination entry
- Audio/video support materials

Recipient will be the guest of Music for All at the Grand National Championships for the awards presentation.





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SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

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June 23-28, 2008, Illinois State University, Normal IL
June 21-22 Leadership Weekend Experience



Scenes from the Summer Symposium

The summer workshop and festival was Bands of America's first event in 1976. In 2008, the Music for All Summer Symposium brought together more than 1,800 students and teachers on the campus of Illinois State University for a week of musical learning and leadership. Thousands more attended the evening concert series which included the Yamaha Young Performing Artists, U.S. Army Field Band, Barrage, Jeff Coffin Mu'tet with very special guest Futureman and the DCI Central Illinois drum corps show.



Above: Mr. Richard Clary, Director of Wind Ensemble studies at Florida State University, conducted one of four student concert bands, during their week-end final performance.



The Yamaha Young Performing Artists, pictured here with Yamaha artists Dave Samuels (back row, left) and Mike Garson (back row, right), kicked off the Symposium evening concert series with mind-blowing performances.



From Left: Michiaki O, Tadashi Fukushima, Jeff Coffin and Masao Yamashita. Yamaha and Vandoren artist Jeff Coffin visited back stage with special guests from Yamaha Corporation of Japan (YCJ) who spent the week experiencing the Summer Symposium.

Experience it online

Visit musicforall.org/programs/symposium/ to see coverage from the 2008 symposium including video newscasts, photos and blog, as well as downloadable student ensemble concert programs and sample daily schedules from every division of camp.

Mark Your Calendars!

June 22-27, 2009

Music for All Summer Symposium presented by Yamaha Illinois State University, Normal, IL

Register online by Dec. 31 for the best savings on registration fees. Directors, hold spots for students “to be announced” to get the best price. Visit us at our booths at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Dec. 18-20 and pick up the latest info on Symposium curriculum and faculty



Barrage string members worked with symposium orchestra students during a rehearsal for their combined on-stage performance for a concert hall of 2,000 audience members.



Symposium percussion faculty Colin McNutt (left), Thom Hannum (second from right) and Brian Nozny (right) visit with band director Marc Whitlock from Michigan during a directors' evening social.

Right: Brothers Reginald Purvis, director at George Washington H.S., VA, and Richard Purvis, director at York H.S., VA, were return participants in the Directors Academy workshops.



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Music Students Experience Summer Symposium Thanks to Scholarships Funded by Companies and Individuals

Nearly 50 students from across the country received scholarships to attend the Music for All Summer Symposium in 2008. Thirty-three scholarship students from Indianapolis Public Schools participated in nearly every student division, along with a dozen recipients of the L.J. Hancock Scholarships, established in memory of the band director and Music for All camp director.

Students from Arlington High School, Arsenal Technical High School, Broad Ripple High School, Northwest High School, TC Howe Academy and Crispus Attucks Jr. High participated alongside 1,400 student musicians and more than 350 music teachers and faculty representing more than 30 states and several countries. Band directors from Arsenal Technical, Northwest, Arlington and H.S. Harshman Middle School also attended to participate in the Directors' Academy continuing education.

Scholarships covered students' full symposium experience fees, including tuition, housing and meals.

"Having heard about the experience from IPS students who attended the past three years, I could not truly feel the impact until I experienced it myself," said Linda Poulter, music coordinator for Indianapolis Public Schools.

"It was really powerful to see all of those students engaged and having a ball. What stood out the most to me was how much the leadership training was woven into every aspect of the experience."

L.J. Hancock Scholarships are funded through the L.J. Hancock Scholarship Fund with individual and corporate donations. Funding of the annual IPS scholarships is through companies and private individuals, with a significant portion of the funding this year through Band Together, a project of WTTS 92.3 and Music for All. Gifts were generated from a percentage of ticket sales from



WTTS concerts with the BoDeans and Newton Faulkner, as well as from a silent auction, resulting in a \$5,400 contribution by WTTS to the scholarship fund.

