

Let's meet
today's
judges and
clinicians!



Judges and Clinicians

JUDGES

Robert W. Lee

Hometown: Elkhart, Indiana

Robert W. Lee is in his tenth season as a Visual Adjudicator for the Central States Judges Association. Originally from Cynthiana, Kentucky, he now resides in Elkhart, Indiana where he is an educator for Elkhart Community Schools. Mr. Lee has taught, designed, and consulted with multiple state finalists in the states of Indiana and Kentucky, including the Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps, Adair County High School (Columbia, KY), Elizabethtown High School (Elizabethtown, KY), Goshen High School (Goshen, IN), Harrison County High School (Cynthiana, KY), and Plymouth High School (Plymouth, IN). His accomplishments include four Mid-States Band Association finals appearances, 11 Indiana State School Music Association finals appearances, 31 Kentucky Music Educators Association state finals appearances, ten Kentucky Music Educators Association state championships, one Bands of America regional championship, and two Bands of America class A national championships.

Kendra Wendeln

Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Kendra Wendeln is an active educator, director, coordinator and judge within the marching pageantry arts. She is a graduate of Miami University (OH – '04) and Florida State University ('13) earning a bachelor's and a master's degree in music education, respectively. After earning over a decade of experience as a band director, Kendra recently gave up her band room keys for a life of full-time, self-employed designing and education work. She blends her passion for education with the marching arts by writing drill, designing, staffing and coordinating indoor and outdoor groups from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Florida. She is active with groups in MSBA, KMEA, BOA, WGI and DCA, and

currently is the President of the MidEast Performance Association, Ohio's premier indoor marching arts circuit. Residing in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kendra enjoys traveling, spending time with her husband Mike, their dog Dewey, and her friends around the beautiful city.

William F. Stevenson

Hometown: Evansville, Indiana

A native of Madisonville, Kentucky, Mr. Stevenson has spent the better part of 25 years in the pageantry arts teaching marching bands, color guard, and percussion groups throughout Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, and Tennessee.

A charter member of Eklipse Winter Guard (2001 WGI Finalist), William earned his Master of Science degree in Costume Design and Construction and Textiles from the University of Kentucky. He is an active adjudicator with the Central States Judges Association (2007-present).

He is currently the program consultant and color guard coordinator for the Mt. Vernon Marching Wildcats in Mt. Vernon, Indiana, and works full time in the costume manufacturing industry. In his spare time, Mr. Stevenson enjoys spending time with friends and family, collecting high-end fashion dolls, reading, and watching his hummingbirds.

Josh Baker

Hometown: Centerville, Ohio

Josh Baker proudly serves as the Conductor and Music Director of the Springboro Wind Symphony from Springboro, Ohio. Under his direction, the Springboro Wind Symphony performed at the 2023 Ohio Music Educators Professional Development conference in Columbus, Ohio. Josh currently serves as a School Administrator for the Beavercreek City Schools. Prior to becoming a school administrator, Josh taught grades 5-12 band for the

Greeneview Local Schools in Jamestown, Ohio, during the 2007 school year, and then served as the Assistant Band Director at Centerville High School in Centerville, Ohio, for 10 years. Ensembles under his direction have performed multiple times at the Ohio Music Educators Association convention and the prestigious Music for All National Concert Band Festival and Chamber Music Festival.

Also during his tenure at Centerville, Josh was the assistant director of the nationally acclaimed marching band known as “The Centerville Jazz Band,” which competed on a national stage in the Bands of America regional and national championships. The band was a Bands of America National Finalist in 2008 and 2009 in Indianapolis, and it won numerous BOA Regional Championships. Josh remains an active professional member of OMEA, having served as the Co-Chair of the 2011 OMEA All-State Band and as the Chair of the OMEA District 12 High School Honor Bands several times during his tenure in Centerville.

Josh graduated with a bachelor’s degree in music education from Wright State University in 2007. In 2015, Josh was named the outstanding alumni of Wright State University’s School of Music and in 2017 was named the Centerville Education Foundation Outstanding Teacher and Hall of Fame Inductee. Josh earned a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Dayton in 2013, and since that time has completed the requirements to be a K-12 Principal. He is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and currently resides in Centerville, Ohio with his wife and two daughters.

Jeff Parthun

Hometown: Lafayette, Indiana

Jeff Parthun recently retired after a 40 year career teaching instrumental music at all levels (elementary, junior/senior high school, college, adult/community).

He is currently serving as an orchestra conductor at Purdue University, where he has also conducted the percussion ensemble and taught applied percussion. He is a former president of the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) and holds music degrees from Northwestern University and Butler University. He has directed bands that have competed in the Bands of America Grand National and Regional Finals, ISSMA Marching Band Finals, ISSMA Concert Band Finals, Illinois State University Marching Band Finals, Music Bowl Finals, University of Illinois Marching Band finals, Indiana State Fair Band Day Finals, indoor percussion contests and jazz festivals. He is active as a guest conductor and clinician. He received a Michiana Outstanding Music Educator Award in 2021.

