

Music for All

Winter Issue 2025 | Vol. 38 | Issue 1

Celebrating

50 YEARS

*Positively
Life-Changing
Experiences*



MUSIC FOR ALL
Advocacy in Action



YAMAHA

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Music for All, Inc.
39 W. Jackson Place, Suite 150
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In 2025, Music for All celebrates a monumental milestone: its 50th anniversary and that of its flagship program, Bands of America. What began in 1975 as a small but ambitious organization called Marching Bands of America (MBA) has grown into one of the most influential forces in music education, touching the lives of millions of students, educators, and families across the nation.



The Golden Anniversary of Music for All:

A Celebration

I came to work for Bands of America in the northwest Chicago suburbs in 1985, just out of college. We ran a single digit number of Bands of America Regional Championships, a two-day Grand National Championship, and two-week-long summer camps for marching band students and band directors – one in Whitewater, Wisconsin and one in San Marcos, Texas. I was not thinking at the time of what my future of the organization might be, but it turned out to be my life's work.

The Early Days: Marching Bands of America

Founded in 1975, Marching Bands of America was created with a singular vision: to elevate the artistry and performance of high school marching bands. Founded by Larry McCormick, it was a program of McCormick's Enterprises. The organization quickly gained recognition for its innovative approach to competitions, emphasizing not only technical precision but also creativity, showmanship, and the transformative power of music. By the early 1980s, MBA had become a "bandroom" name in the marching arts community, hosting regional and national competitions that set the standard for excellence.

In 1984, the organization completely separated from its parent company, with new leadership and staff, rebranded as Bands of America (BOA), and became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, solidifying its commitment to serving students and educators.



Music for All Newsletter

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Music for All, Inc.

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This transition marked a turning point, as BOA expanded its reach and influence, the name change opening the possibilities of serving all aspects of band programs. The annual Bands of America Grand National Championships, held in Indianapolis, became a three-day pinnacle event for high school marching bands, drawing thousands of participants and spectators from across the country. Bands of America launched the National Concert Band Festival in 1992, with guidance from luminaries including Dr. William D. Revelli, John P. Paynter, Gary Green, Richard Crain, and many others, inspired by the National Band Contest of the 1930s, which Revelli's Hobart High School, Indiana, bands won several times. During this time, Bands of America also added programming for orchestras, at the National Festival and for students at its summer camp.

organization also supporting advocacy and educational efforts.

Major Events and Programs Over the years, Music for All has become synonymous with world-class events that celebrate and support music education. The Bands of America Grand National Championships remain the crown jewel of the organization, showcasing the best high school marching bands in the nation in a multi-day spectacle of artistry and performance. Regional BOA Championships provide opportunities for bands to compete and grow, while the Bands of America Summer Camp offers students and educators a week-long immersion in music, leadership, and personal development.

well-rounded education that prepares students for success in all areas of life. Through its collaborations as part of the TeachMusic Coalition, Music Education Alliance, SupportMusic, and other leading national music and arts educational organizations, Music for All takes an active role in ensuring students across America have access to active music-making in their scholastic environment.

Looking Ahead As Music for All enters its next 50 years, the organization remains committed to its mission of creating, providing, and expanding positively life-changing experiences through music for all. The golden anniversary is not just a celebration of the past but also a call to action for the future. With the continued support of its

50 Years of Positively

Life-Changing EXPERIENCES



community, Music for All will continue to inspire, educate, and advocate, ensuring that music remains a vital part of our culture and our schools. As I enter my 41st year as part of the Music for All team of staff, I am happy to serve in a leadership role that allows me to continue to be part of this important work.

The 50th anniversary of Music for All and Bands of America is a testament to the power of music to bring people together, to inspire greatness, and to change lives. Here's to the next 50 years of excellence, innovation, and impact in music education! ■

Some of the author's favorite photos from Music for All's history:

1. Mallory Thompson, conductor of Music for All's Honor Band of America (2023 & 2003), here with some members of the 2003 band.
2. Larry McCormick (left) in the nearly-completed Hoosier Dome, Indianapolis, Indiana.
3. Tower of Power performing at the Bands of America Summer Camp.
4. Louie Bellson, performing at the Bands of America Grand National Championships in the Hoosier Dome, with The "Commandant's Own" U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps.
5. Marian Catholic High School, IL, drum major Kelly Cooper in the RCA Dome, with its icon pressurized roof. Kelly is a 20-year band director in Illinois and was a recipient of Music for All's Revelli Scholarship for music education majors as a senior in high school.
6. Renowned Lassiter High School, GA, band director Alfred Watkins after Lassiter's Grand National Championship win, with his wife Rita and sons Jonathan and Christopher.
7. Singer Patti Austin performing at the Music for All National Festival with the Jazz Band of America.
8. Dr. William D. Revelli presents an award to Jenison High School, MI, drum Major Tom Weidner at the Marching Bands of America Summer National Championships, Whitewater, WI.

A New Era: The Music for All Merger In 2003, Bands of America merged with the Music for All Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for and supporting music education in schools. This merger created a unified entity under the name Music for All, combining BOA's expertise in marching band events with the Music for All Foundation's broader mission of ensuring access to music education for all students.

The Music for All Foundation had long been a champion of music education, working to address the challenges faced by schools, such as budget cuts and inequitable access to resources. Through research, advocacy, and community engagement, the foundation highlighted the critical role of music in fostering creativity, discipline, and emotional well-being in students. The merger allowed Music for All to expand its impact, offering a comprehensive suite of programs for school instrumental music programs under an umbrella

Music for All hosts the Music for All National Festival, which brings together outstanding concert bands, orchestras, and percussion ensembles for a non-competitive celebration of excellence. The festival emphasizes collaboration, learning, and the joy of making music, reflecting Music for All's belief that music education is about more than competition—it's about building community, enriching lives, and perpetuating a life-long love of music.

The Importance of Music for All

As Music for All celebrates its 50th anniversary, its impact on music education is undeniable. The organization has played a pivotal role in advocating for the arts, providing opportunities for students to grow as musicians and leaders, and supporting educators in their mission to inspire the next generation. Music education is workforce development. Through its programs, Music for All demonstrates that music is a vital part of a

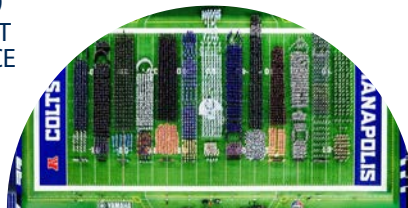
Music for All



2024
BY THE
NUMBERS



580,650
TOTAL EVENT
ATTENDANCE



181,558
STUDENT
PARTICIPATION
IN MFA & BOA
EVENTS



7,512
EDUCATOR
PARTICIPATION



2,250
PARTICIPATING ENSEMBLES
IN MFA & BOA EVENTS

3,663
VOLUNTEERS



257,400
SOCIAL MEDIA &
ONLINE FOLLOWERS



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

STUDENT SUMMIT
texas bandmasters association

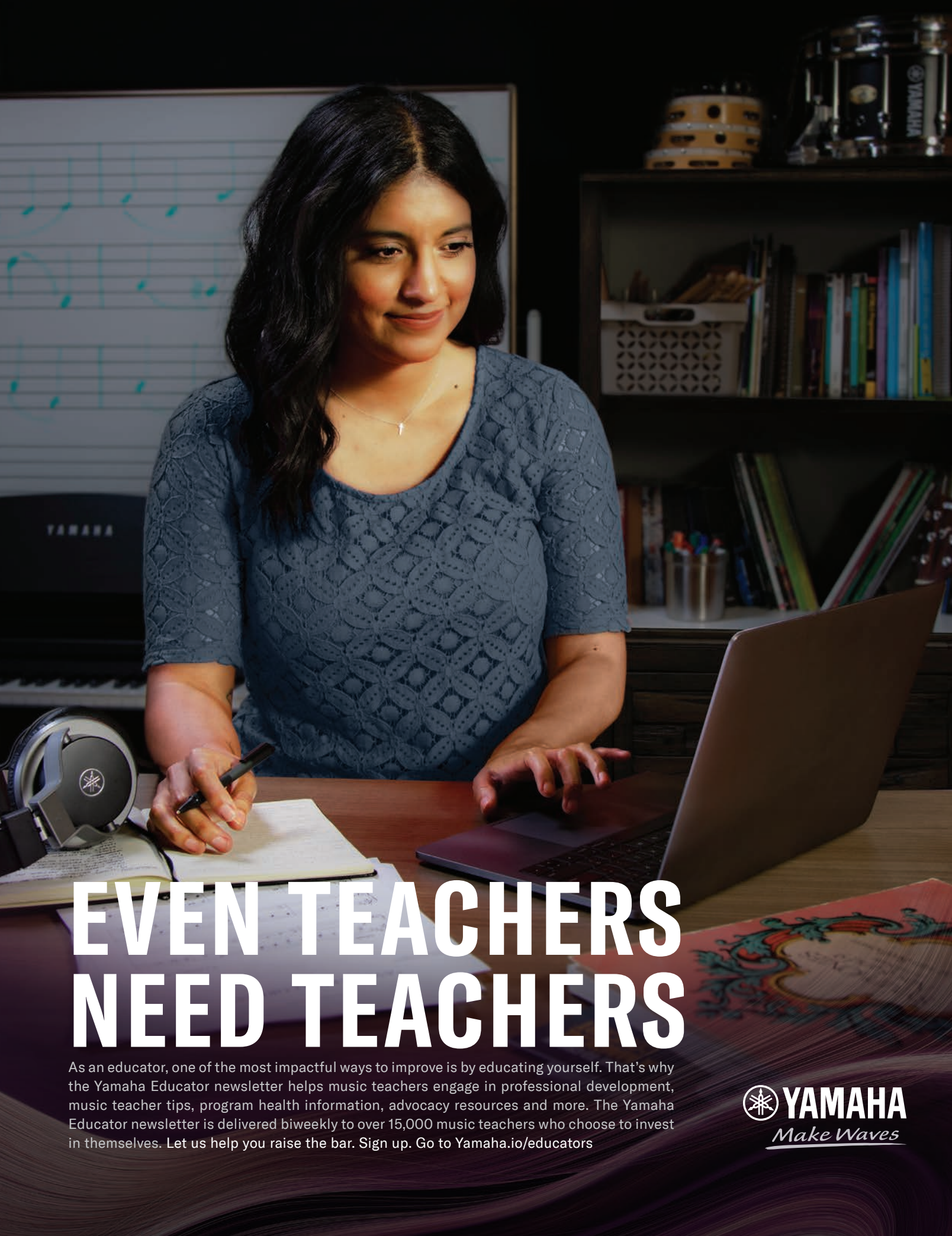
POWERED BY:



TBA IS PLEASED TO OFFER A NEWLY DESIGNED
STUDENT DAY CURRICULUM, OUR FIRST ANNUAL
TBA STUDENT SUMMIT now offered on SATURDAY, July 26
to allow more students to attend!