Scholarship students were enrolled across every student division of the Summer Symposium: concert band, jazz band, orchestra, marching band, percussion, color guard and drum majors. All students participated in leadership training classes. One IPS student who attended, Jared Littleton of Broad Ripple High School, will have yet another unique Music for All experience later this year. He was selected as a member of MFA's national Bands of America Honor Band, which will perform in the 2009 Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1 in Pasadena, California.

In addition to MFA's Summer Symposium scholarships for IPS students, MFA's involvement with IPS includes hosting the IPS Marching Band Tournament in November in Lucas Oil Stadium in conjunction with the Bands of America Grand National Championships, giving IPS students the chance to perform in Indianapolis' professional stadium, teacher in-service projects and special student opportunities like the IPS combined national anthem band at Grand Nationals.



Our Cause Changes Lives

Music for All is not just an organization...

It is a cause. Each and every day Music for All and our supporters lead the battle to keep music education in our schools so our students benefit from all that music has to offer – not so they will become great musicians, but because involvement in music changes lives in a way that helps them become great people.

That's why we created our line of awareness products, to allow individuals and organizations, parents and students to proudly show their support of our common cause.

Because Music for All is more than our name...it is the cause we fight for every day. With Music for All Awareness products...You can too!

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Music for All National Festival

2009

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The Music for All National Festival includes:
National Concert Band Festival
Orchestra America National Festival
National Percussion Festival
NEW! Middle School National Music Festival

Outstanding high school and middle school concert bands, percussion ensembles and orchestras have been invited to the 2009 Music for All National Concert Band Festival, presented by Yamaha, to be held March 19-21, 2009 in Indianapolis. Ensembles were invited based on recorded auditions, evaluated by a panel of educators and received taped and written commentary on their audition performance. The audition/application deadline was June 14.

The National Concert Band Festival, with concerts in Butler University's Clowes Memorial Hall, continues a rich legacy: the icons who were part of the creation of the event include Dr. William D. Revelli, John P. Paynter and Frederick Fennell. The orchestra festival is presented in cooperation with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and held in the ISO's Hilbert Circle Theatre. The percussion festival is endorsed by the Percussive Arts Society and shines a spotlight on America's percussion ensembles.

Invited ensembles will perform in concert at the noncompetitive event, receiving evaluation from a panel

of esteemed educators and a post-concert clinic. Students participate in instrumental master classes, social events and enjoy evening concerts with the Honor Band of America, Jazz Band of America and Honor Orchestra of America.

The Middle School National Festival debuts this year, after two years of special guest middle schools performing during the Festival.

ENJOY THE CONCERTS IN 2009!

The Festival presents an inspiring educational opportunity for music educators and students to participate as active observers. Mark your calendar for this chance to enjoy performances by some of the finest school music programs in the nation.

AUDITION TO PERFORM IN 2010

The application/audition deadline for the 2010 Festival is June 15, 2009. Make plans now and prepare your best audition recording during this school year, for the 2010 Festival, March 18-20 in Indianapolis.

'09 JAZZ BAND OF AMERICA AUDITION DEADLINE: NOV. 1, 2008

Your outstanding players can still audition to be part of the 2009 national honor Jazz Band of America – final deadline Nov. 1. Download the application and audition requirements from www.musicforall.org today!



