



Bands of America concludes their 50th anniversary celebration with the Grand National Championship in Indianapolis Nov. 13-15

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – 109 high school marching band students from across the country will perform at the Bands of America Grand National Championships, presented by Yamaha, Thursday through Saturday, November 13-15 at Lucas Oil Stadium.

The competing bands will travel to Indianapolis from 21 different states – Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and West Virginia. Bands of America Championships are the nation’s premier marching band events, showcasing outstanding student musicians and visual performances.

Bands take the field for preliminary competition performances on Thursday as early as 7:45 a.m. Gates will open to the public at 7:00 a.m. Competition will conclude around 10:45 p.m., picking up again Friday at 7:00 a.m. with gates opening at 6:30 a.m.

Times are subject to change, visit marching.musicforall.org for the latest event schedule.

Grand National performances will be evaluated by a panel of nationally recognized music educators and marching band experts. Around thirty bands will advance to the semi-finals on Saturday. The doors will open approximately at 6:30 a.m. with the semi-finals competition

beginning at 7:00 a.m. (actual start time to be determined after the conclusion of Friday night's prelims awards ceremony).

The 12 highest-scoring bands will advance to Saturday evening's finals, starting at 7:00 p.m., with the top-scoring band to be named Grand National Champion at the end of the night.

Music for All is celebrating its 50th anniversary this season. Since 1975, Bands of America has supported music education and the marching arts. This year, the organization celebrates all the bands who have stepped foot on a marching field and helped create the path for all who will come next. For more information, visit musicforall.org/50

Grand National Special Events

All days - 50 Years of Music for All: An Exhibit located in the East Club

Thursday, Nov. 13 - 11:45 a.m. Indianapolis Public Schools Music Showcase

Friday, Nov. 14 -

8:45 p.m. Michigan State University Spartan Marching Band

9:00 p.m. Prelims Awards Ceremony

Saturday, Nov. 15 -

8:00 a.m. TeachMusic Experience (all day)

4:30 p.m. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Blugold Marching Band

4:45 p.m. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Blue Gold Marching Band featuring United Sound

5:00 p.m. Semi-Finals Award Ceremony

7:00 p.m. Grand Nationals Finals Opening Ceremony
featuring the Butler University Wind Ensemble

11:30 p.m. Grand Finale and Awards Ceremony
featuring the 2026 Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade Drumline

For a look at the full schedule of bands, [visit marching.musicforall.org](https://marching.musicforall.org).

The 2025 Bands of America Championships season included 29 events across America, culminating with this Bands of America Grand National Championships.

Tickets

All tickets are digital, and the event is cashless. Spectators can skip the line and buy tickets online at marching.musicforall.org.

Check out the website marching.musicforall.org/boa for all ticket options, including full day passes, tickets for finals and student group tickets, as well as stadium policies to know before you go.

Children 10 years or younger are admitted for free for general admission seating.

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About Music for All

Music for All's mission is to create, provide, and expand positively 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 Regional and the Grand National Championships for marching bands; the Bands of America Summer Camp for students and teachers; the Music for All National Festival for concert bands, orchestras, and percussion ensembles; national honor ensembles including the Honor Band of America, Jazz Band of America, and the Honor Band in the Rose Parade®, Advocacy in Action Awards, the Music for All Podcast Network, and affiliate concert and marching events across America. Visit musicforall.org to learn more.

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

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; and Event Sponsors: US Army ROTC and US Marines. Music for All is also supported by Indy Arts Council 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 NAMM Foundation, and the National Bank of Indianapolis.

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