From the first step on the field to the excitement of the awards ceremonies, Bands of America Championships create an aura of excellence for student performers, teachers, parents, and fans that fosters healthy competition and development for students and band directors, all in an atmosphere of celebration for the entire band program.
BANDS OF AMERICA CLINICS

Post-Event clinics at Regional Championships

Bands of America offers optional, post-performance Director Clinics for additional, in-depth, focused input in a private evaluation setting. 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.

Clinics take place the Sunday morning following the Saturday Championship and are offered on a first-come, first served basis, limited to 14 bands. The clinics are packed with ideas, suggestions and tools. You can discuss aspects of your performance, design, or topics of your choosing.

The clinic fee for 2020 is $300. Any clinics not having six bands registered by May 15, 2020 may be canceled.

Visit musicforall.org/boa and click on Clinics to watch a video and hear what directors and judges are saying about the Bands of America Clinics.

“The insight that the clinicians offered was tremendously valuable, and will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the quality of our program. I would never have imagined in my 20-year career, such a helpful and positive experience. I will most certainly recommend this to other colleagues.”

-Carl Soucek, Carroll H.S., OH

“I learned more about how to teach my marching band in the one-hour directors clinic than I have learned in the past 30 years of marching band/drum corps participation and instruction. Extremely positive and helpful. Mind blown!”

-Brian Collins, Midland H.S., TX

EVENT INFORMATION & TERMS OF APPLICATION

Music for All’s mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for All. Our 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. Participating bands receive commentary from the most skilled judges and educators in the nation. For the band director, Bands of America Championships are an opportunity to demonstrate excellence, and to evaluate the achievement of your students, as well as the progress of your program on a national level.

Bands of America fall programs are just one of the many ways Music for All works year-round to support and advance music education for everyone. Whether our programming for marching band, concert band, orchestra, or choir; our professional, leadership, and musical development for directors and students; or our national leadership role in promoting and defending music and arts education through advocacy efforts — Music for All is here for you.

EVENT OVERVIEW

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bands of America Regional Championships are complete championships and educational events in their own right, not qualifying events for the Grand National Championships. Up to 52 bands perform in preliminary competition with 10 bands advancing to the evening Finals. Events that do not have 18 bands enrolled by May 15 are subject to cancellation by BOA. Some Fall Regional Championships will have a parking fee of up to $50 per bus/truck. Amounts will be communicated in your Acknowledgement Mailing. With your enrollment in a BOA Regional Championship, your participation includes:

- 25 Field Passes* for Preliminaries, with an option to purchase more
- 15 Day Passes* (Day Pass includes one general admission Prelims and Finals ticket)
- 6 Director / Staff Badges good for admission to Prelims and Finals, with an option to purchase more
- Each student from a non-finalist band will receive a complimentary Finals ticket
- All bands will receive an educational videographer pass at band check-in
*Face Value of tickets and passes: at least $828

REGULAR SEASON REGIONAL: $875 PER BAND

- 25 Field Passes* for Preliminaries, with an option to purchase more
- 20 Day Passes* (Day Pass includes one general admission Prelims and Finals ticket)
- 6 Director / Staff Badges good for admission to Prelims and Finals, with an option to purchase more
- Each student from a non-finalist band will receive a complimentary Finals ticket
- All bands will receive an educational videographer pass at band check-in
*Face Value of tickets and passes: at least $1,326

SUPER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: $925 PER BAND

Bands of America Super Regionals offer enhanced two-day regional events at world-class venues, second only to the Grand Nationals experience.

EXPANDED PRELIM AND JUDGING FORMAT FOR SUPER REGIONALS

Bands of America Super Regionals offer enhanced two-day regional events at world-class venues, second only to the Grand Nationals experience. Due to the successful Super Regional expansion in 2018, we will continue this format that allows a maximum of 84 participating bands utilizing two judging panels for preliminary competition. Prelims will take place over two days, with a maximum of 52 bands on Friday, 32 bands on Saturday, and a 14-band finals competition on Saturday evening. This allows Music for All to meet our obligations to provide access to as many bands as possible each year.

The judging responsibilities for Super Regionals will be divided into Panel 1 and Panel 2, alternating between blocks. (See BOA Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook for specifics.)

