

**City of McAllen and McAllen Independent School District** **Hosts Texas Dairy Queen® Regional Marching Band Competition on September 26th**

***Prominent event is one of 19 regional championships***

***held across the country this fall***

McAllen, TX – Talented and dedicated high school marching bands from throughout Texas will compete in one of the nation’s most prominent championships, Music for All’s Bands of America Texas Dairy Queen® Regional Championship at McAllen, presented by Yamaha, at the McAllen Veterans Memorial Stadium (2001 N. Bicentennial Blvd) in McAllen, TX on September 26th.

The championship event, hosted by the City of McAllen and McAllen Independent School Distract, will feature 32 high school marching bands in the preliminary competition, all of which will be 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.

“Bands of America Championships are a program of Music for All, which has a mission to create, provide and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all,” said Eric L. Martin, President and CEO of Music for All. “This being our 40th year of Bands of America Championships, we’re looking to provide even more unique opportunities for thousands of students to showcase the dedication, teamwork and mastery required and fostered through music and arts education.”

**Schedule**The preliminary competition begins at 7:30 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 5:00 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.

**Ticket information**Ticketing and schedule information is available online at musicforall.org or by calling 800.828.2263. Tickets will also be available at the gate. Standard general admission is $8 for preliminaries or finals, or $11 for a day pass to both. Children ages 10 and under are free for general admission seats. A $5 off any general admission ticket (individual preliminaries, finals or full day passes) discount will be available at the gate for college students, spectators 11-18 years of age, military members and spouses (military ID required) and spectators age 62 and over.

**About Music for All**Celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2015, Music for All (MFA) is one of the nation’s largest and most influential organizations in support of active music making. Since 1975, MFA, through its Bands of America and Orchestra America 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, MFA’s mission is to create, provide and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. MFA’s vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music-making in their scholastic environment. MFA’s programs include 20+ annual events, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships and Regional Championships for marching band, the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for students and teachers, the Music for All National Festival for concert bands, orchestra, jazz and percussion ensembles and national honor bands and orchestras.

**Sponsorship 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 Performance Equipment Sponsor Wenger Corporation; Official Student Travel Partner Music Travel Consultants; Title Sponsor of Texas Championships, Texas Dairy Queen®; Corporate Sponsors Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, Vic Firth Company, Zildjian and United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corp, Strategic Advocacy Partner, NAMM; Associate Sponsors DANSR, Remo, Inc., Tresona Multimedia, Director’s Showcase International, Delivra and Woodwind & Brasswind. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Ball Brothers Foundation, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc.

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**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

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