



Bands of America Arizona Regional Championship September 28, 2019 • Northern Arizona University • Flagstaff, AZ

MUSIC PANEL (*alphabetical by last name*)

David Branson, Casper, WY

David Branson is currently working as an Education Clinician for Music Solutions Group. He is involved in a number of national music education projects and is widely sought after to present at University's across the United States. David is highly involved in developing an Art and Wellness program in Casper Wyoming in conjunction with the Wyoming Symphony, Casper medical center, and Casper College. He is an active performer in the Casper area. David recently retired as the Administrator for Fine arts/music for the Washoe County School District in Reno, Nevada. His duties included coordinating all music and arts activities for the school district. Prior to his current assignment David taught at Clayton middle school, Edward C. Reed high school and other elementary schools in the WCSD. Before moving to Reno, David served as music coordinator for the Livermore Unified school district in California as well as teaching Band, Jazz, Orchestra and Choir.

David is a past Western Division President for MENC; he has served as a state president in Nevada and has had various positions on section and state boards for the past 30 years. He is an active adjudicator for music festivals and Bands of America and as a conductor for honor bands and music camps. In addition to his duties with the Washoe County School District he served on the faculty at the Truckee Meadows Community College. During his tenure in WCSD he developed over 25 strategic partnerships with business and community groups to improve music education and access for all students. He has been called upon to speak to the Nevada Legislature committees on the benefits of arts education on student achievement. David was awarded the Administrator of the Year, and the Service to Music Education awards by the Nevada Music Education Association.

Daniel Cuevas, Euless, TX

Daniel Cuevas is a music educator and visual design coordinator with over a decade of experience in the pageantry arts. Mr. Cuevas is currently entering his third year at Trinity High School, where he conducts the Non-Varsity Symphonic Winds and is responsible for overseeing the color guard program.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Houston's Moore's School of Music where he studied with Tom Bennett, David Bertman, John Benzer, Dr. Karen Wylie and Valerie Vidal. In addition, prior to coming to Trinity Mr. Cuevas completed his coursework for a master's in Music Education degree from the University of Michigan.

Along with teaching at Trinity, he has previously served as Associate Director of Bands at Clear Creek High School in League City, TX from 2012-2015 and Assistant Director at Harrison High School in Kennesaw, GA from 2010-2012. His concert ensembles have consistently earned the

UIL Sweepstakes awards. His performance experience includes performing as a member of the colorguard in several World Class Drum Corps, including the Madison Scouts, Santa Clara Vanguard and the 2008 World Champion Phantom Regiment.

In addition to his years of service as a band director, Mr. Cuevas has served as a visual designer, drill writer and consultant for numerous ensembles competing in UIL and BOA Regional and Grand National Championships. His professional affiliations include TMEA and TBA, and he is currently an active adjudicator for Bands of America.

Ralph Ewell, Oceanside, CA

Brett Johnson, Lakewood, CO

Brett Johnson taught for twenty-eight years at Leesville, LA High School, Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler, TX and The Woodlands High School in The Woodlands, TX. During his eighteen-year tenure at The Woodlands, the marching band was a twenty - five time finalist at Bands of America Regional Marching Band Championships, a two time Texas State Marching Band Contest Finalist and a four time Bands of America Grand National Finalist winning the AAA National Championship in 2006. In 2010 the Woodlands Band was one of three bands worldwide to receive the coveted Sudler Shield award for excellence in marching band.

During Mr. Johnson's tenure, The Woodlands Wind Ensemble performed at the Texas State Wind Ensemble Contest, the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, the Western International Band Clinic in Seattle, the National Band and Orchestra Festival at Carnegie Hall and The Midwest Clinic in Chicago. The Woodlands Band was also a proud recipient of The Sudler Flag from the John Philip Sousa Foundation. Mr. Johnson's professional affiliations include TMEA, TBA, and Phi Beta Mu. In 2004 the Texas Bandmasters Association honored Mr. Johnson with the Lifetime Meritorious Achievement Award. Mr. Johnson is an active adjudicator and clinician throughout the United States. He and his wife, Cynthia, live in Denver and have two sons, Jacob and Kevin.