All Super Regional events will have a parking fee of up to $30 per bus/truck. With your enrollment in a Bands of America Super Regional Championship, your participation includes:

- 25 Field Passes* for Preliminaries, with an option to purchase more
- 20 Combo Tickets* (Combo ticket includes general admission to each session — Friday Prelims, Saturday Prelims and Saturday Finals.)
- All bands will receive an educational videographer pass at band check-in
- 6 Director / Staff Badges* good for admission to Prelims and Finals, with an option to purchase more
*Face value of tickets and passes: at least $3,111
GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: $975 PER BAND
GRAND NATIONALS JUDGING FORMAT
The Grand National Championships is a three-day Preliminary, Semi-Finals, and Finals event that has a maximum of 118 participating bands. Judging responsibilities will be divided into Panel 1 and Panel 2, alternating between blocks over Thursday and Friday, balanced with like numbers of bands from each class. A minimum of 30 bands will then advance to Semi-Finals with a formula that ensures inclusion of representatives of each of the four classes and top scoring bands from the two separate Prelims panels and the overall event. (See BOA Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook for specifics.) The top 12 scoring bands from Semi-Finals, regardless of class, advance to Saturday evening’s Finals.

• 25 Field Passes* for Preliminaries, with an option to purchase more (on the day your band performs)
• 20 Semi-Finals tickets*  
• 6 Director / Staff Badges* good for admission to Prelims, Semi-Finals, and Finals, with an option to purchase more
• All bands will receive an educational videographer pass at band check-in
*Face value of tickets and passes: at least $2,666

ELIGIBILITY AND HOW TO APPLY
All high school bands are eligible to enroll in BOA Regional or Super Regional, and Grand National marching band championships. Bands do not have to enroll in a Regional Championship to enroll in Grand Nationals. 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 Participation Cooperative Fee to be considered a complete registration.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
Registration is complete once an application form has been submitted, a consent form signed and submitted by the band director and school principal, and the Participation Cooperative (enrollment) Fee has been paid.

HOW TO APPLY
Apply online at www.musicforall.org/boa. You can complete your application online, with the option to pay online with a credit card, or offline with a check. Regardless of payment method, payment MUST be postmarked by the January 31 deadline for your application to be considered complete and eligible for the initial random draw. Online applications will still require a consent form. Your administrator listed on your online application will receive an online consent form by email immediately upon submission of your online application.

A complete registration consists of an application, a consent form, and payment. A Purchase Order UNFULFILLED or NOT PAID by January 31 will NOT be considered a registration complete by the postmark deadline of January 31, therefore not eligible for the random draw. Payment—either deposit option OR full amount—must be postmarked or submitted online or by mail, with a completed application including administrator signature, by January 31 for a band to be considered for the initial draw for performance times.

Paper applications must include the signed consent form on page 1 of the paper application and payment (credit card or check only) to be considered complete. No purchase orders will be accepted as a method of payment to complete registrations.

SCHEDULING
Complete registrations received on or before the designated postmark date of January 31 are eligible for the initial random draw. After January 31, performance times, if available, will be based on the postmark of application, with the earlier postmark receiving the later performance time. A complete registration consists of an application, a signed consent form, and payment. If more applications are received by January 31 than spots in a show, a Bands of America point system is used to determine which bands are eligible for the initial draw. Points are allotted based on band participation in BOA events over the previous four years. The 2020 BOA Point System will incorporate a band’s participation from the 2016 through 2019 fall marching band seasons. Bands can earn a maximum of 12 points, with a maximum of three points earned per year. For each year, 1 point is awarded for total Regional and Super Regional participation, and 2 points awarded for Grand National’s participation. The point system does not affect performance times in any other way.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Any 2019 Regional Champion (with complete registration submitted on or before January 31) is given its choice of prelim performance time at the equivalent event they won the previous year.

SUPER REGIONALS CHAMPIONSHIPS
The structure/procedure (in order of consideration) for Day of Performance is as follows:
- Any 2019 Bands of America (BOA) Regional Champion, the 2019 Grand National Champion or the 2019 Grand National Class Champion enrolled in the event may choose its day of performance (Friday or Saturday).
- Bands that request a Friday performance draw slot on their enrollment application will be assigned to perform on Friday.
- The 30 bands that are the farthest distance from the performance venue will be given priority for a Saturday Prelim performance time. After Saturday slots have been filled, the remaining participating bands (those geographically closest to the performance venue), will have a Prelim performance time on Friday.
- Distance is determined by using mileage information from school street address to stadium street address obtained from Google Maps.
- In the event that performance spots remain in the show, bands that apply after the postmarked date of January 31 will be placed in the earliest prelim times on Friday.

ADJUDICATION
Download the Bands of America Championships Rules and Procedures Handbook from musicforall.org, in the “resources” area. It includes sample scoresheets and detailed evaluation criteria designed to support your teaching. The 2020 Handbook will be released in May 2020.

Use the BOA Adjudication System for your competition
Music for All believes that its Bands of America Adjudication System is a model for successful teaching and evaluation. If you would like to use the BOA adjudication sheets for your show or circuit, they are available for licensing. See License Agreement at the end of the Handbook or call BOA at 800.848.2263 for more information.

