

Dear Directors and Boosters,

Music for All is extremely honored to have your marching band participate in the **Bands of America Grand National Championships, presented by Yamaha November 14-16, 2019**. It is a privilege for us at Music for All to be able to provide this experience for you, your students, and boosters – to deliver on our mission to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. Bands of America programs are dedicated to providing the highest quality educational experiences possible for students and teachers across the nation. These programs emphasize the value of creativity, teamwork, and discipline in scholastic music settings, principles that our participants carry with them as they pursue their personal and professional goals.

TENTATIVE PRELIM SCHEDULE & DAILY SCHEDULE

Please follow the Final Packet link, below, to view the current show schedule. We will communicate any significant changes, and a Final version of this schedule will be released the week of the event.

EVENT COMMUNICATIONS AND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

For your convenience, we have posted important documents on our website that are critical as you prepare for your experience in Indianapolis. It is crucial to read through all documents provided.

Please carefully review the following event specific documents at:

<https://marching.musicforall.org/fallfinalpackets/>

- **Important Event Procedures**
- **Prelim Schedule**
- **Daily Schedule**
- **Site Overview Map, Performance Flow Map and Stadium Map**
- **Driving Directions/Area Map and Parking Map**
- **Leadership Workshop Information**
- **Overnight Parking Permit Request**
- **Judge Bios**

The **Important Reminders** page is on our website and we encourage you to carefully read and review this general information for the fall season: www.musicforall.org/directorslounge

Additionally, please read and review the information found on these pages:

- **Fall Championship Parking Information**
- **Fall Championship Picnic Information**
- **Fall Championship General Event Procedures**

ADULT CREDENTIALS

Upon checking in on-site, all bands will receive 6 director name badges valid for both prelims, semi-finals and finals, as well as 25 field passes (plus any additionally purchased passes), valid for prelims only. Bands performing in Semi Finals and Finals will receive a new set of 25 field passes (plus any additionally purchased passes) at the Semi Finalists and Finalist Directors' Meetings.

Additional Field Passes: All additional credentials must be purchased by **November 12th** by credit card only. The combination of additional name badges and field passes may not exceed 10. Of those 10, a maximum of 4 may be name badges. (BOA Adjudication Handbook Sections 6, 9, 14, 17).

Cost of additional Grand National Championships Name Badges: \$96

Cost of additional Grand National Championships Field Passes: \$50

PROCEDURES AND ADJUDICATION HANDBOOK

Please download the 2019 Bands of America Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook (“rulebook”) from <https://marching.musicforall.org/adjudication-handbook/> and review it carefully; **specifically the significant updates for 2019, listed at the front of the handbook.**

ADJUDICATION PROCEDURES

Music for All uses the CompetitionSuite adjudication system. In mid-September, you received an email from CompetitionSuite to create or update your profile. You can add members of your staff, cell phone numbers for text alerts, and other information to assist in receiving judge commentary from your performance. The following process remains in place:

- Approximately 90 minutes after your prelims performance, you will receive a text message to your primary director phone number letting you know that your commentary files are beginning to upload for you to review. You can then open up the CompetitionSuite phone/tablet application, visit the CompetitionSuite website, or call the number from which you received the text message to listen to your commentary.
- **All scores (prelims, semi-finals, and finals) and recaps will be held until the end of the Finals Awards Ceremony.** All scores and recaps will be available online via CompetitionSuite. No scores or recaps will be released prior to the conclusion of the Finals Awards Ceremony.

PERFORMANCE SAFETY REMINDER

Per our rulebook, staging/props shall be limited to a maximum height of **12 feet tall**, including safety or other railings or equipment. Additionally, no participant may be on, or be placed on, any portion of any prop where the participant’s feet are more than six feet above the playing surface of the stadium, unless appropriate safety railing and/or other safety equipment are in place and in use. Soft props that use air as an effect and are made of soft materials (streamers, fabric, inflatables, etc.) shall be limited to a maximum of **25 feet tall**.

