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Music for All Celebrates 50 Years of Transforming Lives Through Music Education

INDIANAPOLIS – February 5, 2025 – Music for All, one of the nation’s most influential music education organizations, announces its 50th anniversary year, marking five decades of empowering young musicians, educators, and communities through the transformative power of music. Since its founding in 1975, Music for All has been a cornerstone of music education advocacy, providing life-changing experiences for students and fostering a culture of excellence in music programs nationwide.

The organization, founded as Marching Bands of America, changed its name to Bands of America in 1984 before rebranding as Music for All in 2006. The name change followed a merger with the Music for All Foundation to reflect its broader commitment to all forms of music education. That commitment is upheld today by providing notable programs such as the Bands of America Championships, Bands of America Summer Camp, the Music for All National Festival, as well as additional education and advocacy events and efforts.

“Music for All’s 50th anniversary is a celebration of the countless lives that have been touched by music education,” said Debbie Asbill, Executive Vice President and Acting CEO. “Our mission has always been to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music. As we reflect on our history, we are inspired to continue advocating for music education and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to find their voice through music.” Throughout 2025, Music for All will host a series of special events and initiatives to commemorate its golden anniversary. Highlights include:

- **50th Anniversary Celebration:** An exciting event bringing together alumni, educators, and supporters to celebrate the organization’s legacy.
- **Digital History Museum:** A page of the organization’s website will be turned into a digital museum to showcase artifacts and stories from the decades.
- **New 50th Merchandise:** Something for everyone to commemorate the anniversary.
- **Expanded Advocacy Efforts:** Renewed partnerships and programs aimed at addressing the challenges facing music education today, including funding disparities and access to resources.

Music for All invites alumni, educators, and supporters to join in the celebration and help ensure the next 50 years of music education excellence.

For more information about Music for All's 50th anniversary events and how to get involved, visit www.musicforall.org.

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About Music for All

Music for All's mission is to create, provide, and expand life-changing experiences through music. Our 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. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, Music for All's events and programs serve more than 600,000 attendees annually — and more than 1.7 million program participants since 1975. Programs include the Bands of America Championships for marching bands, a summer music camp for students and teachers, festivals for concert bands and orchestras, national honor ensembles for students, educational podcasts, and online resources for teachers.

Music for All's efforts are supported by national presenting sponsor Yamaha Corporation of America and its family of sponsors, strategic partners, and grantors.

Follow Us!

You can keep up with the latest information for Music for All online at musicforall.org, Facebook (@musicforallnetwork and @bandsofamerica,) Instagram (@officialmusicforall,) and TikTok (@officialmusicforall.)

Sponsor Information

Music for All efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor: Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Instrument Rental Partner: Sweetwater; Official Uniform Sponsor: Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Student Travel Partner: Music Travel Consultants; Official Spirit Wear Sponsor: PepWear; Corporate Sponsors: Ball State University and Visit Indy; and Associate Sponsor: StylePlus. Music for All is also supported by the Arts Council of Indianapolis and the City of Indianapolis; Ball Brothers Foundation; Lilly Endowment Inc.; George and Frances Ball Foundation; Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc., Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr., Memorial Foundation, Inc, the Arthur Jordan Foundation, and The NAMM Foundation.

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