Dr. Ron McCurdy

Conductor, 2009 Jazz Band of America
Chairman of the Jazz Studies
Department and Professor of Music in
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University of Southern California

2009 Invited Ensembles

Concert Bands

Alan C. Pope H.S. Symphonic I Band
Marietta, GA - Gary Gribble, Director

Belleville H.S. Symphony Band
Belleville, MI - Nicholas Taylor, Director

Cheyenne Mountain H.S. Symphonic Band
Colorado Springs, CO - Jack Yonce, Director

Cooper City H.S. Wind Ensemble
Cooper City, FL - Christopher Schletter, Director

Elkins H.S. Wind Ensemble
Missouri City, TX - Scott Estes, Director

Hillcrest H.S. Wind Ensemble
Tuscaloosa, AL - Andy Pettus, Director

Hillsborough H.S. Wind Ensemble
Hillsborough, NJ - Julie Haran, Director

Jenks H.S. Wind Symphony
Jenks, OK - Scott Hillock, Director

Lewisville H.S. Wind Symphony
Lewisville, TX - Marty Courtney, Director

Libertyville H.S. Wind Ensemble
Libertyville, IL - Don Shupe, Director

Lincoln H.S. Symphonic Band
Tallahassee, FL - Ryan Kelly, Director

Miami Killian Sr. H.S. Wind Ensemble
Miami, FL - John Bixby, Director

New Trier H.S. Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Winnetka, IL - Matt Temple, Director

Ryan H.S. Wind Symphony
Denton, TX - Eddy Russell, Director

Shades Valley H.S. Symphonic Band
Birmingham, AL - David Allinder, Director

Southwest Dekalb H.S. Wind Symphony
Decatur, GA - James Seda, Director

The Colony H.S. Wind Symphony
The Colony, TX - Lance Flisowski, Director

William Mason H.S. Wind Symphony
Mason, OH - Robert Bass, Director

Middle School Bands

Farmington Jr. H.S. Symphonic Band
Farmington, UT - Heath Wolf, Director

First Colony M.S. Honors Band
Sugar Land, TX - Bethann Adams, Director

Waller Jr. H.S. Wind Ensemble
Waller, TX - Greg McCutcheon, Director

Percussion Ensembles

Arlington Lamar H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Arlington, TX - Stuart Spoon, Director

Athens Drive H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Raleigh, NC - Jerry Markoch, Director

Carmel H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Carmel, IN - Bruce McConnell, Director

George C. Marshall H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Falls Church, VA - Bryan Baldwin, Director

James Bowie H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Austin, TX - Ryan Thomas, Director

Mount Olive H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Flanders, NJ - Russell Tybus, Director

Mt. Lebanon H.S. Percussion Ensemble
Pittsburgh, PA - Richard Minnotte, Director

Niles North H.S. Progressive Steps
Skokie, IL - Elton Eisele, Director

Orchestras

Youth Performing Arts School Philharmonia
Louisville, KY - Jason Seber, Director

Roosevelt Jr. H.S. Advanced Orchestra
Roosevelt, UT - Rachel Wheeler, Director

First Steps in a POSITIVELY LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

by Tom Merrill

The truth is, I was ready to go home after the first day. It was June, 1982. I was in Whitewater, WI, for the Marching Bands of America Summer Camp, in preparation for my first year as drum major of my high school band. I had just survived my first day of the George N. Parks Drum Major Academy—and didn't have an entirely positive opinion of this tyrant whose red hair and beard made it look like his head was constantly on fire. My legs hurt from eight hours of seemingly pointless marching basics, my arms hurt from learning and repeating my first conducting patterns over and over, my head hurt from being crammed full of "star thoughts" all day long, I was wet from the mid-afternoon rain, and I had some kind of Wisconsin bug bite that was beginning to swell above my right eyebrow. I was ready to go home.

Thank goodness I didn't. Because, although I didn't realize it at the time, these were the first steps in my positively life changing experience.

As the week continued on, something began to take hold, and my mind set began to change. It may have been my first experience in a Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser session, laughing and crying and learning at the same time. It may have been my first chance to see a drum corps or winter guard or BOA marching bands, and seeing the level of excellence that was attainable. It may have been the level of energy and service above self that I witnessed from these strange people who ran around with the word "SWAG" on the back of their T-shirts. It may have been a combination of all of that. Whatever it was, I started to "get it"...that there was more to leadership than wearing the white uniform and standing on the podium in front of the band.