The TBA Student Summit will be presented by an outstanding faculty
from BOA, SASI, and UDB emphasizing
skills students can take home to their programs.

More information will be available on TBA websites as details are finalized.
www.texasbandmasters.org



EVEN TEACHERS NEED TEACHERS

As an educator, one of the most impactful ways to improve is by educating yourself. That's why the Yamaha Educator newsletter helps music teachers engage in professional development, music teacher tips, program health information, advocacy resources and more. The Yamaha Educator newsletter is delivered biweekly to over 15,000 music teachers who choose to invest in themselves. Let us help you raise the bar. Sign up. Go to Yamaha.io/educators

 **YAMAHA**
Make Waves

Sweetwater



DIRECTOR ACADEMY

AT THE BANDS OF AMERICA SUMMER CAMP

PRESENTED BY  YAMAHA

**FULL WEEK CAMP JUNE 23-28, 2025
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY, MUNCIE, IN**

*The Sweetwater
Director Academy,
presented by
Yamaha, is more
than just a summer
camp—it's a
transformative
experience that
gives you the tools,
inspiration, and
support to reinvent
yourself as an
educator.*

REACH BEYOND...

Recharge Your Passion

Renew Your Skills

Reimagine Your Program

Reconnect with the Music
Education Community

A SWEET DEAL FOR...

High School &
Middle School Directors

College Students & New Teachers

Percussion Specialists

Color Guard Instructors

Marching & Movement
Instructors

Every educator deserves the chance to recharge, renew, and reimagine your program, reconnect with your peers, and reflect on your growth. Every moment at the Sweetwater Director Academy, presented by Yamaha, is designed to help you reach beyond what you thought was possible.

Bands of America has been providing professional development for music educators since the summer of 1976. We know that the most influential element in the success of students is a qualified, knowledgeable, and skilled teacher. Led by Dr. Nola Jones and instructed by a renowned faculty, the Director Academy, is recognized as one of the finest and most comprehensive professional development experiences available.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2025:

- Choose from different areas of study
- Do a deep dive in one of our intensive tracks
- Play in the director band with conductor Richard Saucedo
- Experience Carolina Crown rehearsals—Drum Corps International's World-Class



Photo courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

Carolina Crown serves as our drum corps-in-residence. Students and directors can experience first-hand the instructional excellence and inspirational impact as they are immersed side-by-side with these talented performers, designers, and teachers.

- Director Lounge, one-on-one time with the experts

- Director Academy Evening Socials
- Graduate Credit / Professional Development Credit



Scan to view details on discounts for directors & instructors who bring their students.

DIRECTORS ACT NOW!

SWEET DEAL!!!

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 150 DIRECTORS TO REGISTER!

Full Week: Attend for just \$449

Use the discount code **SWEETDEALS** at the end of your online registration.

3-Day Option: Attend for just \$399

Use the discount code **SWEETDEAL3** at the end of your online registration.

Your Trusted Band & Orchestra Partner

Grow your program with Sweetwater.

We simplify the details so that you, your students, and their parents can focus on the joy of making great music. Our world-class online rental program offers the value-added features you'd expect. Then, we take it up a notch with enhancements that deliver a great playing experience.

- ★ Enhanced, premium rental fleet with upgraded mouthpieces, ligatures, bows, strings, bridges, tailpieces, and cases
- ★ Meticulous 40-point Inspection process for woodwinds, brass, and strings
- ★ Optional Rental Instrument Protection Plan limits downtime and keeps students playing
- ★ Award-winning customer service with a single point of contact
- ★ 100% of rental payments apply toward your instrument purchase
- ★ No minimum rental term and no hidden fees
- ★ Lightning-fast home delivery
- ★ Return or exchange instruments at any time



Sweetwater Educational Representatives go above and beyond to understand and support your unique program needs. Reach out to learn more and to let us completely customize your instrument brand and model preferences. We're just an email or a phone call away.

We've been the trusted source for pro audio, live sound, recording, and music technology since 1979 — now make us your band and orchestra partner.



**SCAN to
customize
your rental
program
YOUR way.**

*The terms and conditions for renting instruments on a rent-to-own basis vary depending on your state. Please carefully review the rental agreement terms and conditions for an explanation of your rights and obligations when renting an instrument on a rent-to-own basis.

**Certain maintenance and repairs may be available to rental customers at no additional cost, depending on state of residence and/or participation in the Instrument Protection Plan.

Sweetwater

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*We've rebranded
the Music for All
Summer
Symposium,
as the
Bands of America
Summer Camp,
presented
by Yamaha.
New name;
still your most
exciting choice
for camp!*



SUMMER CAMP



A Program of Music for All

ONLY at the Bands of America Summer Camp will you **REACH BEYOND** and experience the most-intensive, non-stop, make-you-better approach to band musicianship, performance excellence, and student leadership development. It's THE ultimate summer camp for high school and middle school band students, proudly brought to you by Bands of America. We offer a safe campus experience for students with small group time, student care, supervision, and guidance by our "SWAG Team" of educators, professionals, and collegiate camp counselors.

BANDS OF AMERICA DRUM MAJOR INSTITUTE Our CORE Teaching Principles—Character, Content, Communication, and Chemistry—are the foundation of our program. For 40 years, Bands of America has set the standard in drum major and leadership training. The Drum Major Institute empowers student leaders with modern leadership skills, building on their musical talents and personal strengths.

MARCHING BAND March and perform side-by-side with Carolina Crown Drum & Bugle Corps, learn innovative and relevant information on music,

REACH BEYOND

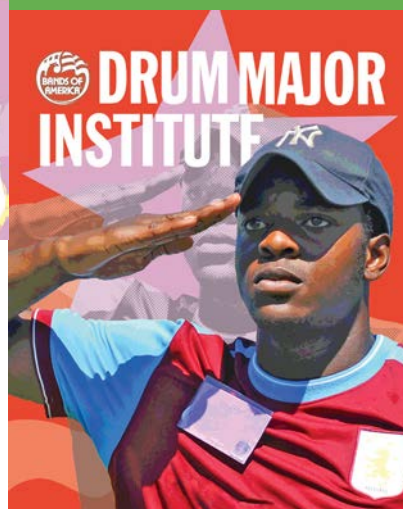


WHICH DIVISION OF CAMP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Bands of America Drum Major Institute • Marching Band
Color Guard (MS & HS) • Marching Percussion • Concert Band (MS & HS)
Music Production Boot Camp • PLUS add-on Leadership Weekend*

LEADERSHIP WEEKEND JUNE 21-23, 2025
FULL WEEK CAMP JUNE 23-28, 2025
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY MUNCIE, IN

Register Now!
Learn more at
camp.musicforall.org



movement, and marching fundamentals.

COLOR GUARD Middle School (grades 7-8) & High School Color Guard students will learn flag, rifle, saber, dance, and movement. Also available, the Color Guard Instructor Academy will take you to a higher level with your teaching.

MARCHING PERCUSSION Learn innovative and relevant information on music, technique, marching, and movement AND work with the Carolina Crown drumline.





The Concert Band Division is a great option for Middle School and High School percussionists to learn in a concert band setting, learning a wide variety of percussion and world music. The Percussion Specialist Academy will take percussion instructors to a higher level with clinics and sessions from some of the best instructors in DCI, BOA, and universities.



CONCERT BAND The Concert Band Division is the perfect place for Middle School and High School students that love playing their instrument! This includes opportunities for concert percussion too. Students will work with student-centered conductors and expert masterclass clinicians, unlocking a whole new level of musical adventure!

LEADERSHIP WEEKEND*

You will interact with student leaders from across the country during a one-of-a-kind leadership weekend program created specifically for band and color guard students. All students experience rotating large-group, small-group, and experientially engaging sessions. **Leadership Weekend available to high school students only.*



STUDENT DIVISION PRICING

Open to all Middle School (grades 7-8) and High School students.

- Full Week Camp \$1,099
 - Add Leadership Weekend \$379
 - Leadership Weekend Only \$429
- Commuter pricing available at camp.musicforall.org.

• Apply for scholarships to attend 2025 BOA Camp!

Payment plans also available - select 'use a payment plan' during registration



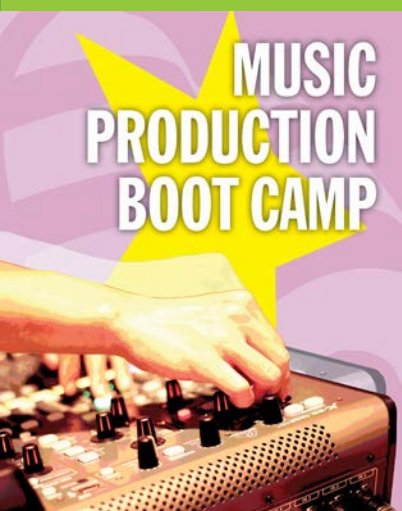
Scan for scholarship application details.

