FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bands of America Central Florida Regional Championship Comes to Clearwater Oct. 31

Seven high school marching bands from Florida and Georgia to compete and participate in educational clinics and student leadership activities

CLEARWATER, Fla. — Seven high school marching bands from Florida and Georgia will take the field at Clearwater High School's Jack White Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 31, for the 2026 Bands of America Central Florida Regional Championship, presented by Yamaha and Sweetwater. The event, organized by Music for All in collaboration with Pinellas County Schools, will feature competition, educational clinics and student leadership experiences.

The Central Florida Regional offers participating bands more than a traditional competitive experience. In addition to preliminary and finals performances, students and directors will participate in educational sessions designed to provide meaningful feedback, develop leadership skills and support continued musical growth.

"This event is about much more than competition," said Camilla Stasa, Senior Director of Participant Relations for Music for All. "We've designed an experience that provides participating bands with valuable performance opportunities, meaningful evaluation and additional educational experiences for both students and directors."

Preliminary competition begins at 11:45 AM followed by an awards ceremony. All bands will then participate in educational clinics. Each band's directors and staff will have 30 minutes with members of the Bands of America adjudication panel to discuss their performance evaluation and topics of particular interest to their programs. Bands of America's national adjudication team includes leading educators and marching arts authorities.

Students will also participate in a leadership experience led by Kelsey Synnett, Director of Student Programs for Music for All.

All seven bands will return for finals competition beginning at 7:00 PM. The 2026 Bands of America Central Florida Regional Champion will be named at the conclusion of the event.

"We've seen how valuable this format can be at other Bands of America Championships," Stasa said. "Directors leave these clinics with meaningful insights and practical feedback they can take back to their students. It's exciting to see how these conversations can contribute to the continued growth of their programs."

The complete performance schedule is available at marching.musicforall.org/central-florida-regional.

Tickets

All tickets are digital, and the event is cashless. Spectators can purchase full-day passes, finals tickets and student group tickets in advance at marching.musicforall.org. Children ages 10 and younger are admitted free in general admission seating.

The Performances

Each participating band presents a unique show of up to 11 minutes, combining music, movement and visual design. Bands are evaluated by a national panel of adjudicators in areas including music, visual performance and general effect. The evaluation process provides students and directors with feedback that supports continued learning and improvement throughout the marching band season.

Bands of America Championships are among the nation's premier marching band events, showcasing outstanding student musicians and visual performances. Bands of America is a program of Music for All, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and one of America's largest music education organizations. Twenty-eight Bands of America Championships are being held across the country this fall, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis, Nov. 12–14.

Tarpon Springs High School, a participant in the Central Florida Regional, also plans to travel to Indianapolis to compete at Grand Nationals. Approximately 181,000 students are expected to perform at Bands of America Championships this fall.

Music education is an important part of a complete education. According to the 2022 National Arts Education Status Report, more than 27.3 million students in grades 1–12 participate in music in U.S. schools.

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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 have reached more than 1.7 million program participants since 1975. Programs include the Bands of America Regional and Grand National Championships for marching bands; the Music for All 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 for more information.

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Sponsor Information

Music for All efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsors Yamaha Corporation of America and Sweetwater; Official Uniform Sponsor Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Student Travel Partner Music Travel Consultants; Official Spirit Wear Sponsor PepWear; and Corporate Sponsors Ball State University and Visit Indy. 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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