

Dear Parent Booster,

We are thrilled to have you at the **Bands of America New Jersey Regional Championship, presented by Yamaha** on October 28, 2023. It is a privilege to provide this experience for you, your students, and fellow boosters and to deliver on our mission to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all.

Music for All is about building leaders and celebrating teachers and the art of excellence. We know this will be an unforgettable celebration of what makes music education so important and special to all of us. We cannot wait to see you at the 2023 Bands of America Championships!

TENTATIVE PRELIM SCHEDULE & DAILY SCHEDULE

Please follow the Final Packet link below to view the current 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

We have posted important documents on our website for your preparation for the New Jersey Regional Championship. Please note that your band director has received additional relevant information to the band's participation.

Please carefully review the following event-specific documents at:

marching.musicforall.org/fallfinalpackets/

- **Important Event Procedures**
- **Prelim Schedule**
- **Daily Schedule**
- **Site Overview Map and Stadium Map**
- **Driving Directions/Area Map**
- **Judge Bios**

The **Important Information** dropdown menu provides important information common to all BOA Championships this fall. Please familiarize yourself with this information:

marching.musicforall.org/directorinfo/

Please read and review the additional information found on these pages:

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

NEW FOR 2023:

Most venues that BOA operates have gone cashless. This includes the box office and concessions. Please plan accordingly to ensure a successful day for you and your students. All venues will enforce a clear bag policy.

BUS/EQUIPMENT TRUCK PARKING PASSES

At the New Jersey Regional Championship, Bus/Truck parking passes are complimentary but must be requested in advance. Once you complete your online parking pass order, you will receive a confirmation email that contains a link to a Dropbox folder containing the parking pass template. Include your school's name and contact information for the driver of each vehicle on each pass, and you may only print the number of parking passes you requested. BOA Staff will verify the number of vehicles admitted into the lots. If you need additional passes, please fill out the form again.

SPECTATOR PARKING

There is a **\$25 fee (cash)** for spectator parking at the New Jersey Regional Championship. **Please advise your fellow parents and boosters to arrive early and allow extra time to get to the stadium, especially during peak times.** Refer to the Important Event Procedures document for further details.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CAN'T BE THERE? WATCH LIVE ON BOALIVE.TV

All 2023 Bands of America Championships will be livestreamed on BOALIVE.TV, powered by BOX5 Media. Viewers can choose pay-per-view to watch one event or a subscription for the best value to watch the entire BOA season. Please share this opportunity with your band boosters, students, and community so that those who cannot be there in person can enjoy performances from wherever they are.

MEDIA, PHOTOS, AND RECORDINGS

Remember – and please share with your fellow parents and boosters that video recording of performances is not allowed at Bands of America events. Bands of America is pleased that in 2023 we will provide a link to an educational video recording of your performance to your band director for allowed educational and instruction purposes. BOA will no longer provide a band videographer pass for an educational recording. For details on our news media pass policy and photo and video policies, please visit marching.musicforall.org/mediapolicy

CONNECT WITH BANDS OF AMERICA AND MUSIC FOR ALL SOCIAL MEDIA

Bands of America will post 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, Instagram, and TikTok so they don't miss any of the action. Use **#BOA2023** all season long and help promote music education in your community.

Facebook:

facebook.com/musicforallnetwork

facebook.com/bandsofamerica

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

TikTok: [@officialmusicforall](https://www.tiktok.com/@officialmusicforall)

JOIN MUSIC FOR ALL'S NEW PODCAST NETWORK!

Get weekly updates about Bands of America with our newly relaunched podcast, "Break Ranks." Each Wednesday, our host Dan Potter will share stories from the season, recap the previous week's championships, and preview what's next. Find "Break Ranks" and other MFA podcasts on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you listen.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Advocacy in Action is a signature program of Music for All designed to collect, recognize, and share effective practices and initiatives that support music education in our schools. The awards recognize and celebrate the commitment of school administrators, community leaders, teachers, and parents who believe in music education and advocate to ensure that it is part of a comprehensive education for all children.

The Awards highlight the benefits of a strong music program and show what your school or community is doing to provide access and opportunity for active music-making. The Awards also allow educators to showcase their own music programs that are sometimes overlooked or not fully understood by members of the public beyond the school community. We hope that celebrating these programs can inspire music education advocates nationwide to lead by example and take action in their own programs and communities.

Designed to be a permanent, searchable resource, you can read and be inspired by the details of all our award-winners online at advocacy.musicforall.org.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Music for All Marching Band Scholarships honor graduating seniors who intend to major in music education in college. All applicants must be nominated by the directors of bands performing at a 2023 Bands of America Championship event. Please go to marching.musicforall.org/scholarships to see more information, and to apply before October 22, 2023.

VOLUNTEER

Music for All has several opportunities to get involved, stay involved, and give back to your community and your music programs. Show your support for Music for All in person by volunteering at the Bands of America Grand National Championships held November 9-11, 2023, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN. For more information on this opportunity and other ways to get involved, email volunteer@musicforall.org.

MUSIC FOR *ALL*

At Music for All, we believe that every student in America should have access to high-quality educational experiences, but we know that barriers exist in many of our nation's communities. By investing in new initiatives to increase accessibility for urban schools, small and rural schools, and students with special needs, we are dedicating ourselves to the creation of a world where music truly is *for all*.

We hope to make your band's experience in Rutgers University enjoyable and memorable. 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. ET at **800-848-2263**. Beginning at 5 p.m. ET on Friday, October 27, 2023, through the show on Saturday, please call the EVENT HOTLINE at **877-643-6043** to reach Bands of America 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 SHI Stadium!

We are excited to see you this fall. Have a safe trip to Piscataway!
The Music for All Staff