The fall season followed, with a new appreciation of this odd activity called marching band, a sense of drive and dedication to excellence I had never really felt before, and challenges that would test the leadership that had been sparked within me that summer. The plans to return to Whitewater the following summer were derailed, but

for good reason—our band was representing Iowa in the National Independence Day Parade, and traveling to Washington, D.C., for what was to be my first band trip and, again without realization, a positively life changing experience.

The senior year that followed led to thoughts of going to college to study to be a music teacher—thoughts that eventually were sidelined in favor of pursuing what had been my first intention of aeronautical engineering, a career that most certainly would provide more stability and security for my future. A pursuit that scarcely lasted a year into college.

It was 1985, and at the suggestion of Shari McAllister, a newfound friend in the South Dakota State University Marching Band who herself had been a member of the SWAG team, I applied for a position on the team that summer and to my amazement was selected to join. This was to be my first test of the waters to see if I thought I could succeed as a band director, and this test quickly became the best on-the-job training I would ever have. For five consecutive summers, this became my annual "reality check" that put into practice was I was studying the other 51 weeks of the year. This is where I learned what couldn't be learned academically.

The best lessons I ever had on teamwork were developed here—this was where I saw in practice what could be



Author Tom Merrill, front and center, with future wife Jennifer to his left, and fellow SWAG Team members.

accomplished if no one worried about who got the credit. The old "V-SWAG" designation had been done away with to help unify the team (although you could still tell who the vets were—they were the ones who got to drive the Cushman golf carts or carry the all-important "bag phone"). The SWAG motto "Live to Give" taught me the value of serving others, and the entire experience taught me more about kids and teaching than I got in multiple semesters worth of education classes. These were some of the most intense weeks of my life both physically and emotionally, helping me really

learn what I was capable of accomplishing and instilling the qualities that would allow me to succeed in life.

Perhaps most important were the people that helped shape the spirit of the team and became examples and mentors that would influence my life in fantastic ways. From the early morning meetings over the infamous Whitewater donuts to the late night recaps over Rocky Rococo pizza, people like Scott McCormick, Charlie Menghini, Lisa Preston, L.J. Hancock, Michael Kumer and Dr. Tim helped the team develop focus and direction—and

[continued on page 24]



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taught me much about myself along the way.

As the 1980's and my undergraduate years drew to a close, I started attending the camp as a band director—as a “grown up” experiencing the camp from a whole new perspective. This felt sort of like going back to your high school after you graduated—you knew most of the faces and places, but somehow you were an outsider now and it didn't feel quite the same. Welcoming, but at the same time realizing you had crossed a threshold and couldn't really go back. Soon the camp itself would outgrow the UW campus and move to Illinois State University.

In 1992, ten short years but a lifetime since that first day as a camper, I was in my fourth year of teaching high school band in Iowa. Lisa Preston of the SWAG team was teaching in Normal, Illinois, and spending one week each summer teaching and designing my color guard. She knew I wanted to pursue a graduate degree (and that I was eager to get out of the little town where I lived) and suggested I apply for the graduate assistant position at the Illinois State University band department that was about to be vacated by fellow SWAG Amy Johnson. (When I asked Amy what being a TA was like, her answer was short and simple: “It's like SWAGGING every day of your life.”) After a June trip with my band to Washington, D.C.—bringing “full circle” to my own high school experience ten years previous—my duties began, working in tandem with the ISU Bands and the SWAG team for the Summer Symposium.

A number of the SWAGS were also ISU music students, so it was a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know people with whom I would be spending a great deal of time in the fall. One in particular was a junior flute performance major from Chicago named Jennifer Torbeck. Despite our city girl/country boy backgrounds, we seemed to share similar interests and a sense of humor.