VISUAL PANEL *(alphabetical by last name)*

Scott Beck, Smyrna, GA

Scott Beck has been involved with the color guard activity for over 30 years. He has marched with the Miller's Blackhawk Winter Guard, Suncoast Sound, and Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corps. Scott began his teaching career with the Fred J. Miller Clinics where he taught for 10 summers and worked as a camp administrator his last two years. During this time, he instructed several high school and independent winter guards. Some of these groups include John Overton H.S. (which was the first high school color guard to win back to back world champions in Scholastic A and Scholastic Open Class), Dimension Winter Guard, and South Oldham H.S. In the summer of 2000, Scott completed his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and moved to Atlanta, Georgia where he taught first grade. He continued to teach color guard and was on staff with Pope and Lassiter H.S.S. While with Pope H.S., they earned the Scholastic World Bronze Medalist with WGI in 2003. From 2010-2013, he served as co-caption head and caption head for the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps and Western Carolina Pride of the Mountains Marching Band. Scott completed his master's degree in Educational Leadership from Kennesaw State University in 2006 and is currently an Early Intervention Program (EIP) Teacher

in the Cobb County School District at Still Elementary School. This is also his 6th year to serve as an equipment adjudicator for various winter guard circuits around the country and Winter Guard International (WGI). In his free time, Scott enjoys spending time with his dog, Remington, and riding his Harley.

Kristopher Quaale, North Richland Hills, TX

Kristopher Quaale is a member of the sales and design team at Integrated Lifestyles, a Dallas-based custom audio/video integration company. Prior to working at Integrated Lifestyles, he spent 9 years as a band director at schools in the Leander, Plano, and Keller ISD's. Mr. Quaale holds a Master of Music degree with a specialization in wind conducting from the University of North Texas, where he studied Eugene Corporon, Dennis Fisher, and Nicholas Williams. He also holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree in instrumental music from Texas Christian University. He was involved with Drum Corps International (DCI) for eleven years, where he was on the visual staff for the seven-time world champion Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. Before teaching for The Cavaliers, he was a marching member of the Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps (2003), and The Cavaliers (2004-2006). Mr. Quaale is also active as a drill writer, clinician and adjudicator in the United States and internationally.

Neal Smith, Canton, MA

Mr. Neal Smith is a Visual Designer and has designed shows for Drum Corps, Marching Bands, Color Guards, and Percussion ensembles throughout the United States, Canada, The United Kingdom, and Europe. His designs have won numerous Regional, National, International, and World Championships. Mr. Smith's trademark style of coordinating all the elements of sound, color, and movement has made his designs entertaining, engaging, and effective. In addition to designing, he is a consultant and clinician and has worked on Marching Arts Task Forces in developing programs in inner cities. Mr. Smith is a member of the Massachusetts Judges Association and judges Regional, National and World Championships for Bands of America (BOA), New England Scholastic Band Association, Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association, MAC, Drum Corps Associates, and various independent judging associations. Mr. Smith was a member of the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps beginning at the age of 12 and would continue to march for nine years as brass soloist and drum major. Mr. Smith is a member of the World Drum Corps Hall of Fame, The Massachusetts Music Educators and Drum Corps Hall of Fame, the Boston Crusaders Hall of Fame, and the Connecticut Hurricanes Hall of Fame.

CHIEF JUDGE

Richard Saucedo, Fishers, IN

Richard L. Saucedo was the Director of Bands and Department Chairman at the William H. Duke Center for the Performing Arts at Carmel High School in Carmel, Indiana, for 31 years. Under his direction, Carmel bands received numerous state and national honors. The Indiana Bandmasters Association named Mr. Saucedo Indiana's "Bandmaster of the Year" for 1998-99, and recently named him the state's 2010 "Outstanding Music Educator." Mr. Saucedo is a freelance arranger and composer, having released numerous marching band arrangements, concert band works, and choral compositions. He is currently on the writing staff for the Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation. Mr. Saucedo travels throughout the country as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor and has been a featured clinician at a number of prominent

conferences and clinics. He has served as Music Caption Head for the Drum Corps Midwest Judges Guild and as a music judge for Drum Corps International. Mr. Saucedo has also served as the brass composer/arranger for the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps and will be the brass composer/arranger for the Blue Stars in 2013. Mr. Saucedo did his undergraduate work at Indiana University in Bloomington and finished his master's degree at Butler University in Indianapolis. He is the director of the Bands of America Honor Band which will march in the 2021 Rose Parade in Pasadena, California, and is a member of Music for All's Bands of America Hall of Fame