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**The Marching Southerners of Jacksonville State University Hosts Bands of America Marching Band Championship on October 6**

**What:** Talented and dedicated high school marching bands from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, and South Carolina will compete in one of the nation’s most prominent championships, Music for All’s Bands of America Alabama Regional Championship, presented by Yamaha. The Bands of America Championship will feature 23 high school marching bands in the preliminary competition, evaluated by a panel of nationally-recognized music educators and marching band experts. The top 10 bands will advance to the evening finals competition, which will ultimately name the Regional Champion.

**Who:** Music for All presents 21 Bands of America regional marching band championships across the country that offer positively life-changing experiences for students, teachers, and fans and spectators. The season ends with the Bands of America Grand National Championships, presented by Yamaha, in Indianapolis, Indiana in November. A non-profit 501(c)3 educational organization, Music for All has been creating, providing, and expanding positively life-changing experiences through music for all with more than 30 annual events for scholastic bands, orchestras, and choirs, nationwide.

The Championship in Jacksonville is hosted by The Marching Southerners of Jacksonville State University, who will perform in exhibition at the conclusion of the preliminary competition.

**Where & When: Burgess-Snow Field (Jacksonville State University**

**700 Pelham Rd N Jacksonville, AL 36265) October 6, 2018.** The preliminary competition begins at 9:45 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 4:45 p.m. Gates will open for the finals at 6:45 p.m. with performances beginning at 7:45 p.m. All times are tentative pending the final schedule of performing bands. Current times will be listed at musicforall.org. Individual tickets start at $18, with non-performing student group tickets starting at $10. Children 10 years-old or younger are admitted free for general admission seating. Discounted General Admission tickets are available for Senior Citizens (65+), Military, and Students on the day of the event only. **For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: www.musicforall.org/alabamaregional.**

**Why:** The Bands of America Championship in Jackonville is celebration of music education at its finest, showcasing the excellence, teamwork, and student leadership of the region’s outstanding marching bands. **These young performers and their achievements advocate for the importance of music education in schools locally and nationwide.**

**Who Should Attend: Bands of America Championships are family events, featuring live music, choreography, and competition. Students, parents, teachers, and anyone who loves live music and the marching arts are welcome.**

**About Music for All**

Since 1975, Music for All, through its Music for All, Bands of America, Orchestra America, and choir programs, has been a destination and set the standard for scholastic music ensemble performance and music education advocacy. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, Music for All’s mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. Music for All’s vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music making in his or her scholastic environment. Music for All serves more than 500,000 participants annually with programs that include 30+ annual events, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships and Regional Championships for marching bands, the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for students and teachers, the Music for All National Festival and Affiliate Regional Music Festivals for concert bands, orchestras, choirs, chamber ensembles, percussion ensembles, and the national honor concert band, jazz band, orchestra, and the Bands of America Honor Band that will march for the fifth time in the Rose Parade® in 2021.

**Sponsor Information**

Music for All efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor: Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor: Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Student Travel Partner: Music Travel Consultants; Official Performance Equipment Sponsor: Wenger Corporation; Corporate Sponsors: Ball State University, United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, Zildjian and Vic Firth Company, Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, and Strategic Advocacy Partner: NAMM; Associate Sponsors: Delivra, DANSR, Director’s Showcase International, REMO, and Woodwind & Brasswind. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Ball Brothers Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, CMA Foundation, Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr. Memorial Foundation, Inc., and Arthur Jordan Foundation.

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