\$150 OFF
STUDENT SAVINGS

DISCOUNT FOR STUDENTS!

Valid now - 6/1/2025

Use the discount code **NEWS150** at the end of your online registration and receive a \$150 discount on the Bands of America Summer Camp. (Leadership Weekend + Full Week Camp combination or Full Week Camp) Offer not valid on any other offer or discount.

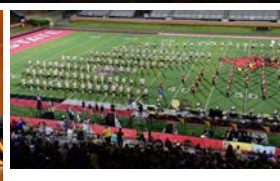


MUSIC PRODUCTION BOOT CAMP

Spend a week with professional audio engineers in a 10000 sqft recording studio suite. Take part in recording sessions, make beats, create your own mixes, and create the sound for a 3D game. Join award winning engineers, session musicians, and producers for a fully hands-on experience. Immerse yourself into beat making with Ableton, sound design in Unreal Engine, and take a front row seat at the console when we track, mix, master, and write songs.

CONCERTS & EVENTS

Live concerts by national touring acts every night, including the Yamaha Young Performing Artists and the DCI Tour Preview show. Drum Corps International's World-Class Carolina Crown serves as our drum corps-in-residence. Students and directors can experience first-hand the instructional excellence and inspirational impact as they are immersed side-by-side with these talented performers, designers, and teachers.



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

REACH BEYOND AT THE BANDS OF AMERICA SUMMER CAMP PRESENTED BY YAMAHA

By Jeff Young



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

REACH BEYOND Musical And Performance Limits

Summer camp is all about discovering your potential—but let's be honest, it's also about having a blast while you do it! At the BOA Summer Camp presented by Yamaha, students don't just refine their skills—they dive into an exciting and inspiring environment where music, performance, and fun collide.

With six unique student divisions, there's something for everyone:

- ♦ **Bands of America Drum Major Institute:** Step onto the podium with confidence, conduct a group of peers, and feel the thrill of leading with purpose! DMI is where music meets leadership, and every moment feels like a celebration of growth and collaboration.
- ♦ **Marching Band Division:** increase your current skill level on your instrument, march and move better, and experience the rush of nailing your music and drill while performing side-by-side with Carolina Crown! You'll laugh, learn, and bond with your section like never before.
- ♦ **Color Guard Division:** Equipment, choreography, and creativity—it's like joining the ultimate visual ensemble. Expect plenty of laughter as you master those

tosses and bring your unique flair to every spin.

- ♦ **Marching Percussion Division:** There's nothing quite like the rhythm of a

drumline! From mastering fundamentals to locking in with your peers, every session feels like the drumline you wish you had at home. Level up your skills and have a blast.

♦ **Concert Band Division:** It's all about beautiful music, shared moments, and refining your sound. Plus, there's something magical about playing in an ensemble surrounded by others who love music as much as you do.

♦ **Music Production Bootcamp:** Welcome to a 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art studio facility where students are completely immersed in the world of music production. From recording and acoustics to video game audio and production techniques, this bootcamp gives students hands-on experience that's not just fun—it's future-focused.

At camp, "reaching beyond" is about more than technical mastery—it's about discovering the joy of pushing limits, trying new things, and becoming the best version of yourself. From morning rehearsals to late-night laughs, every moment of camp is designed to be an unforgettable adventure.

We don't just help you surpass your goals—we make sure you have the time of your life doing it. By the time you leave, you'll have grown as a person, made lifelong friends, and created memories you'll carry forever.



REACH BEYOND Leadership

Expectations: Leadership is about more than guiding a team—it's about stepping into the unknown, embracing challenges, and inspiring others to do the same. At the BOA Summer Camp, we challenge students to reach beyond the familiar and discover what it truly means to lead with purpose.

For students, this means moving past surface-level skills to develop a deep understanding of leadership as action and service. Through our immersive Leadership Weekend, they engage in transformational activities: navigating team challenges, learning to lead with empathy and confidence in small-group sessions, and working with horses to decode body language. Even students who don't attend Leadership Weekend will find leadership integrated into every division of camp, ensuring every camper leaves with skills to motivate and inspire.

For directors, the camp offers a chance to see their student leaders grow into dynamic changemakers. Imagine your students returning to your program not only understanding the "why" behind leadership but also equipped with the "how." They'll learn to lead their peers, solve problems creatively, and foster collaboration in ways that you didn't know were possible.

For parents, supporting your child's attendance means giving them the chance to step into a leadership role they might never have envisioned for themselves. Pre-college leadership experiences like ours aren't just about high school—they lay the foundation for success in college and life. At camp, we invite every student to reach beyond their perceived limits and embrace their potential to make an impact.

Leadership at our camp isn't just learned—it's lived. Students leave not just ready to lead but transformed by the experience of reaching beyond who they were when they arrived.

REACH BEYOND Comfort Zones:

Growth happens when we step outside what feels familiar and comfortable. Our summer camp is built to encourage students to do just that. "Reaching Beyond" means embracing the challenges that lead to self-discovery, confidence, and resilience—and every moment at camp is designed to help students push those boundaries.

Whether it's performing in front of a group for the first time, taking on a leadership role in a small ensemble, or trying a new technique in marching or

color guard, students learn to thrive in situations that stretch their abilities. These experiences are not just about refining technical skills—they're about building the courage to take risks and the confidence to recover from setbacks.

But stepping out of comfort zones isn't something students do alone. Camp provides a community of peers and faculty mentors who encourage, support, and celebrate each other's growth. In this environment, students forge friendships that become a source of strength, inspiration, and camaraderie. They learn that by leaning into discomfort, they can achieve more than they ever thought possible.



REACH BEYOND

By the end of camp, students leave with more than just improved skills—they leave with a deeper understanding of their own potential. They've reached beyond fear, beyond hesitation, and beyond the limits they once placed on themselves.

At camp, we don't just teach students how to perform or lead; we show them how to believe in themselves and take the leap toward what's possible.

Parents... Encourage Your Student To REACH BEYOND! As a parent, you know that some of the most valuable lessons in life happen when your child steps out of their comfort zone. Our summer camp is designed to give students the tools, experiences, and confidence to reach beyond their limits—both musically and personally.

At camp, your child isn't just learning new skills; they're developing independence, leadership, and a deeper connection to their passion for music. Whether they're performing on stage, mastering a challenging drill, or producing tracks in a state-of-the-art studio, they're growing in ways that will serve them for a lifetime.

But it's not just about the music.

Research shows that pre-college leadership experiences, like those at our camp, are strong predictors of future success. By immersing your student in this dynamic environment, you're helping them build critical skills like teamwork, communication, and creative problem-solving.

Perhaps the best part: camp is an absolute blast! In addition to the sessions, concerts, and rehearsals, your student will form lasting friendships, bond over shared experiences, and create memories they'll treasure forever.

So, why should you encourage your student to attend? Because this is more than a camp—it's an investment in their growth, their passion, and their future. When they leave, they won't just be better musicians or leaders—they'll be more confident, inspired, and ready to reach beyond.

Take The Leap: REACH BEYOND:

"Reach Beyond" is more than a tagline—it's a challenge to every student who steps into our camp. It's about embracing the unknown, pushing past perceived limits, and discovering what's truly possible. Whether it's perfecting a music passage in the Concert Band Division, mastering marching technique in Marching Band Division, or tossing your first triple at the Color Guard Division, each moment at camp is an opportunity to grow.

For students, it means leaving behind comfort zones and emerging stronger, more confident, and better equipped to handle challenges. For parents, it's about supporting a life-changing journey that doesn't just develop skills but also builds character, leadership, and lifelong friendships.

This is the time for your student to take the leap, to rise to new heights, and to discover just how far they can go. Help them take the first step—register your student today and start reaching beyond today! ■

JEFF YOUNG

Director of Camps,
Music for All





Bands of America is a program of Music for All, whose mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music.

Bands of America Championships, presented by Yamaha, provide opportunities to perform in the finest venues, receive quality evaluation, and to observe other bands, all in a positive, affirming, and celebratory atmosphere.

Regionals
Super Regionals
Grand National Championships

What Bands Receive:

- The best in adjudication and feedback from a national panel.
- Participation recognition and achievement awards.
- Participating band students are admitted free to watch Prelims and Finals. (Excluding Grand Nationals Finals which is reserved seating only.)
- Prelims and Finals format with 12 band Finals at Regionals and Grand Nationals, 14 band Finals for Super Regionals.
- Complimentary school administrator tickets.
- Event credentials for adults and staff working with the band (defined quantity).
- Educational video of your performances (streaming access for directors).

How to Register:

- All high school bands are eligible to enroll in Bands of America Championships.
- All events are open on a first-come, first served basis.
- Bands may choose competitive or Input Only participation.
- Applications must be signed by both the director and the school principal or superintendent and must be accompanied by the registration fee to be considered a complete registration. An unfulfilled purchase order is NOT considered payment.
- Register by January 31, 2025 to be eligible for the initial draw for preliminary performance times. Completing a registration in December or early January does not provide any advantage, as those registrations will be among those eligible for the random draw for performance times for those registered by January 31. All complete registrations postmarked after January 31 will be placed in the prelim schedule at earlier performance times than all bands that complete registration by January 31. If the requested show is already at capacity after January 31, a band will be placed on the wait list or encouraged to consider a different Bands of America Championship. Please review the cancellation policy prior to completing your registration.