SCORING SYSTEM
POINT BREAKDOWN

Music Performance Individual Possible Total — 20
Music Performance Individual judge is located on the field.

Music Performance Ensemble Possible Total — 40
Music Performance Ensemble judge is located at a vantage point from above.

Visual Performance Ensemble Possible Total — 20
Visual Performance Individual judge is located on the field.

Visual Performance Ensemble Possible Total — 20
Visual Performance Ensemble judge is located at a vantage point from above.

Music General Effect Possible Total — 40
There are two Music General Effect judges, located above, each with 20 possible points that are then added for a total of 40 possible General Effect Music points.

Visual General Effect Possible Total — 20
Visual General Effect judge is located at a vantage point from above.

Music Performance scores are averaged for a total of 20 possible points. Visual Performance scores are averaged — possible 20 points. The Music and Visual averages are added to the G.E. Music total (40) and G.E. visual score (20) for a possible total of 100 points. Any penalties are then deducted for the final score.

CONTINUED....
GRAND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
ALL BANDS 325 MILES OR FURTHER FROM INDIANAPOLIS

Bands of America recognizes that the travel distance for some bands will necessitate missing one to two days of school just for travel time. In order to retain the integrity of Grand Nationals as a national championship and enable bands from across the nation to participate, BOA will allow bands traveling from schools located more than 325 miles (one way) from Indianapolis to choose to either be part of the regular performance time draw or choose to participate in a special draw for the first block of times of Friday Prelims. Bands from schools more than 325 miles (one way) from Indianapolis must select their preference on the application form.

THURSDAY PRELIMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

It is feasible for groups within an approximate 200 mile radius of Indianapolis to perform on Thursday, return home for a full day of school on Friday, then return to Indianapolis. Bands can select this option on the application form.

If you do not qualify for the milage option and/or do not volunteer for Thursday, all other bands will be placed in a random draw for the remaining performance times.

IMPORTANT EVENT INFORMATION

BAND CLASSIFICATION

Per our commitment to re-evaluate the classification system, classification numbers are re-evaluated every three years and were updated in 2018. Bands are classified by school enrollment, grades 10-12 only. Under our four-class system, Class A is up to 600 students, Class AA is 601-1250, Class AAA is 1251-1750, and Class AAAA is 1751 and above. For purposes of determining enrollment, your principal must certify enrollment and consider all those students in the grades 10-12 population as reported on fall State and/or FTE funding reports.

COPYRIGHT DOCUMENTATION

Music for All takes care to comply with copyright laws and requires compliance by those who participate in our events. Music for All insists that its participants demonstrate that they have complied with the law by providing evidence of written permission from copyright owners to perform custom musical arrangements. By doing so, we can also meet our own obligations to acquire live performance, mechanical, and synchronization rights. Musical arrangements may not be duplicated or recorded in any form by the user, without permission from the copyright owner.

EVENT DATE CHANGES AND REFUND POLICY

Because Bands of America uses a large number of collegiate facilities, certain dates on this schedule cannot be finalized until affected conferences issue final fall football and television schedules. Any schedule changes will be communicated to all participating bands. “Postmark” dates and Participation Cooperative Fees will be “protected” should a site or date change require you to transfer to another BOA Regional date/site, or withdraw. Participation Cooperative Fees are not otherwise refundable or transferable from one event to another. We reserve the right to cancel a Regional if 18 bands are not registered by May 15, 2020.

HOLIDAYS & TEST DATES

To assist you in scheduling, we have compiled the 2020 holidays and SAT, PSAT, and ACT Testing Dates. Remember that band performance times are by postmark date, with random draw determining times for applications with the same postmark. Some Regional dates do fall on holidays or testing dates. BOA will not make schedule changes due to testing date or holiday date/performance time conflicts. We strongly encourage affected directors to help your students choose an alternate testing date based on the information below.

Note on Testing Dates: Please independently verify the SAT, PSAT, ACT Testing Dates listed below. The dates listed are not necessarily verified; they are based on the prior year dates and early indications from the college boards/testing organizations.

SAT TESTING DATES

October 3, 2020
November 7, 2020

PSAT TESTING DATES

October 14, 2020
October 17, 2020
October 28, 2020

ACT TESTING DATES

October 24, 2020

HOLIDAYS

Eid al-Adha
July 30-31, 2020

Muharram
August 21, 2020

Rosh Hashanah
September 18-20, 2020

Yom Kippur
September 27-28, 2020

Sukkot
October 2-9, 2020

Shemini Atzeret
October 9-11, 2020

Columbus Day
October 12, 2020

Veterans Day
November 11, 2020

Diwali
November 14, 2020

Music for All

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