



Adjudicator Biographies



Bands of America Dallas/Ft. Worth Regional Championship

October 9, 2021 • Pennington Field • Bedford, TX

MUSIC PANEL (alphabetical by last name)

Gino Cipriani, Mechanicsburg, PA

Gino Cipriani received his Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Education from the University of Mississippi and his Master of Science in Music Education from Towson University. Gino has served as a consultant to marching bands, jazz bands, concert bands and Drum & Bugle Corps across the United States, Japan, Thailand, England, Canada, and Korea. In Korea, he had the pleasure of working with the Korean Armed Forces Bands in preparation of the World Cup Ceremonies in 2002. Gino also serves as an adjudicator at marching band competitions throughout the United States.

Gino spent ten years, 1990 through 1999, as a brass instructor for the sixteen-time World Champion Blue Devils Drum & Bugle Corps. In 2004, Gino held the brass caption head position for the six-time World Champion Santa Clara Vanguard Drum & Bugle Corps. From 2001 to 2004, he headed the brass section of the five-time DCA champion Syracuse Brigadiers. From 2007 to 2010 he took the position of Brass Caption Head for the DCA world champion Reading Buccaneers. Gino served as the Brass Caption Supervisor with The Cadets from 2000 - 2001 and from 2005 - 2016. During his time with the Cadets, he led the brass program to DCI World Championship titles in 2000, 2005 and 2011.

Currently, Gino works for Inspire Arts & Music as the Director of Music, which includes the role of Assistant Music Coordinator and Brass Caption Supervisor for the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps. He is also the Associate Band Director at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, PA.

Darrin Davis, Tulsa, OK

Darrin Davis, a graduate of Broken Arrow High School, currently serves as the Director of Bands for the Broken Arrow school district. He has enjoyed teaching band in the Broken Arrow Public Schools since 1993. Davis is responsible for guiding the 1500+ band students and 12 band instructors within the school district. Mr. Davis is the conductor of the nationally acclaimed Broken Arrow HS Wind Ensemble and director of the Pride of Broken Arrow Marching Band. Davis' bands have performed at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Carnegie Hall, the Music for All National Concert Band Festival, and on numerous occasions at the Oklahoma Music Educators Convention.

In 2020, Mr. Davis was inducted into the Music for All Hall of Fame, recognizing individuals who have greatly impacted the nation's band activity and music education.

Davis is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and the Oklahoma Bandmasters Association honored Davis as their Band Director of the Year. The National Band Association has awarded Davis with Citations of Excellence for outstanding contributions to band and band music. Davis was recognized as the Broken Arrow Citizen of the Year and the Tulsa Signature Symphony Signature Champion of Education.

Davis' marching bands have marched in the Tournament of Roses Parade and received the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Shield. Broken Arrow is a 27-time Oklahoma Marching Band Champion, a 15-time BOA Grand National Finalist, a 19-time BOA Regional Champion, and the 2006, 2011 & 2015 Bands of America Grand National Champion.

Christopher Ferrell, Dallas, GA

Christopher Ferrell is the Supervisor of Instrumental Music for the Cobb County School District in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia. The Cobb County School District has been named one of the Best Communities for Music Education more than 19 times and over 34,000 students in the district are involved in performing arts activities within the district. Before moving to administration, he taught at Hillgrove High School, L.D. Bell High School, Harwood Junior High School, and Central Junior High School.

Dr. Ferrell holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education, a Master of Education in Music Education from Auburn University, and a Bachelor of Music degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Chris Ferrell has received the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association and holds memberships in Phi Beta Mu International School Bandmaster's Fraternity, NAFME, NBA, CBDNA, and GMEA. He is also active as a clinician and evaluator for Music for All and Bands of America. He has conducted and performed as a soloist with honor groups with local, state and university ensembles across the United States.

Chris is married to Shelley Ferrell, a band director at Lovinggood Middle School and is father to three wonderful children, Katherine, Madailein, and Mason.