Registration fees for 2025:

- All one-day Regionals enrollment fee is \$875.
- Super Regional Championship enrollment fee is \$925.
- Grand National enrollment fee is \$975.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

20
25

presented by  **YAMAHA**

Post-Event Clinics:

Bands of America offers optional, post-performance Director Clinics for additional, in-depth, focused input in a private evaluation setting the Sunday after each Regional Championship. These one-hour sessions are designed for directors and staff to analyze your performance from the previous day's BOA Championship with Bands of America music and visual judges in a positive and constructive atmosphere. The clinic fee is \$300. Scan to learn more about post-performance clinics or visit marching.musicforall.org/clinics



SCHEDULE

2025

DATE & STADIUM CONFIRMED

September 20, 2025
Round Rock, TX
 Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex

September 20, 2025
Toledo, OH
 University of Toledo
 Glass Bowl Stadium

September 27, 2025
Flagstaff, AZ
 J. Lawrence Walkup Skydome
 Northern Arizona University

September 27, 2025
Columbus, OH
 Historic Crew Stadium

September 27, 2025 [TENTATIVE]
Shenandoah, TX
 Woodforest Bank Stadium

October 4, 2025
Bedford, TX
 HEB Stadium
 Pennington Field

October 4, 2025
Chattanooga, TN
 Finley Stadium

October 4, 2025
Des Moines, IA
 Waukee Northwest Athletic
 Complex

October 4, 2025
Iowa Colony, TX
 Alvin ISD Freedom Field

October 11, 2025
Prosper, TX
 Prosper ISD Children's Health
 Stadium

October 11, 2025
Midland, TX
 Astound Broadband Stadium

October 17-18, 2025
St. Louis, MO
 Super Regional
 The Dome at America's Center

October 18, 2025 [TENTATIVE]
Johnson City, TN
 East Tennessee State University
 Ballad Health Athletic Center



**November
13-15, 2025**
**GRAND NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**
Indianapolis, IN
Lucas Oil Stadium



View all event details,
 registration requirements,
 and cancellation policy at
marching.musicforall.org

October 18, 2025 [TENTATIVE]
Orlando, FL
 Camping World Stadium

October 24-25, 2025
Indianapolis, IN
 Super Regional
 Lucas Oil Stadium

October 25, 2025
Newark, DE
 Delaware Stadium
 University of Delaware

November 1, 2025
Rancho Cucamonga, CA
 Etiwanda High School
 Eagle Stadium

November 1, 2025
Moscow, ID
 University of Idaho
 P1FCU Kibbie Dome

November 7-8, 2025
San Antonio, TX
 Super Regional
 Alamodome

November 8, 2025
St. George, UT
 Utah Tech University
 Greater Zion Stadium

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Conway, SC
 Coastal Carolina University
 Brooks Stadium

Las Cruces, NM
 New Mexico State University
 Aggie Memorial Stadium

McAllen, TX
 McAllen Veterans Memorial
 Stadium

Memphis, TN
 Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium

Powder Springs, GA
 McEachern High School
 Walter H. Cantrell Stadium

San Marcos, TX
 Texas State University
 UFC A Stadium

Waco, TX
 Baylor University
 McLane Stadium

**Schedule is current as of
January 28, 2025.**

Bands of America is a program
 of Music for All

Music for All Philosophy Statement:

USE OF AMPLIFICATION AND ELECTRONIC ENHANCEMENT OF BAND SONORITY



**Music for All
is committed to
expanding the role
of music and all arts
in education and
heightening the
public's appreciation
of the value of all
arts education**



We believe music and all arts are core to students' education and must be available to **all students**. We are faithful to a high standard of integrity, **a strong ethical framework**, and a deep and abiding sense of respect for all with whom we interact.

Bands of America nurtures the pursuit of music-making by creating and providing **quality educational experiences for every participant**. We believe that competition is a great motivator and provides substantial opportunities for learning life lessons.

The essence of competition is to strive for performance excellence and

to be **held accountable for learning**.

If the focus is on the learning, the competitive climate will be valuable throughout one's life. On the other hand, the negativity associated with "winning at all costs" will be a detriment to personal growth.

Music for All's mission and core values support the principles of **fair play, including professional and collegial behavior**. Bands of America competition policies and guidelines are explicit regarding the expectations for all stakeholders, including performers, educators, and evaluators.

The following are examples of the parameters we believe all competing participants should adhere to:

All music from traditional wind and percussion instruments or electronic instruments **must be performed by a student live and in real time**.

The use of **sampled, prerecorded, or sequenced sounds of woodwind, brass, and/or percussion instruments is not permitted**.

Advancements in audio technology have created possibilities for participating ensembles to adapt musical performances in such a way as to minimize the involvement of every performer within the ensemble and showcase the talents of only a few. We acknowledge that, for artistic reasons, such adaptations may be appropriate and enhance the overall presentation. However, when **amplification of only specific individuals during full ensemble passages** leads to an intentional misrepresentation of the band sound as a whole, the instructional leadership has strayed from the core values and beliefs stated above. Such misrepresentation of acoustic qualities, by enhancing the performance of only a few players, is unacceptable and must be self-regulated by the participating bands.

Music for All/Bands of America has always operated with the philosophy

that the priority is an educational (more than a competitive) experience. We expect our adjudicators to be mindful of philosophical perspectives while providing the **best possible educational experience for all participants** through their role as evaluators. Similarly, we must encourage all educators to take a lead role in **prioritizing the educational process**.

Together, we must demonstrate effective methods that showcase excellent teaching and performance and not misrepresent the ensemble character by using artificial methods/devices to create a false depiction of the band sonority. **BOA Adjudicators will be advised to recognize and reward the acoustic qualities of the wind ensemble over electronically produced sonority for prolonged periods of time.**

In consideration of the Bands of America philosophy, the following was implemented for the 2023 BOA season and beyond.

- Amplifying individuals through a soundboard during tutti sections leads to an intentional misrepresentation of what is being performed by the total ensemble. **This misrepresentation of acoustic quality by enhancing a few individuals is unacceptable.**
- Soloists and featured ensembles may use microphones during their feature section but must be muted from amplification when not being featured.
- Where a participating band has a limited number of performers (e.g., one player to a part), the use of individual microphones is acceptable.

The Bands of America Judge Administration Team recommends these guidelines and philosophy, with support of the BOA Advisory Committee. ■

Learn more about participating in Bands of America Championships at marching.musicforall.org





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THRIVE IN THE MOMENT, BUILD FOR TOMORROW

By David P. Duarte | Culture Before Content - Host

Where the Journey Begins

You step into the rehearsal room, which feels like any other day. But what if today could be the day everything starts to change? Building a culture—whether for yourself or your program—doesn't happen overnight, but begins with a single decision. Maybe you've been running on autopilot or looking for a way to reignite the spark in your teaching or life. The good news? It's never too late to start. Tiny, intentional actions can lead to meaningful growth for you and your students.

I don't consider myself an expert; my growth stems from the belief that learning takes place in reflection. I'm quick to admit what I don't know, and that openness has been a cornerstone of my development as an educator. Conversations and observations with others have been transformative, shaping my professional path and personal growth. Their insights have encouraged me to reflect, adapt, and push the boundaries of what's possible in my life and classroom.



The Foundation of You: Everything starts with you. You are the pillar that supports your program. But what happens when that pillar begins to crack? Stress, burnout, and physical exhaustion aren't just inconveniences—they're signals that something needs to change. Start by

prioritizing one area of self-care today. Maybe it's leaving work on time, scheduling a mental health day, or pursuing a passion. Taking

care of yourself isn't selfish—it's how you sustain the energy to build something lasting.



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

Building a thriving culture isn't about perfection – it's about progress

Sparkling Student Ownership: A thriving culture isn't something you create alone—it's something you build with your students. When students feel a sense of ownership, they become more engaged and invested in the program. Collaboration allows students to lead warm-ups, shape dynamics, and even weigh in on repertoire choices. Minor changes can have significant results, like letting a student lead a section or interpret a phrase. When students feel like their voices matter, the entire culture of the program shifts.

Stories in the Notes: Music can tell stories and connect us to something bigger than ourselves. Consider the stories embedded in your repertoire choices. By selecting works that reflect diverse voices and meaningful narratives, you help your students explore empathy and cultural awareness. This doesn't just build better musicians—it creates better people. Ask yourself: What stories do the pieces in your repertoire tell? How can they foster connection and curiosity? Use your programming to enrich your students'

musicianship and their understanding of the world.

Experiment, Reflect, Adjust: Building a thriving culture isn't about perfection—it's about progress. Evaluate your program's activities and focus on what truly matters. This process of trial and reflection is central to creating a culture that works for you. Experiment with a new leadership model, introduce a fresh rehearsal strategy, or allow students to explore music differently. Reflect on what worked and didn't, adjust, and keep moving forward. Change doesn't happen in a straight line, but every step brings you closer to the culture you aim to build.

Your Growth Fuels the Program: Your program's potential is directly tied to your own growth. What kind of culture do you want to create? Reflect on your goals and the needs of your students. Consider what actions—no matter how small—could move you toward that vision.

Whether it's setting clear boundaries, creating space for student voices, or choosing repertoire that inspires curiosity and connection, every step you take brings your culture to life.

Start today. Take one action that aligns with your values and reflects the kind of program you want to build. Create moments where students feel heard and supported. Foster an environment where growth and collaboration thrive. With each decision, you're crafting the learning environment your students need and deserve.

Growth is a journey, not a destination. Trust the process, reflect often, and adjust as you learn. Every effort you make today strengthens the foundation for tomorrow, and as you invest in your growth, you inspire your students to do the same. Together, you'll build something truly remarkable. ■

DAVID P. DUARTE

David P. Duarte
Director of Bands, Choir,
and Music Production
Washougal High School
Washougal, WA



Scan the QR to learn more about The Culture Before Content Podcast hosted by David Duarte





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TEACH MUSIC

TeachMusic.org

IS A HOME FOR MUSIC EDUCATION
RESOURCES FOR ALL.