OVERNIGHT PARKING - An Overnight Parking Permit may be purchased from MFA for \$50 per vehicle, valid **ONLY** for the EZ Park Lot (see the maps included in this packet). Parking is available beginning at 8pm Wednesday, November 14 through 6am Sunday, November 17. This pass may be purchased on-site at Band Check-In or in advance at [grand-nationals-overnight-parking](#). All Overnight Parking Permits will be picked up at Band Check-In.

EVENT DAY COMMUNICATIONS - BAND App

NEW this year: Music for All will be using the BAND app (instead of Remind) as our event day communications tool. We highly suggest that you download the app, a direct link for the private BAND group for the BOA Championship that you are participating in will be emailed to you prior to the event. Feel free to share the link with any relevant staff that you would like to have access to information such as schedule changes, weather updates, etc. ***NOTE whoever you share the link with to join the BAND group will receive updates at the same time as you do, as well as have the ability to communicate directly with MFA event staff through the app.***

BUS/EQUIPMENT TRUCK PARKING PASSES

At the Grand National Championship, bus/truck parking passes complimentary. If you have not submitted a parking pass request, please complete the form immediately in order to receive your passes in time. Passes will be emailed upon completion of the form. Passes are required to enter the bus & truck unload/reload area and parking lots at the event. There is **NO** complimentary staff pass at Grand National Championships— all personal vehicles will need to park in a spectator lot.

SPECTATOR PARKING

There is a **\$10** charge for spectator parking in the Lucas Oil South Lot at Grand Nationals. Spectator parking is also available around the stadium in local parking lots and garages. Please advise your parents and boosters to arrive early and allow extra time to get to the stadium, especially during peak times. Music for All does not control pricing or lot availability.

CHAMPIONSHIP HOUSING

If you have not already reserved your groups hotel accommodations, please visit [BOA housing bureau](#), or call Laura Jackson at (317) 635-4755 or lauraj@cmcglobal.com. **All participating bands and booster groups traveling to this event and staying in hotels must participate in and use the BOA Housing Bureau.**

FEEDING YOUR GROUP AT GRAND NATIONALS

Music Travel Consultants, Music for All's preferred travel partner, is offering an "all you care to eat" pasta dinner for \$34 per person on Saturday November 16 between Semi-Finals and Finals in the Indiana Convention Center. If you would like more information please contact Chris Forsythe at Music Travel Consultants directly at Chris.Forsythe@musictravel.com

TICKET INFORMATION

Your 20 general admission Semi-Finals cooperative tickets are in the process of being mailed. You can still order group tickets until November 3rd, which will be held at the Will-Call window of the Lucas Oil Stadium South Ticket Office. Please remember that each day of the preliminary events will be a separate ticket. A 2-day Prelims pass is available. In addition, the Saturday Semi-Finals and the Saturday evening Finals Competition are also two separate tickets. All tickets for Saturday's Finals Competition are reserved seating. For additional information about tickets, please refer to the May Mailing link in the director's lounge.

Don't forget to order your opposite day student tickets for just \$7 each. For more information visit <https://marching.musicforall.org/grandnationals/>

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

Your Copyright Report and approvals were due on September 1, and must be received by Music for All prior to your performance. **If you have not submitted your Copyright Report and/or permissions to arrange, please do so immediately. You will not be allowed to take the field until ALL of your copyright paperwork has been received.**

STUDENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

We invite you and your students to spend an evening with Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser at a special two-hour leadership workshop on Friday, November 15. The workshop will be held from 5:00p.m. – 7:00p.m, with check-in opening at 4:00p.m. A registration form is available online at [student-leadership-workshop](#). The cost is \$35 per person. One director can attend FREE for every 10 students. Space is still available but limited. Please take the time to register your students now.

THE GRAND NATIONAL EXPO

The Grand National EXPO - including official Music for All sponsors and exhibitors will be on the Street Level Concourse of Lucas Oil Stadium. Merchandise sales exhibits will be open throughout the event, while the informational section of exhibits will be open on Friday and Saturday only. The Expo area is open to all students, directors and spectators at Lucas Oil Stadium. We encourage you to support those who support BOA in providing quality events for you and your students.