That first fall we loaded up two vans of ISU music education students to drive to Indianapolis for the weekend to assist Butler University students with the Bands of America Regional. I saw it as an opportunity to recruit ISU students into the SWAG team so that they could experience what I had over the years. In the passenger seat next to me for most of the trip was Jennifer. At the Hoosier Dome, she pulled outdoor bus parking duty in the rain and cold while I was inside the main assembly hall sending bands through the airlock, so I took it upon myself to bring her a hot cup of coffee every now and then during the day.

This is what band geek courtship looks like. Soon,



we were dating. And yet another positively life changing experience.

At the Midwest Clinic in 1994, on the night of the Marine Band concert and with the skyline of her beloved Chicago as a backdrop, I finally proposed to Jennifer. As we arrived at the Hilton Towers that night, the first person we recognized in the crowded lobby and broke the news to was none other than Dr. Tim—who responded with the type of excitement that usually comes from a favorite uncle.

The summers that followed included Summer Symposium, our wedding, attending Summer Symposium again as a married couple (yes, that was different...) and a move to Colorado. In 1998, my final year attending Symposium, I brought students with me from Colorado—again bringing my experience “full circle” over the span of 16 years.

I soon left teaching to join the staff of New Horizons Tour and Travel as a sales manager, planning tours and creating memories of a lifetime for high school music groups in the same way they had done for my students when I took them to Washington, D.C. This would eventually lead to another “full circle” moment when New Horizons became a Preferred Travel Partner to Bands of America, allowing me to work with ensembles attending Bands of America and Music For All events and helping them create their own positively life-changing experiences.

As I look back (and look forward), I realize how truly fortunate I have been to have encountered the incredible people and memorable experiences that have touched my life over the years—whether attending a clinic, sharing time over lunch, setting up for a session, sitting in on a rehearsal, driving them to the airport, designing a tour... or bringing them a cup of coffee while they park buses. To paraphrase Walt Disney, “I hope to never lose sight of one thing...that it all started with a band camp.”

And I thank my lucky stars that I didn't go home after the first day.

WANTED: ALL SWAGS PAST AND PRESENT!

The SWAG Team is legendary for those who've seen them in action at the Summer Symposium. Music for All is looking to put together a 30-year history of the SWAG Team and to reconnect with three decades of SWAGS wherever they might be! Were you a SWAG? Know someone who was? Tell us who you are and where you are now! Help us tell the SWAG Team story. Go to musicforall.org/SWAG/



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It's About Time: Effective Storage and Transportation of Marching Band Equipment

Combining the rhythm of musical performance with the precise synchronization of marching creates an artistic and physical activity that pulsates to the beat of time.

Considerations of time are also critical when choosing the best options for storing and transporting your equipment. For storage, the goal is lengthening the number of years that your equipment can be used. For transportation, you want to accelerate the handling and transit time.



Preserving Over Time

When you consider the significant financial investment represented by all your equipment, instruments and uniforms, effective storage really makes sense – and dollars. Many programs have more than \$250,000 invested in inventory that would be difficult, if not impossible, to replace.



Durable storage equipment built to last many years is the best solution to protect your investment. We've heard many horror stories about homemade attempts that simply could not withstand rugged daily use or the rigors of transport in trucks or trailers, despite being crafted with pride and the best intentions. Such breakdowns cause repair or replacement headaches, and could potentially damage your equipment.

Storage – both daily and off-season – should be synonymous with protection, whether at your home facility, in transit or off-site at a competition.

Mobile carts that are specialized to fit the needs of marching band, yet flexible enough to adapt to different needs throughout the year, represent a valuable option for storage, transport and performances – outdoors and indoors.

Accelerating Time

When moving equipment, smooth, fast transitions are vital. Because the round-trip cycle – storage to transport to competition to transport to storage – is repeated often, wasted minutes quickly add up.

Look for ways to speed these transitions, eliminating any extra intermediate steps. Ideally, transport carts should serve double-duty by also providing storage capability. For

example, the same cart might hold uniforms in a storage room, but also roll outside onto a field, bus or trailer for competitions. This saves time both distributing and collecting equipment.

