

Dear Directors and Boosters.

We are thrilled to have you with us at the **Bands of America Grand National Championships, presented by Yamaha** November 9-11, 2023. It is a privilege to provide this experience for you, your students, and 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. 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 gates of the 2023 Bands of America Grand National Championships!

REMINDERS FOR THIS EVENT

- Performing students are admitted free to Grand National Prelims and Semi-Finals.
- Cashless Stadium
- Contactless Ticketing
- Clear Bag Policy

TENTATIVE PRELIM SCHEDULE AND 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

We have posted important documents on our website for your preparation for the Grand National Championship.

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**
- **Performance Flow Map and Field Markings 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. Lucas Oil is a cashless facility. There are *limited* cash to card machines located on the concourse.

CREDENTIALS

All additional credentials above the standard six (6) laminate director name badges and 25 field passes must be purchased 30 days prior to the event date with a credit card. The combination of additional laminate director name badges and field passes may not exceed 10. Of those 10, up to four (4) may be name badges. **Student wristbands are valid for all sessions including Thursday and Friday Prelims and Saturday Semi-Finals. Field passes are valid for opposite day entry only (Thursday and Friday)**

Cost of additional Grand National Name Badges \$115

Cost of additional Grand National field Pass \$60

BUS/EQUIPMENT TRUCK PARKING PASSES

At the Grand National Championship, Bus/Truck parking passes are complimentary. Once you complete your online parking pass order, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to a Dropbox folder containing the parking pass template. Include your school 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. **There are no staff parking passes at BOA events.**

OVERNIGHT PARKING

Overnight Parking Permits 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 Wednesday, November 9 at 5 p.m. through 8 a.m. Sunday, November 13. This pass may be purchased on-site at Band Check-In or in advance at <https://www.tfaforms.com/5077557>. All Overnight Parking Permits will be picked up at Band Check-In.

SPECTATOR PARKING

There is a **\$20** charge for spectator parking at Grand National Championships. **Please advise your parents and boosters to arrive early and allow extra time to get to the stadium, especially during peak times.** Refer to the maps and other event documents for location and further details. **NOTE – this is a large-scale event in Indianapolis, that may cause traffic delays.**

PROCEDURES AND ADJUDICATION HANDBOOK

Please download the [2023 Bands of America Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook](#) (“rulebook”) and review it carefully. **Significant updates for 2023 are listed at the front of the handbook.**

SCRIPT AND PROGRAM BOOK BAND INFO

The deadline to submit the information about your band that we need for the announcer’s script and program books was due thirty days before your event. **Grand National Championships program books will be available for purchase throughout the stadium for \$15.**

EVENT DAY COMMUNICATIONS - BAND App

Bands of America will use the BAND app as our pre-event AND event weekend communications tool. We highly suggest that you download the app to stay in communication with Bands of America Staff. 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.

Join the Bands of America Season long BAND: band.us/n/a0a377eaYa0fq

Join the Grand Nationals BAND: band.us/n/a3ad985b55T4u

NOTE – Every person who uses the BAND app will receive updates at the same time as you, as well as have the ability to communicate directly with BOA event staff through the app.

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.

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 to be part 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://instagram.com/officialmusicforall)

TikTok: [@officialmusicforall](https://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 will 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.

LEADERSHIP BLAST!

Please join us for the Bands of America Leadership Blast on Friday, November 10 at Grand Nationals. We're continuing the servant leadership message that Dr. Tim has emphasized for decades with a focus on all band members in a fresh, interactive format. Choose from one of four, two-hour sessions, beginning at 9a, 10:20a, 11:40a, and 1p. For more information and to register, visit <https://marching.musicforall.org/gnblast/>

VOLUNTEER

Music for All has 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, visit musicforall.org/volunteer or 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. 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 Indianapolis 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 Wednesday, November 8, 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 Lucas Oil Stadium.

We are excited to see you this fall. Have a safe trip to Indianapolis!

The Music for All Staff