CONNECT WITH BANDS OF AMERICA AND MUSIC FOR ALL ONLINE

Music for All will be posting photos, videos, and updates from each show this fall and we would love for you, your students, and your band's fans to join the conversation.

Encourage your band to follow Music for All and Bands of America on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat so they don't miss any of the action. Use #boa2019 all season long and help promote music education in your community.

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/musicforallnetwork
www.facebook.com/bandsofamerica

Twitter:

[@musicforall](https://twitter.com/musicforall)
[@bandsofamerica](https://twitter.com/bandsofamerica)

Instagram: [@officialmusicforall](https://www.instagram.com/officialmusicforall)

Snapchat: [officialmfa](https://www.snapchat.com/add/officialmfa)

LIVE STREAM ON FLOMARCHING

All Bands of America Championships will be live streamed on FloMarching. FloMarching is dedicated to the world of competitive marching bands and the marching arts. If you have band parents, alumni, administrators, and supporters who cannot come to the event, the live stream offers subscribers a way to watch all performances at every Bands of America Championship. Visit FloMarching.com to see the monthly and annual subscription options. Please share this opportunity and link with your band family. An annual FloMarching subscription provides access to coverage of Marching Arts including Bands of America, Drum Corps International, and Winter Guard International events, all for a single subscription.

MAKE JOLESCH ENTERPRISES PART OF YOUR BOA EXPERIENCE

As you plan your performance day at the 2019 Bands of America Championships, we ask and encourage you to include a stop at the group and section photo areas established for Jolesch Enterprises, our Official Photographer. Full band group and section photos are included in the performance flow immediately following your preliminary performance. Commemorative group photos are not only an important part of the experience for your students now, but are often sought after years later and a photo not taken cannot be replicated. Jolesch Enterprises will provide three complimentary group photos for each band that takes the group photo. Group photo sales also support Bands of America and Music for All programs.

OFFICIAL BOA SOUVENIRS POWERED BY PEPWEAR

New apparel, including the Commemorative 2019 Bands of America Championship T-shirts and event souvenirs are available for purchase onsite at the BOA souvenir stand and online at <https://shop.musicforall.org/>. Please tell your students and their families so they can bring home a Bands of America souvenir, powered by Pepwear, Music for All's Official Spirit Wear Sponsor!

2019 CHAMPIONSHIP PATCHES

2019 Bands of America Grand National Championship Patches are available for purchase this fall online and at every Regional at the BOA souvenir stand. To pre-order 50 or more patches at a discounted price, see order form by [clicking here](#). In addition, BOA recognizes each and every student in the Regional Championship as a participant with a specially designed participant segment intended to complement the Championship patch.

CONSIDER SPiN FOR YOUR SCHOOL'S PERFORMANCE VIDEOS ONLINE

SPiN – at thespinnetwork.com – provides subscribers with access to on-demand videos of your school's music performances at a reasonable cost (please note that 2016-2018 Bands of America performances cannot currently be uploaded to any SPiN channel). A SPiN channel provides a path to copyright compliance for your school and ensembles. We invite you to consider the opportunity for your music program and school. Music for All is grateful to SPiN for a donation to help fund the restoration and digitization of Music for All video archives (including Bands of America performances) to allow them to be enjoyed by students and parents, and used by instructors for educational purposes.

We hope to make your band's experience in Indianapolis an enjoyable and memorable one. If you have any additional questions after reading through this packet, please do not hesitate to contact us during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST at **800-848-2263**. Beginning at 5 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 13 through the show on Saturday, please call the EVENT HOTLINE at **877-643-6043** to reach Music for All personnel on-site. We look forward to seeing you in just a few weeks. You will see our passion and mission come to life from the moment your buses arrive at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Have a safe trip to Indianapolis!

The Music for All Staff