If keyboard or percussion carts are designed as all-in-one mobile solutions, they can be rolled out of storage, into a trailer and directly onto the field. This can save precious seconds before and after your performance. With shows

becoming more elaborate today, including extensive props, faster transitions are a must. These specialized carts can also function year-round for indoor rehearsals and concerts, stretching the value of your investment.

Before selecting a cart, ensure it's designed for flexibility. Does it adjust to suit different size equipment? Can its tires or casters be used both indoors and outdoors? Will it fit easily through a 3-foot-wide classroom door? Inside a standard 6-foot-high trailer? Is it easy to move around?

Take advantage of the BOA community and ask your peers what solutions they've tried, which they recommend and which they'd recommend avoiding.

Just as preparation is essential for success on the field, doing your homework can ensure you make the proper storage and transport decisions to suit your program's needs for a long time – today, tomorrow and far into the future.

For more information about innovative storage and transport solutions for marching band equipment, please contact the Wenger Corporation at 800-4WENGER or www.wengercorp.com.



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Where in the World are Music for All Interns?

Through Music for All internships, college students build on their strengths, and develop new talents they didn't realize they had. Interns work alongside Music for All staff involved in all facets of the organization's activities. In the end, the internship can impact a young person's career decisions in profound ways.

Music for All is proud to have several past interns now on our staff. **Travis Tester**, is a Music Business graduate of Appalachian State University was a 2004 event intern. **Monica Lupiloff**, also an event intern in 2004-2005 has a degree in Music Therapy from Michigan State University. **Robin Martin**, interned with MFA January-July 2006, starting full time in the IT department at the conclusion of her internship. She earned a Music Business degree from Indiana State University. **Matt Barwise**, is an event intern whose came to MFA most recently from NBC Studios in New York City. Travis, Monica and Matt are MFA Event Coordinators

As Music for All Development Coordinator, **Joli Heavin** says her favorite assignments involve interacting with the students MFA touches. "It is so rewarding to hear from a deserving student that they will be able to attend our summer camp, or even better, go to college, because they received our scholarships." Joli is a graduate of Indiana University with a Bachelor's in vocal performance and a Master's in arts administration.

Music for All and Bands of America internship alumni are also working in arts organizations and businesses across the nation. **Sarah Stern**, a graduate of University of Texas at Austin, who interned with Participant Relations in 2005, is Marketing Manager with the Houston Ballet. "I handle the logistics of our direct mail campaigns,

advertising, our newsletter, Web site and handle our MySpace, Facebook, YouTube and blog presences," she says, "along with planning and executing promotional events like the Houston Theater District Open House.

"I learned a lot about acute attention to detail and how every contact with a client should be professional and focused. I also gained event planning skills, learned the importance of follow through, how to trouble shoot in high stress situations and gained experience on how to handle VIP guests – very important in non-profits where you have constant contact with board members, donors and potential supporters."

Former intern **Emily Doyle Schluter** works in the development office at the Santa Fe Opera. A graduate of University of New Mexico with a Master's Degree in Arts Administration from Indiana University, Emily had also volunteered at the Music for All National Festival and hosted VIPs at the Grand National Championships. "My connections with colleagues at Bands of America and Music for All played a role in my career path in the arts," says Emily.

Music for All offers paid internships in the fall, winter/spring and summer terms.

Internship opportunities include these areas: events, marketing, public relations, participant relations, merchandising, copyright management, information technologies and more.

Summer term internships are in highest demand, interested students should consider applying for winter/spring (January – May) or fall internships (August – December). To apply, please email Vicki Csenar at Vicki@musicforall.org, visit musicforall.org or call for application procedures.



Former MFA event intern **Nick Nett** has traveled across the globe including Antarctica and the Middle East.



