



West Texas Regional Championship, presented by Yamaha
ADJUDICATION PANEL BIOGRAPHIES
September 30, 2023 - Midland, TX



MUSIC PANEL

Bryan Crisp (*Independence, Kentucky*) is Principal Trumpet with the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra and performs regularly with the Cincinnati Symphony & Pops, Cincinnati Opera, Dayton Philharmonic, and the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra as well as with New York touring Broadway Across America Series'. Crisp is the Founder and Artistic Director of Tri-State Ensembles and is an active adjudicator for marching and concert band competitions throughout the country. In addition to Bands of America, Crisp is an active adjudicator with Drum Corps International, the National Trumpet Competition, and the International Trumpet Guild competitions. Crisp works regularly with award-winning band programs across the country as a Music Consultant, Music Editor, and Brass Instructor/Clinician. He holds two undergraduate degrees from Tennessee Technological University in Music Education and Music Performance and a Master of Music degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in Music Performance. Crisp currently lives in Independence, KY, with his wife Sarah and daughters Sadie & Georgia. He is proud to be a Yamaha Performing Artist and Clinician.

Joel L. Denton (*Chattanooga, Tennessee*) served as Director of Bands at Ooltewah High School for 37 years. Denton currently serves as an Adjunct Professor of Instrumental Music Education and Conductor of the Wind Ensemble at Lee University. Prior to his retirement in 2018, he was recognized as a CMA Music Teacher of Excellence. At The 2015 Midwest Clinic, Denton was awarded the John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor for his contributions to band. Under his direction, the Ooltewah Band achieved a national reputation for musical excellence, including performances in the 2017 Tournament of Roses Parade, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2013 and 2007, and as the only band in the 2011 Disney Christmas Parade on ABC. The Ooltewah Marching Band was a consistent finalist at Bands of America Regional Championships and was awarded multiple class championships and placements. The band was also a national semi-finalist on multiple occasions with several class placements. The Ooltewah Concert Bands performed at the Music for All Southeast Regional Concert Festival in 2016, the TMEA (Tennessee) State Music Conference in 2014 and 2010, the Smoky Mountain Music Festival in 2011 (Grand Concert Division Champions), and multiple other events through the years. Denton served as Chairman of Fine Arts at Ooltewah from 1982 until his retirement and was selected as the Ooltewah Teacher of the Year five times. Denton serves as the Tennessee State Chair for the National Band Association and is the President-Elect for the Tennessee Music Education Association. He is active as an adjudicator, clinician, and consultant working with Music for All/Bands of America, Drum Corps International, several universities and state organizations, and many high school bands across the nation. Through his corporation Leading the Way, Inc., Denton presents professional development sessions and also works with band programs and other organizations on developing leadership and teambuilding skills.

Michael J. Miller (*Nashville, Tennessee*) is a composer and arranger. His works for concert band, orchestra, and chamber ensembles are available from Alfred Music, Carl Fischer Music, F.J.H. Music, Excelcia Music, Murphy Music, R.W.S. Music, and TapSPACE. Miller's music is regularly performed nationally and abroad, including recent performances at The Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago and the Jeju Composition Competition for Wind Ensemble in South Korea. Miller is currently the brass arranger for the Colts Drum and Bugle Corps from Dubuque, Iowa. He also designs competitive pageantry shows for indoor and outdoor ensembles across the United States through a partnership with Synced Up Designs. His music for college band has been performed at the Super Bowl as well as at numerous BCS bowl games. In addition to his design engagements, Miller serves as an adjudicator for competitive pageantry organizations at the state and national level, including Bands of America (BOA) Championships. Before dedicating himself to composition full time, Miller was a public school band director. Under his leadership, the Joe E. Newsome High School Band (Lithia, Florida) earned the Florida Bandmasters Association's Otto J. Kraushaar award, was named BOA Regional Champion, qualified for Winter Guard International World Championships Finals, and performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Miller was awarded the School Board of Hernando County's Hernando H.E.R.O.E.S. Award and the Superintendent's Excellence Award. Additionally, he received the National Band Association's Certificate

of Merit for outstanding contributions to marching bands. Miller holds a Master of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting from the University of Florida and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Syracuse University. He is a member of the Music Educators National Conference, the National Band Association, the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and is a brother of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Miller is happily married to his wife and best friend, Vivian. When he isn't writing music or working with a musical ensemble, he enjoys traveling the world and experiencing the food culture wherever he goes.

Travis Moddison (*Grants Pass, Oregon*) is an educator, composer, and trumpet player from Oregon. He's currently the Director of Bands at Ashland High School, where the groups regularly premier new works and have a comprehensive music program. In addition to high school, Moddison has taught at several drum corps, including Santa Clara Vanguard, Cadets, Oregon Crusaders, and countless marching bands. He also enjoys raising ducks and chickens and is a huge fan of new and diverse composers.