Brett Johnson, Lakewood, CO

Brett Johnson taught for twenty-eight years at Leesville High School in Louisiana; 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)**Curtis Costanza, Vancouver, WA**

Curtis Costanza is a middle school teacher in Vancouver, Washington. He has extensive judging experience with Drum Corps International, Winter Guard International, Bands of America, Winter Guard Association of Southern California, and the Florida Federation Color Guard Circuit. He is also the current chief judge administrator for WGI and the Northwest Association for Performing Arts.

His pageantry experience includes consulting, designing, and instructing various high school marching bands and color guards throughout the country for the past 30 years. Curtis has been a clinician for the Northwest Pageantry Association, Western Carolina University, North Texas Color Guard Circuit, Gulf Coast Color Guard Circuit, Southeast Color Guard Circuit, Florida Federation Color Guard Circuit, Northwest Marching Band Circuit, Colorado Band Masters Association, Winter Guard Association of Southern California, Drum Corps Japan, and BOA.

Tim Ochran, Tyler, TX

Tim Ochran has been a Bands of America judge since 1985 and has had the privilege of participating in over 100 BOA Regional Championships and over 20 Grand National Championship judging panels. He has served as the visual judge administrator for Drum Corps International and had the honor of serving as a member of the Music for All Board of Directors. He is the Senior Vice President & Chief Administrator Officer for the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler Graduate School.

Michael Turner, San Francisco, CA

Mr. Michael Turner began his career in the pageantry arts as a member of the Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps. Trained in ballet, jazz, and modern dance, Michael was one of the early color guard pioneers to introduce dance and movement to the marching arena. While in Madison, Mr. Turner performed with Kanopy Dance Theatre, Presentense, Children's Theatre of Madison, Madison Opera, and Ballet Madison.

With such a diversified background, Michael developed an artistically strong and original teaching style. For 18 years, Michael worked with the two-time World Champion Madison Scouts, serving as Color Guard Choreographer and Visual Coordinator. In the San Francisco Bay Area, Mr. Turner served as Dance Master and Choreographer for the six-time World Champion Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps. Mr. Turner has judged Winter Guard International (WGI), Bands of America (BOA), and Drum Corps International (DCI) competitions. He continues to freelance judge for marching bands, drum corps, and color guards throughout the world.

CHIEF JUDGE**Dean Westman, Avon, IN**

Dean Westman is the Performing Arts Department Chair and Director of Orchestras at Avon High School in Avon, Indiana. Dean's concert ensembles have performed at Carnegie Hall, The Skirball Center at NYU, The Moores Opera House, The Meyerson, and the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago.

Mr. Westman also serves as a Program Designer for the 3-time Bands of America Grand National Champion and 14-Time Indiana State Champion Avon High School Marching Black and Gold. Prior to coming to Avon, Dean worked as the Educational Director for Music for All. He also served as Director of Bands at Stephen F. Austin High School in Sugar Land, Texas. Mr. Westman has also held positions at Elkins High School in Missouri City, Texas and the Indian Prairie School District in Naperville, Illinois. Dean currently serves as a member of the Music for All Educational Team and a Board Member for the Avon Education Foundation.

In 2002, Dean was named the Texas Young Bandmaster of the Year by the Texas Bandmaster's Association. He is a proud member of the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, the American String Teacher's Association, and the Indiana State School Music Association. Westman was inducted into the Music for All Hall of Fame in 2018. Dean has been an active designer, instructor, and arranger in the drum corps activity for 28 years.

Westman is a native of Park Ridge, Illinois and a proud alumnus of the University of Illinois. His conducting and musical mentors include James F. Keene, Gary Smith, Thomas J. Wisniewski, Gordon Henderson, Tim Salzman, and Larry Livingston. He lives in Plainfield, Indiana with his wife Adrianna and their 22-year-old daughter Abigail, who is a Senior Art Education Major at Indiana State University.