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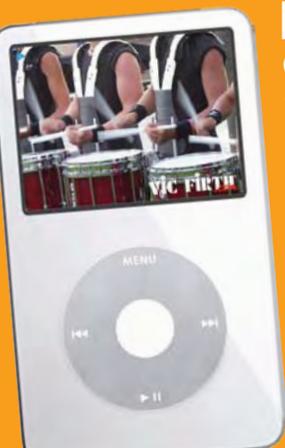
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At Vic Firth, commitment to education is a core value. We nurture this value by supporting music programs and teachers throughout the world—programs like Music for All, which provide quality avenues for learning and excellence in music education.

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Together, We Did It!

Music for All announced September 4 that it surpassed its \$100,000 “matching gift challenge” to support the Music for All Annual Fund led by Board Chairman, Gayl Doster and his wife, Beverly.

“Through the generosity of our donors we have exceeded the chairman’s challenge,” said L. Scott McCormick, President and CEO of Music for All. “We cannot achieve our mission without the financial support of philanthropic individuals like Gayl and Beverly Doster and all of those who contributed to this challenge. By building a solid annual fund, that traditionally has not existed at Music for All, we position ourselves to be able to serve more.” Gayl Doster, the challenge maker, agreed. “Beverly and I are thoroughly delighted that the Music for All team not only met our challenge but exceeded it.”



The Doster Challenge was made on July 18, 2008 in order to generate funds to support the organization’s annual fund or greatest needs. “I was blown away by what I saw at the Music for All Summer Symposium in June,” Gayl explained when asked what inspired the matching gift challenge. “After seeing the leadership element that is woven into all of Music for All’s programs, I was impressed,” Gayl continued. The Challenge required that a \$100,000 be raised in 45 days or no later than August 31, 2008. Upon completion of this goal, the Dosters agreed to match each gift up to \$100,000 bringing the total impact to at least \$200,000 and significantly expanding the organization’s capacity to impact music education, performance, appreciation and influential research and advocacy. This fund raising milestone represents almost half of Music for All’s total annual fund goal at about half way through its fiscal year, which ends February 28, 2009. “The on-going commitment of our donors and supporters defines a new, necessary, philanthropic spirit,” says McCormick.

Mr. Doster is the retired President and Chief Operating Officer of Brooks Drug, Inc. Mr. Doster is a graduate of Indiana University and Mrs. Doster earned her degree at Wayne State University. The couple have two children and five grandchildren, most of whom are involved in music. While at Indiana University, Gayl was a member of the Marching Hundred and numerous other musical organizations. He is presently Vice President of the Fine Arts Society of Indianapolis while Beverly serves as a docent at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.



Music for All’s mission is to create, provide and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all.

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Music for All Completes New Statewide Report on Arts Education in Wisconsin Public Schools

The report shows that arts education is at a crossroads: music and art are widely available, but recent declines raise cause for concern.

A new report released in August by Arts Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education, and Music for All provides the first detailed research conducted on the state of arts education in Wisconsin since the early 1980s - shows arts education in the state of Wisconsin is at a crossroads.

The research shows that while music and art are nearly universally available in most Wisconsin school districts serving grades 6-12, there has been a 5% decline in overall student participation during the past 4 years, creating cause for concern. The report also noted that most students are afforded no opportunities to learn dance or theater.

In what the authors refer to as a "surprising finding," the report also notes the more rural a community, the higher the levels of student involvement in the arts and the more favorable the ratio of students to arts teachers. In addition, the affluence of a community appears to have little or no influence on the percentage of student enrollment in arts education.

Advocacy Tools You Can Use... NOW

Music for All has compiled a complete list of the latest tools, information and resources to empower parents, teachers, administrators and concerned citizens be effective advocates for music education programs.

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Receiving the new report (From Left): Ted Hamm, Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education; George Tzougros, Wisconsin Arts Board; Anne Katz, Arts Wisconsin; Wisconsin Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton; Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster; and Bob Morrison, Music for All.