VISUAL PANEL

Phil Madden (*Portland, Oregon*) resides in Portland, Oregon and is a design architect specializing in aviation, military, and educational design. Madden has been an instructor and an adjudicator for pageantry events for over forty years. In the past, he has served as the Chief Judge, World Class Administrator, General Effect, and Ensemble Coordinator for Winter Guard International. He was the adjunct Chief Judge with Bands of America and also served for five years as the Visual Judging Coordinator for Drum Corps International. Madden is involved in teaching, planning, and writing programs for college and high school marching bands, drum and bugle corps, and winter guards. Madden's pageantry resume includes initiating the winter guard program for James Logan High School as well as many winter programs that include the Seattle Cascades, Seattle Buddhist Scouts, and the East Allegheny Visual Ensemble. He has also served as the Visual Coordinator for the Capital Regiment, San Jose Raiders, Valley Fever, and Seattle Cascades drum corps. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture with a minor in Studio Arts and History from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Architecture degree from Virginia Polytechnic and State University. He and his wife are currently helping to raise Malachi, an incredible 6-year-old boy.

Warren Rickart (*Washington, D.C.*) is an internationally recognized marching band and winter guard adjudicator and clinician. A veteran adjudicator for WGI Sport of the Arts, he has adjudicated their color guard world championships and international and regional competitions since 1997. He also adjudicates for Drum Corps International at their regional and world championships. He has served as a member of the WGI Judge Administration team and as the WGI Equipment/Movement caption manager for WGI. Rickart was elected in 2008 to the Hall of Honor for the Atlantic Indoor Association. He is the former chief judge of the Southern States Judges Association, education director for the Atlantic Indoor Association Adjudicators and has held memberships in the AIA Adjudicators, Florida Federation Judges Association, Mid-East Judges Association, Southern States Judges Association and Gulf Coast Judges Association. He was a member of the Madison Scouts drum and bugle corps and Miller's Blackhawks winter guard and has been visual caption head, color guard caption head, and clinician for numerous award-winning bands around the country.

Ted Wemhoff (*Frisco, Texas*) has been involved with pageantry arts as a designer, instructor, performer, administrator, and adjudicator. He began his pageantry career in 1982 at the age of 12, marching with River City Railmen Drum and Bugle Corps from Omaha, Nebraska. Other performance experiences include the Sky Ryders Drum and Bugle Corps of Hutchinson, Kansas and Contempo Winter Guard from Dallas, Texas. Wemhoff and his wife were directors of the Frisco High School color guard from 1995-2003 and served on the executive board of the North Texas Colorguard Association (NTCA) from 1997-2003. He was inducted into the North Texas Colorguard Association Hall of Fame in 2015 and currently serves NTCA as their Judges Coordinator. Wemhoff most recently worked as a visual design consultant and band dad for the Wakeland High School Band from 2013-2019. Wakeland High School is a five-time Bands of America (BOA) Regional Finalist, BOA Super Regional Finalist, and five-time Texas University Interscholastic League State Marching Band finalist. He also consulted with the Wakeland High School Winter Guard, a 2016 Winter Guard International (WGI) Scholastic Open Finalist, as well as the Coppell High School Winter Guard. Wemhoff began judging winter guard and marching band

in 2002, judging for Winter Guard International as general effect judge in 2004, and for Drum Corps International as a visual judge in 2015. He has judged throughout the United States in local winter guard and high school marching band circuits, including Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit (FFCC), South Florida Winter Guard Association (SFWGA), Winter Guard Association of Southern California (WGASC), IHSCA, Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA), and more. He has also judged internationally in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Japan. Wemhoff currently lives in Frisco, Texas with his wife Melinda and their three cats.

CHIEF JUDGE

Nola Jones (*Nashville, Tennessee*) is a lifelong music educator who is a devoted and effective leader in arts education. In addition to extensive ensemble and classroom teaching experience, Jones possesses broad skills in leadership development, program design and implementation, curriculum writing, development, advocacy, and partnership building. She served as Director of Visual and Performing Arts for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, where her duties included instructional supervision of 400 professional arts education specialists, curriculum planning, professional development, and implementation of Music Makes Us, a unique public/private music education partnership in Metro Nashville Public Schools. Jones maintains an active schedule as a guest speaker, conductor, adjudicator, clinician, and program evaluator. She has appeared nationally in 43 of the United States and internationally in Canada, Japan, the Netherlands, and Singapore. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Performing Arts Center and the Education Advisory Board for the Frist Center for Visual Arts. In 2017, she participated in the Yale University Symposium on Music in Schools. She has been a featured presenter at the prestigious Midwest Clinic and NAMM Music Education Days and frequently serves as a clinician for Save the Music Foundation. At the request of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Jones has served in multiple capacities, including facilitating the NAfME Collegiate Advocacy Summit, directing the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band, and presenting at the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band Directors' Academy. She currently serves on the Judge Administrative Team for Drum Corps International and on the Chief Judge Team for Bands of America. She is the Division Leader for the Band Director Track at the Music for All Summer Symposium. Jones has adjudicated numerous championships for Bands of America, Drum Corps International, Drum Corps Japan, Winter Guard Netherlands Percussion, Winter Guard International, and Winter Guard International Percussion. Jones received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Mississippi State University and a Master of Music Education degree from Mississippi College. She received her Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of South Carolina.