He is an experienced adjudicator of outdoor and indoor marching events, concert organizations, jazz ensembles, show choir bands and music scholarship auditions. He is certified in all music captions as a member of the Central States Judges Association (CSJA) and was invited to participate in the 2014 WGI Percussion Judge Academy in Houston, Texas. In addition to working with the CSJA, he has adjudicated for Tri-State Marching Arts, the Indiana Percussion Association, Midwest Percussion Cooperative, ISSMA, Drum Corps Midwest, Small Drum Corps Association and Music in the Parks. He has judged state finals and circuit championship events in Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana.

Mr. Parthun is very active as a professional performer, composer and arranger. He has recorded in jazz and classical idioms. An award-winning member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), his educational music can be found at Per-Mus Publications, BRS Music, pdf-bandmusic.com, Jon Ross Music and 3-2 Music. His pieces have been reviewed in national journals and several of his works are on required contest lists throughout the country.

CLINICIANS

Stephen Cross

Hometown: Plymouth, Michigan

Stephen Cross began his love of music through many of his teachers at the School for Visual and Performing Arts at Governor Thomas Johnson High School in Frederick, Maryland, where he grew up. After high school, he was honored to be a member of the 1993 Drum Corps International World Champion Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps. Mr. Cross received his degrees from Ball State University (Bachelor of Science – Music Education), Central Michigan University (Master of Music in Performance – Conducting), and Eastern Michigan University (Master of Arts in School Administration).

During his career, Mr. Cross has had the opportunity to teach music at schools in Michigan, Ohio, and Missouri, as well as Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Northern Aurora Drum and Bugle Corps, Legends Drum and Bugle Corps, as well as design for LSM Winds (WGI Bronze Medalist, 2016 and 2017). His ensembles have received high acclaim from adjudicators all over Michigan as well as performances in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, New York, West Virginia, Florida, Tennessee, and Massachusetts.

Mr. Cross has had a distinguished career with such awards as a NARAS/Grammy Award Signature School Nomination, four State-level runner-up marching band finishes, five State Champion Winter Percussion titles, several WGI World finalist placements in Winter Percussion and Color Guard, as well as Reserve Champion in AA for the Bands of America Grand National Marching Band Championships. Mr. Cross is an active clinician and adjudicator in the areas of marching band, concert band, and solo and ensemble festivals. Mr. Cross currently resides in Plymouth, Michigan,

Dr. Matthew Boswell

Dr. Matthew Boswell currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music and the Associate Director of Bands at Missouri State University. There he co-directs the PRIDE marching band, conducts the Wind Symphony, and oversees the Bearmania pep bands in addition to teaching courses in Music Education. A native of the Sunshine State, Dr. Boswell received his degrees including the PhD in Music Education with emphasis in Instrumental Conducting from the Florida State University in Tallahassee. Prior to graduate study, he directed Superior-rated high school bands in DeLand and Fort Pierce, FL.

Travis Barzee

Travis Barzee is an active drill writer, visual consultant, choreographer, and private euphonium teacher. He is also active in the drum corps community, having marched 3 seasons with the Cavaliers (2010-12), aging out with the Blue Devils (2013), going on to teach at The Academy (2015), Santa Clara Vanguard (2016-2022) and Phantom Regiment (2023-present.) Travis served as the Director of Bands at Grain Valley High School where he oversaw all aspects of the nationally recognized band program. The Marching Eagles were St. Louis and Indianapolis Super Regional Finalists and Grand National Semi-Finalist in 2022.

Travis graduated from the University of Central Missouri with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education, studying euphonium with Kansas City Symphony principal trombonist Mr. Roger Oyster, and music education with Dr. Scott Lubaroff. He recently graduated from the University of Missouri with a Master's Degree in Music Education. Travis and his wife Marisa live in Blue Springs, MO with their two labs named Puppy and Violet.

Becky Long

Becky Long is a sought-after clinician, designer, and drill writer for programs throughout the Midwest. With more than 20 years of experience in music education and the marching arts, she has taught at schools in Illinois, Missouri, and New York, been on staff with the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps, and presented clinics at the Missouri Tri-M Summit and Missouri Music Educators Association Annual Conference.

In July of 2023, Becky traveled to Australia where she studied music education and how it is implemented in their schools. She is also the owner of New Directions Travel & Events and has helped numerous band, orchestra, and choir directors give their students unforgettable travel and performing experiences. She resides in St. Louis, MO, with her husband, Jay; sons Jace and Grayson; and pups Miley and Everly.