From young, aspiring music educators and their parents to current music teachers and counselors, TeachMusic has assembled helpful articles, websites, videos, and print materials to benefit everyone.

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PATHS. This resource points aspiring educators—particularly those who have a degree in music, but not music education—in the right direction to begin their music education career, based on their state's requirements.

RESOURCES FOR COUNSELORS. Many counselors do not have a background in music education, and music college admissions can be tricky to navigate. We're here to help counselors and their students.

NEW Resource: The TeachMusic Job Board!
(SEE OPPOSITE PAGE)

A full service job board for all things music education, serving both job seekers and employers.

**DO YOU HAVE A
STUDENT INTERESTED
IN BECOMING A
MUSIC TEACHER?**

Have them check out
TeachMusic.org!

teachmusic.org


DID YOU KNOW?

Your student loans may be forgiven if you teach music for a qualifying employer like a public school or non-profit. Learn more at TeachMusic.org.






TeachMusic Launches National Job Board

At The 2024 Midwest Clinic, TeachMusic unveiled its national Job Board. The job board is now available as a central place for posting and seeking music education jobs across the nation.



[JOBS HOME](#) [SEARCH JOBS](#) [POST A JOB](#) [MY ACCOUNT](#) [Sign Up](#) [Log In](#)



LEAD. INSPIRE. BUILD.

CHANGE LIVES.

Search by keywords (any single word or combination of words)

SEARCH JOBS

BROWSE JOBS

BY CATEGORY

Full Time
Part Time
Long Term Sub
Contract/Freelance

BY SUBJECT

Band
Orchestra
Choir
General Music

BY TYPE

Elementary/Pre-K
Middle School/Junior High
High School
Community/Religious

BY KEYWORDS

BROWSE BY KEYWORDS

BY AREA

Radius miles

BROWSE BY AREA

BY STATE

Hold ctrl (windows) or cmd (mac) and click to select multiple


Arkansas
California
Colorado

BROWSE BY STATE

Anyone can make an account to post a job, and schools or districts with a large number of jobs to post can contact info@teachmusic.org for mass posting.

Job seekers can browse and filter jobs in a variety of ways, including by grade level, subject, and geographical parameters. No account is necessary to browse job postings!

Job postings include a variety of information, from degree and certification requirements to salary and application instructions.

**Sample Posting: Elementary Music Teacher**
Creative Sounds Elementary
New Orleans, LA
☐ Yesterday ☒ Part Time

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 1/1/2025

Basic Information
Work Arrangement: Location-Bound (Onsite)
Degree Required: Master's degree
Certification Required: Yes
Benefits Offered:
Salary: \$52,000 - \$62,000

Job Description & Qualifications
Teach general music to elementary students, focusing on basics.

Application Instructions
Submit application online.

Contact Person
Name Here
contact@email.com
555-555-5555

Links
School/Organization Website:
Teacher Contract Link:
Job Link: <https://example.com/jobs/elementary-music-teacher>

The TeachMusic Job Board does not provide an application service; job seekers must apply through the school, district, or application service as specified by each posting.

We hope you will consider posting or looking for your next job on the TeachMusic Job Board.

REBUILD STRONG: Music for All in collaboration with the Indianapolis Public Schools drives meaningful change

By Tim Cox | Fine Arts Program Manager for Indianapolis Public Schools



▲Arsenal Technical H.S. Concert Band Winter Concert
◀IPS Administration learn from Mr. Dorsett at Harshman M.S. on a school visit

Indianapolis Public Schools

As part of this partnership, I have provided strategic recommendations and overseen the execution of several impactful projects. A comprehensive summative report was prepared and shared with Enrichment Program leaders, detailing key recommendations for future implementation. This report was designed to inform leadership within IPS and highlight areas of concern, opportunities for growth, and a proposed 3-5 year plan.



▲Mr. Drabyn introducing the
NEW Arsenal Technical H.S. Orchestra!

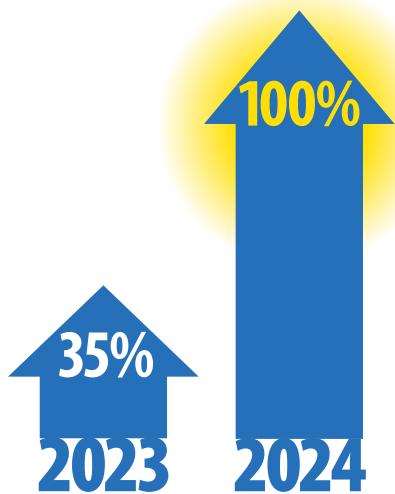
For many years, Music for All has cultivated a strong partnership with Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) to support and expand opportunities for fine arts students.

In 2023, IPS reinforced its commitment to this collaboration by appointing a Fine Arts Program Manager to advance the goals of the Rebuild Stronger initiative.

The plan focuses on budgets, stipends, scheduling, curriculum, professional development, the development of district-wide combined ensembles, and teacher support.

IPS has made remarkable progress in expanding access to fine arts education. In 2023, only 35% of K-12 students had access to fine arts classes. By the start of the 2024 school year, that number increased to 100%. **Previously, IPS followed a K-8 and 9-12 educational structure. However, as of 2024, the district introduced seven standalone middle schools serving grades 6-8, each offering a robust fine arts curriculum.** This restructuring not only enhances the quality of education but also allows students to begin formal music instruction in the sixth grade.





K-12 students fine arts accessibility

Additionally, IPS addressed a longstanding issue of insufficient equipment for band, orchestra, choir, visual arts, and piano programs. Many instruments and classroom furnishings were either outdated

guided by method books, audio tracks, and video lessons.

Another milestone was the establishment of an outdoor marching band practice facility. Before 2024, no such facility existed. As of August 2024, Arsenal Technical High School now features a painted field with additional markings to enhance student learning.

To accommodate the influx of new instruments, I developed an instrument recycling program. For years, IPS schools stored broken and obsolete instruments in unused piles. This program now facilitates recycling, generates additional funds for fine arts programs, and creates more space for teachers and students.

which provides project-planning guides for booster clubs of various sizes, organizational tools, and branding strategies. This session proved invaluable for IPS teachers.

2. Choral Program Support: Recognizing the need to uplift IPS choral programs, I helped to facilitate a three-day workshop with a national clinician known as “The Girl Conductor.” Maria Ellis worked directly with students and teachers in IPS schools, encouraging participation and fostering a love for singing.

In collaboration with IPS, Music for All continues to drive meaningful change, ensuring that fine arts education is accessible, equitable, and impactful for all students. ■



▲Crispus Attucks H.S. Choir
►Conductor, Maria Ellis sharing with Shortridge H.S. Choir members



▼IPS students at Bands of America Grand National Championships (IPS Showcase) with new saxophones!



Indianapolis Public Schools

or non-existent. In 2024, over \$6 million was invested in high-quality instruments and equipment for students and teachers. Significant efforts were also made to redesign and implement a district-wide fine arts curriculum aligned with the National Coalition for Arts Standards. Nearly one million dollars was spent to adopt a new curriculum for the next six years.

Elementary music programs received fine arts support as well. Each elementary school received class sets of ukuleles and instruments to introduce students to the Modern Band Method. This approach focuses on teaching popular music genres like rock, pop, and hip-hop using instruments such as guitar, bass, drums, and keyboard. Students quickly learn to play contemporary songs in a band setting,

Music for All also played a pivotal role in improving professional development (PD) opportunities, which were previously minimal and poorly attended. Today, PD sessions are targeted, feature world-class clinicians, and are highly relevant, with attendance reaching 98%.

Two particularly successful PD initiatives deserve recognition:

1. Booster Program Training: IPS previously overlooked the potential of music booster programs to support classroom teachers. Music for All brought in Dr. David Vandewalker, a national expert from Georgia, to host a full-day conference. Dr. Vandewalker shared insights from his book *Strategic Plans for a Successful Booster Club*,



▲Mr. Ramon Rivera (Washington State University) teaching IPS teachers Mariachi music



2024 ADVOCACY IN ACTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Advocacy in Action Awards highlight the benefits of a strong music program and show what your school or community is doing to provide access and opportunity for active music-making.

The Awards also allow educators to showcase their own music programs that are sometimes overlooked or not fully understood by members of the public beyond the school community.

MUSIC FOR ALL
Advocacy in Action

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ♦ Community Arts Collective and Metro Nashville Public Schools – TN
“We Are Nashville Festival”
- ♦ Lost Mountain Middle School Band – GA
“Concert on the Lawn”
- ♦ Rubidoux High School – CA
“Toy Drive for the Holidays”
- ♦ The Franklin Band – TN
“Musical Trick or Treat: Halloween with The Franklin Band”
- ♦ Timberview Middle School Hawk Band – TX
“Harmony of Giving: Advocating Through Community Service”
- ♦ Westfield Public Schools Visual & Performing Arts Department – NJ
“Arts in Our Schools Month”

DECISION-MAKER ENGAGEMENT

- ♦ Anderson High School Band – IN
“Decision-Maker Collaboration on Marching Band Invitational”
- ♦ Chavez and Webster Elementary Choirs – CA
“Musical Partnership with the Mayor’s Office”

ELEMENTARY EXCELLENCE

- ♦ Lincoln Elementary Marimba Band – WA
“Lincoln Elementary Marimba Band”

INNOVATIVE FUNDRAISING

- ♦ San Marcos High School Music Program – CA
“Refuge”
- ♦ The Franklin Band – TN
“US Flag Program Fundraiser”

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

- ♦ Brookville Blue Raider Bands – PA
“Student Centered, Advocacy Focused Concert Program”
- ♦ Fox C-6 School District Secondary Band & Choir Programs – MO
“Fox C-6 Music Programs Celebrate the Holidays”

PARENT/BOOSTER SUPPORT

- ♦ Wantagh Fine & Performing Arts – NY
“Harmony United: Empowering Performing Arts in Wantagh Schools”

STUDENT RECRUITMENT, ENGAGEMENT, AND RETENTION

- ♦ Cape Elizabeth Middle School Bands – MA
“Markings & Mini Lessons”
- ♦ Centralia High School Bands – IL
“Feeder School Tour”
- ♦ East Allen Community Youth Band – IN
“A New Community Youth Band”
- ♦ Jurupa Unified School District – CA
“District Wind Band Festival, Our Way”
- ♦ Leander High School Band – TX
“Leander Band History Night”
- ♦ Maine South High School – IL
“Unified Drumline”
- ♦ McGavock Cluster 8th Grade Bands – TN
“Presenting the McMiddie Band!”
- ♦ Proctor Jr. - Sr. High School Band – VT
“Concert Band Recruitment, Engagement, and Retention”
- ♦ Upland Highland Pipe Band – CA
“The Upland Highland Pipe Band”



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

"Concert on the Lawn"

- ♦ Lost Mountain Middle School Band
- ♦ Kennesaw, GA

"Concert on the Lawn" is a community-wide performance with invited elementary, middle, and high school students within their district cluster.