Arts Education in Wisconsin Public Schools: A Preliminary Review was commissioned by Arts Wisconsin, the state's arts service, advocacy and development organization, and the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education, the statewide organization dedicated to arts education. The report was analyzed and prepared by Music for All, the nation's leading arts education research organization. The report was released at a special statewide meeting.

Wisconsin is the latest state to work with Music for All to document the status of arts education. Other reports have been released for California and New Jersey. A report for Oklahoma will be released this fall. Additional reports are underway in New Hampshire and Indiana in addition to ongoing work in New Jersey.

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Music/Arts Education and the Upcoming Elections

With many public officials up for election this fall, now is the perfect time to ask them where they stand on issues important to YOU. Here are a few key questions to ask someone running for public office:

Q *Should music and arts education be a part of a basic education for every student and what actions will you take to reach that goal?*

Q *Should arts programs be increased or decreased to support testing mandates for reading and math?*

Q *Is there an artist, arts teacher or experience (dance, music, theater or visual arts) that inspired you?*

By asking these simple questions you will quickly gain insight into a candidates support for the arts in education. Be sure you share what you learn with as many people as possible! Being engaged in the process is an important part of having influence over the process in the future.

FINDING THE GROOVE™

All Kinds of Kids, Making All Kinds of Music

Music is Alive and Well and Living in the Hearts and Minds of Children Everywhere in Indiana

Finding The Groove is a ground-breaking on-line music network for all kids ages 14 and under, at all levels of skill from beginner on up, who are playing instruments, singing or composing in any style. At www.findingthegroove.com kids can post and share their musical stories on a safe network designed for them. Finding The Groove is a great place for students to share their own music videos and ideas about the music in their lives.

Over the last six months the site has had thousands of visitors and hundreds of registered users sign up to share their music videos. The Finding the Groove Network of kids represents a huge variety of kids and the breadth of how kids learn about music, at home, at school, with their friends and family and with many community organizations that reach out to help underserved students.

From those talented users several unique children have been chosen to perform: Vocalist Tony Ponella, a 13 year old from Bloomington, Indiana; eleven year old Harpist Victoria Ponella, also from Bloomington; fourteen year old Trumpeter Shelby Enlow and Vocalist Darron Marble.

Based not only on their skill as musicians but also for their breadth of originality they celebrate the many ways that kids from diverse backgrounds across the state are making music an integral part of their lives and how each of the children are on their own paths toward finding their own "grooves" in both music and in life.

Finding The Groove also wishes to thank and applaud the many teachers, schools and community organizations that support kids in their efforts to express their music. Through our travels in Indiana and the Indianapolis area we have found so many groups and we have also chosen to feature the best and the brightest school groups to join us onstage to complete our community event: The Asante Children's Theatre Inter-Generational Kwanzaa Community Choir, The Brownsburg High School Madrigal Singers and The Avon High School Band Program

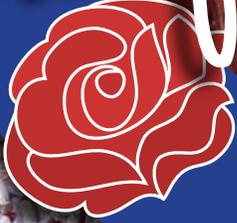
The program will include music that represents an array of styles from Jazz to Classical, Gospel to Folk and will uniquely combine members of our entire ensemble of kids, high school music organizations and the ISO. From solo singers, instrumentalists, to gospel and traditional choirs, marching bands and drum corps this event will prove to truly be a "community effort," and represent the best of music in the state of Indiana.

Leslie Stifelman, Creator and Executive Producer of Finding The Groove™, is a Peabody-Award winning Executive Producer and currently the Music Director for the Tony and Grammy-award winning Broadway hit musical Chicago.

The world premiere of Finding the Groove is an Indiana statewide initiative in partnership with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the IU Jacobs School of Music, and Music for All. This program is made possible by the generous support of the NAMM Foundation with a special thanks to MusicCrossroads.



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