This year's event has grown so large that it will take place indoors at the high school feeder's gym with elevated seating. They invite local food trucks and it's a fun family-friendly evening celebrating young musicians within the district cluster. Many administrators, teachers, and employees within the district attend to show support for the students and the program, as it consists of nearly 50% of the school population.

DECISION-MAKER ENGAGEMENT

"Musical Partnership with the Mayor's Office"

- ♦ Chavez and Webster Elementary Schools
- ♦ Long Beach, CA

Fourth- and fifth-grade students from Chavez and Webster Elementary Schools had the opportunity to visit City Hall and the Mayor's Office twice last school year! After performing for civic leaders and workers at City Hall, students took a tour, visited the actual office of mayor Rex Richardson, enjoyed questions and answers in the mayor's meeting room, and toured the official city council meeting room. The students were able to get a glimpse into civic leadership, while having the opportunity to perform outside of the classroom and give back to their community.

ELEMENTARY EXCELLENCE

"Lincoln Elementary Marimba Band"

- ♦ Lincoln Elementary School
- ♦ Kennewick, WA

The Lincoln Elementary Marimba Bands are two ensembles made up of fourth- and fifth-grade students. Students rehearse 2 days a week before school for one hour. The Marimba Bands not only play for their school, but also the broader

community. Community members gather often to see the bands and listen to familiar tunes in public libraries, outdoor community areas, community sporting events, and more. They take great pride in seeing young members of the community working hard to create a unique experience.

INNOVATIVE FUNDRAISING

"US Flag Program Fundraiser"

- ♦ Franklin High School
- ♦ Franklin, TN

Across five holidays in 2023-2024, Franklin Band families placed 6250 flags in their community, raising over \$70,000. The program has loaned flags to schools for special events, including Veterans Day, and installed flags at the homes of families celebrating military weddings, the homecoming of a soldier, or the swearing in of new US citizens. Through social media, the band's webpage, and the use of tiny flags to advertise the program, the program built a subscriber pool of 1250 families.

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

"Student Centered, Advocacy Focused Concert Program"

- ♦ Brookville Blue Raider Bands
- ♦ Brookville, PA

Ahead of their performance at their state convention, the Brookville Blue Raider Band wanted to create a unique program book that was student-centered, focused on small school advocacy, highlighted composers, and educated and thanked their audience and supporters. This included QR codes to online photos and biographies of each student, as well as handwritten thank yous to the audience members scanned into the program book, information about the demographics of their small district, and QR codes to articles about small school music education from reputable music education organizations. They also designed a special edition of the program for their School Board with information specifically about their conference performance.

PARENT/BOOSTER SUPPORT

"Harmony United: Empowering Performing Arts in Wantagh Schools"

- ♦ Wantagh Fine & Performing Arts
- ♦ Wantagh, NY

The idea for Harmony United was conceived through the realization for the need of a unified booster organization to support all performing arts programs in Wantagh Schools. Having one booster program for all performing arts organizations supports the idea that we are all stronger together. Through dynamic fundraising, broad volunteer engagement, unified spirit wear initiatives, and diverse program enhancements, they foster an inclusive and vibrant arts community. From scholarships and special recognitions to event coordination and student-centered activities, they are committed to amplifying opportunities and celebrating the talents of every student, ensuring a harmonious future for the district's performing arts programs.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT, ENGAGEMENT, AND RETENTION

"Leander Band History Night"

- ♦ Leander High School Band
- ♦ Leander, TX

The Leander Band History Night is an event held to celebrate the band's 60+ years of history. This night of education and reflection allows students to learn about the past of their organization and provides an opportunity for past directors to come back and speak about their legacy. Along with the former directors, they also bring out old uniforms, pictures, awards, and other memorabilia to further emphasize the program's rich past. Being able to see the growth and development of the program since its inception has given Leander band students a new perspective and fostered a higher level of gratitude for what they are able to accomplish.

Sign up to be notified when the 2026 Advocacy in Action Awards application opens!





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THURSDAY, MARCH 13

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Clowes Memorial Hall (6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.)

- 6:00 p.m. West Springfield H.S. Wind Symphony, VA
- 7:00 p.m. William Mason H.S. Wind Symphony, OH

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Orchestra America National Festival Performances Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts – The Palladium (8:00 a.m. - 7:15 p.m.)

- 8:00 a.m. Noblesville H.S. Symphony Orchestra, IN
- 9:00 a.m. Herbert Hoover M.S. Advanced Orchestra, MD
- 10:00 a.m. Lake Travis M.S. Orchestra, TX
- 11:00 a.m. Kleb Intermediate School Chamber Orchestra, TX
- 12:00 p.m. Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestra Symphonette, PA
- 2:30 p.m. Lakewood H.S. Chamber Orchestra, CO
- 4:30 p.m. Newbury Park H.S. Chamber Orchestra, CA

- 4:30 p.m. Hanford H.S. Premier Strings, WA
- 5:30 p.m. Harrison H.S. Chamber Orchestra, GA

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts (8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. F.W. Buchholz H.S. Wind Symphony, FL
- 9:15 a.m. Liberty Hill H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 10:00 a.m. Parkway H.S. Wind Ensemble, LA
- 10:45 a.m. Eastlake H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 11:30 a.m. Hillgrove H.S. Wind Symphony, GA
- 12:15 p.m. Thomas Jefferson H.S. for Science and Technology Wind Ensemble, VA

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Clowes Memorial Hall (8:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. Maine South H.S. Wind Ensemble, IL
- 9:30 a.m. McKinney H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 10:30 a.m. Lambert H.S. Wind Ensemble, GA
- 11:30 a.m. Summit H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 12:30 p.m. Trinity H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 2:00 p.m. Timberline H.S. Wind Symphony, ID
- 3:00 p.m. Duncanville H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 4:00 p.m. Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Wind Symphony, FL
- 5:00 p.m. Clear Creek H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX

- 6:00 p.m. Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts Wind Ensemble, FL
- Sandy Feldstein National Percussion Festival Performances – Warren Performing Arts Center (9:00 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.)**

- 9:00 a.m. Hudson M.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 10:00 a.m. Westbrook Intermediate School Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 11:00 a.m. Claudia Taylor Johnson H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 12:00 p.m. Cleburne H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 2:00 p.m. Sachse H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 3:00 p.m. Timber Creek H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 4:00 p.m. F.W. Buchholz H.S. Percussion Ensemble, FL
- 5:00 p.m. Liberty Hill H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX
- 6:00 p.m. Robert E. Hendrickson H.S. Percussion Ensemble, TX

Chamber Music National Festival Performances – Indiana Historical Society (11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

- 11:00 a.m. Birdville H.S. Low Brass Chamber Ensemble, TX
- 11:30 a.m. F.W. Buchholz H.S. Clarinet Choir, TX
- 12:00 p.m. Liberty Hill H.S. Woodwind Quintet, TX
- 12:30 p.m. Colleyville Heritage Oboes Ensemble, TX
- 1:00 p.m. F.W. Buchholz H.S. Saxophone Quartet, FL
- 2:00 p.m. Robert E. Hendrickson H.S. Flute Choir, TX
- 2:30 p.m. Eastlake H.S. Saxophone Quartet, TX
- 3:00 p.m. Arkansas Tech University Youth Brass Quartet
- 3:30 p.m. Dobyys-Bennett H.S. Saxophone Ensemble, TN
- 4:00 p.m. Eastlake H.S. Saxophone Quartet, TX
- 4:30 p.m. Arkansas Tech University Youth Woodwind Quintet

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts – Middle School Bands (1:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.)

- 1:30 p.m. Krimmel Intermediate School Symphonic Band, TX

- 2:15 p.m. Moises V. Vela M.S. Honors Band, TX
- 3:00 p.m. Cooper M.S. Symphonic Band, VA
- 3:45 p.m. Red Oak M.S. Honors Band, TX
- 4:30 p.m. Smithfield M.S. Honors Band, TX
- 5:15 p.m. Wayside M.S. Honor Band, TX
- 6:00 p.m. Timberview M.S. Wind Ensemble, TX

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts – Middle School Bands (8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. Keller M.S. Band, TX
- 9:15 a.m. McLean M.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 10:00 a.m. Kleb Intermediate School Symphonic Band, TX

National Concert Band Festival Performances – Clowes Memorial Hall – Featured Bands (8:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. Robert E. Hendrickson H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 9:30 a.m. Sachse H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX
- 10:30 a.m. Timber Creek H.S. Wind Ensemble, TX

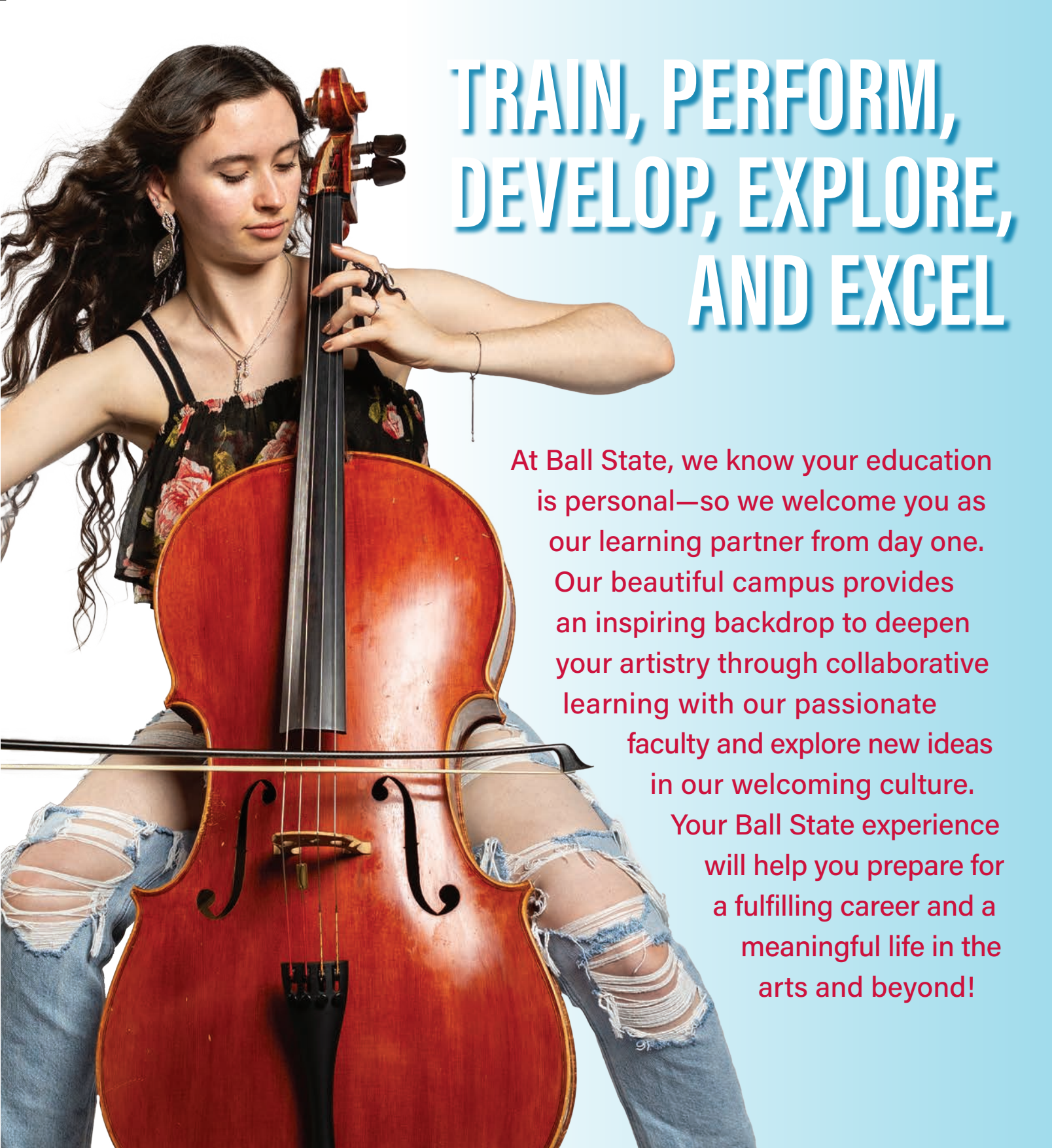
- **Honor Percussion Recital – Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts (11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)**
- **Honor Band of America Concert* – Clowes Memorial Hall (8:00 p.m.)**
- **Jazz Band of America Concert* – Howard L. Schrott Center for the Arts (8:00 p.m.)**

All 2025 concerts will be livestreamed at no cost to viewers by BOX5 Media on box5tv.com.



* Denotes events that require a credential or ticket to attend. All other events are free and open to the public.





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At Ball State, we know your education is personal—so we welcome you as our learning partner from day one. Our beautiful campus provides an inspiring backdrop to deepen your artistry through collaborative learning with our passionate faculty and explore new ideas in our welcoming culture. Your Ball State experience will help you prepare for a fulfilling career and a meaningful life in the arts and beyond!



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MARCH 26 - 28 2026 | Indianapolis, Indiana

MUSIC FOR ALL NATIONAL FESTIVAL

presented by



YAMAHA



Music for All National Festival presented by Yamaha celebrates outstanding music-making by the nation's finest high school & middle school instrumental ensembles. The non-competitive atmosphere provides a place for growth,

cooperative encouragement, and mutual respect among music programs, students, administrators, and community. Our nationally recognized clinicians are of the highest-caliber in the music education world.

The Music For All National Festival ensemble experiences include:

- **Concert Bands**

National Concert Band Festival

- **Orchestras**

Orchestra America National Festival

- **Chamber Music Ensembles**

Chamber Music National Festival

- **Percussion Ensembles**

Sandy Feldstein National Percussion Festival

2026 Music for All National Festival Ensemble Application

- **Ensemble application deadline:**
May 20, 2025.

- **Chamber Ensemble deadline:**
September 10, 2025.

To receive an invitation to the National Festival by audition is to be recognized as one of the finest scholastic music ensembles in America. All applying ensembles receive evaluation from the listening panel of conductors and music educators.

Visit festival.musicforall.org for application and audition requirements and application fee.



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

The clinician & composer interactions prior to the festival were

“**TERRIFIC**”
adds to our festival experience.”

“It was a great experience for our students.”





Experience the Honor... HONOR BAND OF AMERICA JAZZ BAND OF AMERICA

Since the Honor Band of America took the stage in 1992 under the baton of Dr. William D. Revelli, Music for All's honor ensembles have earned a reputation as some of the nation's finest student honor ensembles. It's not too early to share this opportunity with your students so they can consider applying and prepare their audition.

2026 Honor Ensembles at the Festival

Music for All's national honor ensembles are among the crown jewels of the Music for All National Festival. Individual high school musicians are selected by recorded audition.

- Honor ensemble student application/auditions open September 15, 2025.
- Application deadline: November 1, 2025.



Visit festival.musicforall.org/honor to learn more about the 2026 honor ensemble conductors, package details, and audition/application information.

HONOR ENSEMBLES

MARCH 26-28 2026 | Indianapolis, Indiana

at the MUSIC FOR ALL NATIONAL FESTIVAL

presented by  YAMAHA



The Music for All National Festival gave my students a chance to work towards something and participate in an
AMAZING EXPERIENCE as we work to rebuild and regrow after COVID. It has helped
my program re-establish a bar of excellence and allowed my students to see other kids their age making
extraordinary music.



Carl Grapentine, Nola Jones, and
Jay Webb to be inducted into

MUSIC FOR ALL HALL OF FAME

Music for All's Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have made a significant impact on Bands of America, Music for All, and music education in America. Members represent impeccable character, ethics, and professionalism, and are role models for music education professionals. The Class of 2025 Hall of Fame members will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the Music for All National Festival in March 2025.



Carl Grapentine



Nola Jones



Jay Webb



Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

Avon High School (IN) 2024 Grand National Champions

Congratulations to our National Class Champions:

Class A: Murray H.S., KY

Class AA: Tarpon Springs H.S., FL

Class AAA: Cedar Park H.S., TX

Class AAAA: Avon H.S., IN

See full 2024 BOA results at marching.musicforall.org/results

Bravo to all of the Grand National Finalist bands; Regional and Super Regional Champion and Class Champion bands; and performing bands of the 2024 Bands of America Championships, presented by Yamaha.





VIDEO ON DEMAND

Subscribe to watch:

2024 Bands of America Championships

2024 Music for All National Festival

2023 Bands of America Championships

Past years' BOA Championship
performances with more
added weekly!

video.musicforall.org





Oklahoma Educator receives 2024 George N. Parks Leadership in Music Education Award

Cheryl Lee, Assistant Professor of Music at Tulsa Community College, OK, was named the recipient of the 2024 George N. Parks Leadership in Music Education Award, presented jointly by the National Association for Music Education and Music for All. Pictured left to right: Katherine Prihoda, North Central Division Representative of the NAFME Band Council, Cheryl Lee, and James Stephens, Senior Director of Education and Advocacy at Music for All



2024 Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award Presented at Grand Nationals

Mark and Kathleen Meng of Blue Springs H.S., MO were named the recipients of the 2024 Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award during the Prelims Award Ceremony at the BOA Grand National Championships. The Patrick John Hughes Parent/Booster Award annually recognizes the extraordinary commitment, dedication, support and sacrifice of music parents and boosters around the world by shining a spotlight on parent boosters who exemplify these qualities. Pictured left to right: James Stephens, Senior Director of Education and Advocacy at Music for All, Patrick John Hughes, Dr. Kathleen Meng, Mark Meng

Music for All FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our 2024 fall scholarships, awards to inspiring young musicians on their journey to become the next generation of music educators. These talented students have shown exceptional dedication and passion for music, and we're proud to support their college education and career path in music education.



▲ **Nathan Bjorklund**— Clovis H.S., CA received The Fred J. Miller Memorial Music Education Scholarship.



▲ **Taylor Provenge**— Norwin H.S., PA received The Yamaha Corporation of America Scholarship



▲ **Brandon Foster**— Cedar Park H.S., TX received The Fred J. Miller Family Scholarship

Franklin High School Band invited to march in the 2026 Rose Parade®



During the Finals of the 2024 Bands of America Grand National Championships, presented by Yamaha, Tournament of Roses President Morales extended the official invitation to march in the 2026 Rose Parade® to Franklin High School from Franklin, Tennessee. As part of a unique partnership with Music for All, the Tournament of Roses selects one Grand National Semi-Finalist band to march in the Rose Parade®.

SOMETHING IS HAPPENING IN INDY



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After decades of dreaming big, Indy has arrived. A massive slate of new developments will reshape the skyline as the city marches forward alongside Music for All toward a bright future.

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CELEBRATING MUSICAL EXCELLENCE THROUGH DIVERSITY



Recipients of the 2024 William P. Foster Community Development Award were honored at a reception held during the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. The Awards are a program of the Music Education Alliance that is supported by Music for All, College Band Directors National Association, and National Band Association.

DR. WILLIAM P. FOSTER AWARD WINNERS

Pictured left to right:

- **Dr. Oscar Petty Jr.**
Cicely Tyson Community School of Performing and Fine Arts, NJ
- **Cedric Young**
Westlake H.S., GA
- **Salvador Rodriguez**
Isaac M.S., AZ
- **Tom Cox**
Goshen H.S., IN
- **Kuan Mitchell**
Evan E. Worthing Early College H.S., TX
- **Jeff Chang**
Decatur H.S., WA

Special thank you to:

The Dr. William P. and Mary Ann Foster Foundation, Mr. Anthony Foster and Ms. Thelma Crump, board members, www.drwpfosterfoundation.org. Learn more about the Foster Awards program and Music Education Alliance at musicdalliance.org.

Music for All PODCAST NETWORK

The Music for All Podcast Network aims to inspire and support you in the classroom. Deep dive into a variety of music education topics. Hear the unique stories of many different music teachers. Created by educators for educators, find your next favorite podcast on the Music for All Podcast Network is available wherever you get your podcasts.



TEACH MUSIC EXPERIENCE welcomes future music educators at BOA Grand Nationals



Photo courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises

Music for All hosted seventy-eight music education majors at Grand Nationals for the 2024 TeachMusic Experience. Led by Susan L. Smith, participating students represented 10 states and 17 colleges/universities. In addition to meeting with leaders from Music for All and its sponsors and strategic partners, students toured Lucas Oil Stadium, enjoyed a look at BOX5's production studio, and learned essentials of ensemble audio recording from Sweetwater. Following a series of roundtable discussions with master educators, the students watched the remainder of Semi-Finals performances.



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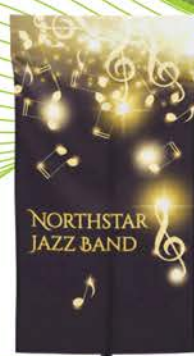
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YAMAHA NEWS

6 Tips for Engaging Wind Rehearsals + Downloadable Wind Instrument Care Checklist:

Differentiating instruction for a variety of instruments all in one group can be tricky because you must keep all students engaged. I use a number of rehearsal techniques that apply to all instruments, therefore engaging everyone. Try these tips on how to rehearse your winds section and maximize your time during rehearsals!

Start with the Warmup: The warmup is when most of our instruction on fundamentals takes place. My warmups vary depending on things like how much time we have, where we are, who is missing, etc. Most of the time, we work out of a warm-up book. I encourage you to look for two things in a warm-up book: 1) it should have more exercises than just scales for everyone, and 2) it should have chorales in various keys. If your book does not have those, supplement to make sure your students are getting what they need.

For example, the book we use includes lip slurs for brass that are harmonized by the woodwinds and vice versa when the woodwinds are playing embouchure studies. Chorales provide a fundamental understanding of tone, balance, blend, tuning, etc. We make sure to do a chorale every...

To read the complete "6 Tips for Engaging Wind Rehearsals" article, visit Yamaha.io/mfawd25.



VISIT INDY NEWS

Indianapolis is honored to be the heart of the marching band universe.

In partnership with Music for All, we proudly host the Bands of America Grand National Championships annually at Lucas Oil Stadium. Each year, the city welcomes performers, their families, supporters, and fans for an extraordinary celebration of music, showcasing captivating performances that inspire and crown champions.

As Music for All continues to grow its influence, Indianapolis is also evolving. A new 800-room Signia by Hilton hotel and an expansion of the Indiana Convention Center are underway. White River State Park is expanding with a new campus near Lucas Oil Stadium, and Circle Centre Mall is being completely reimaged. Indy is on the rise, and the future is bright.

While these big projects are exciting, it's the small details that make Indy a remarkable host city. Downtown's walkability allows easy access from hotels to restaurants and the stadium with just a comfortable pair of shoes. Visitors experience genuine Hoosier Hospitality from landing at the award-winning Indianapolis International Airport to check-in at their hotels and throughout their stay. Most importantly, it's the traditions and close-knit music community that elevate these events to center stage.

Indianapolis cherishes the privilege of hosting Music for All and celebrating the artistry of every performer. Thank you for trusting this city to create unforgettable experiences for these rising stars. Plan your ultimate Indy experience at VisitIndy.com.



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Arthur Jordan Foundation



Activities are made possible in part by the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.





AFFILIATE REGIONAL MUSIC FESTIVALS

Music for All is proud to partner with festivals across the country to present Affiliate Regional Music Festivals. Visit festival.musicforall.org/affiliate for application deadlines and Festival contacts.

Sonoma Invitational Choral Festival

Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, CA

Date: October 22-23, 2024

Festival Contact: Dr. Jenny Bent

Kettering National A Cappella Festival

Kettering Fairmont High School
Kettering, OH

Date: November 8-9, 2024

Festival Contact: Brody McDonald

Las Vegas Concert Band Festival

Arbor View High School
Las Vegas, NV

Date: February 22, 2025

Festival Contact: David Maccabee

WCS Band and Orchestra Assessment (tentative)

Williamson County Schools
Franklin, TN

Date: February 26 – March 1, 2025

Cincinnati Regional Concert Band Festival

William Mason High School
Mason, OH

Date: March 1, 2025

Festival Contact: Avious Jackson

Sacred Heart University Concert Band Festival

Sacred Heart University
Fairfield, CT

Date: March 4, 2025

Festival Contact: Keith Johnston

UMKC Concert Festival

University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory
Kansas City, MO

Date: March 5-6, 2024

Festival Contact: Joseph Parisi

BYU Concert Band Festival

Brigham Young University
Provo, UT

Date: March 7-8, 2025

Festival Contact: Shawn Smith

University of Minnesota (Twin Cities) Concert Band Festival

University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)
Minneapolis, MN

Date: March 7-8, 2025

Festival Contact: Jerry Luckhardt

Elk Grove Percussion Festival

Elk Grove High School
Elk Grove Village, IL

Date: March 8, 2025

Festival Contact: Ron Fiorito Jr.

Pacific Coast Regional Wind Band Festival

Bob Cole Conservatory of Music
Long Beach, CA

Date: March 8, 2025

Festival Contact: Jermie Arnold

University of Kentucky Windfest Concert Band Festival

University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY

Date: March 8, 2025

Festival Contact: Cody Birdwell

Sonoma Invitational Wind Band and Orchestra Festival

Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, CA

Date: March 12-14, 2025

Festival Contact: Andy Collinsworth

Philadelphia Wind Band Festival

West Chester University
West Chester, PA

Date: March 13, 2025

Festival Contact: Andrew Yozviak

Louisiana Concert Band Invitational

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Lafayette, LA

Date: March 15, 2025

Festival Contact: Ronnie Gleason

San Joaquin Valley Concert Band Invitational

Clovis North Educational Center
Fresno, CA

Date: March 21, 2025

Festival Contact: David Lesser

Northwest Regional Concert Band Festival

Mountain View High School
Vancouver, WA

Date: March 21-22, 2025

Festival Contact: Sam Ormson

Southeastern Regional Concert Festival

Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA

Date: March 26-27, 2025

Festival Contact: Amy Reid

Mid-Atlantic Concert Band Festival

University of Maryland
College Park, MD

Date: March 29, 2025

Festival Contact: Eric Posner

Ignite Music Invitational

Gibbs High School
St. Petersburg, FL

Date: April 1, 4-5, 2025

Festival Contact: Brigitte Poulson

Oklahoma Bandmasters Association Concert Band Festival

Mustang High School
Mustang, OK

Date: April 3-4, 2025

Festival Contact: Ryan Edgmon

Great Lakes Concert Band Festival (tentative)

Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI

Date: April 4-5, 2025

Festival Contact: Mary K. Schneider

Belmont University Regional Wind Band Festival

Belmont University
Nashville, TN

Date: April 5, 2025

Festival Contact: Dr. Barry Kraus

Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival

John Hersey High School
Arlington Heights, IL

Date: April 5, 2025

Festival Contact: Spencer Hile

Metropolitan Wind Band Invitational

Roxbury High School
Succasunna, NJ

Date: April 5, 2025

Festival Contact: Jeffrey Conrad

Prairie State Middle School Concert Band Festival

Plainfield East High School
Plainfield, IL

Date: April 11-12, 2024

Festival Contact: Greg Scapillato

Metro East Concert Band Festival

O'Fallon Township High School
O'Fallon, IL

Date: April 12, 2025

Festival Contact: Melissa Gustafson-Hinds

Southeastern Percussion Ensemble Symposium

Lassiter High School
Canton, GA

Date: April 18-19, 2025

Festival Contact: Mike Lynch

Music for All UCF-Orlando Concert Band Invitational

Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
Orlando, FL

Date: April 19, 2025

Festival Contact: Scott Lubaroff

Northeast Concert Band Festival at Ithaca College

Ithaca College
Ithaca, NY

Date: April 25-26, 2025

Festival Contact: Daniel Cook

Learn more at
festival.musicforall.org/affiliate



Official Affiliate Regional Travel Partners



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