



2019

**ANNOUNCER
GUIDE**

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us today as an announcer for this USBands-sanctioned marching band event.

You are an extremely important member of the team. Your words will be the voice of USBands to thousands of students and parents.

One of the biggest challenges announcers face is knowing what to say throughout the entire event. We hope that this guide will help.

Some of the people attending your event have never been to a marching band competition before. Therefore, much of what is included here will help you explain to them just what is going on. Experienced marching band fans will not mind listening to an explanation again.

- Please remember to speak clearly and slowly
- Before you announce a band, please read over the school's drum majors' names, program title and band director(s), and make sure you know how to pronounce them
- Do not speak (or yell) too closely into the microphone
- Always make sure you are aware of what you are going to say before you turn on the microphone
- **BE ENERGETIC AND HAVE FUN!**

Before the event begins, be sure to talk to the USBands Event Coordinator. They will tell you who will be giving you the cue to announce the bands.

As a matter of protocol, the bands have time for a warm-up before they start their field performance. This may take the form of a chorale, chords, or even a short tune; most often with the unit's back facing the crowd or, in some cases, accompanied by marching. The USBands Event Coordinator will give you the official signal to begin your announcements.

Once the band has begun its performance, please turn the microphone off and do not make any announcements. The closing announcement is made **ONLY** after the band has finished their performance.

Over the years, a general format for announcing the bands has evolved. Please stick with this format, because the bands are used to it, and there is less chance for confusion. With time, other more intricate productions have accompanied the bands. Once again, rely on the Event Coordinator for direction in these special cases.

Band Announcement

Many bands prepare an event information sheet that can be read as they are entering or exiting the field.

NOTE: *In recent years, bands have taken to performing a pre-competitive performance or selection, which may appear to be part of the performance. Please work closely with the USBands Event Coordinator so that you announce the correct information at the correct time.*

(As the band is entering the field)

Now entering the field, from [CITY], [STATE], the [SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band!

(Wait for cue)

Are the judges ready?

(Wait for cue)

Is the band ready?

(Wait for drum major salute or cue)

[SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band, you may take the field in competition!

(After the band's performance)

Ladies and Gentlemen, [SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band from [CITY], [STATE], under the direction of [BAND DIRECTOR'S NAME].

USBands In-Stadium Announcements

As a benefit to the corporate partners of USBands, the following announcements should be made during your USBands-sanctioned event. They should be read at the following three times, as time permits:

- 1) During the Welcome, prior to the event**
- 2) During the Intermission**
- 3) Prior to the Awards Ceremony**

USBands is a program offering of Youth Education in the Arts. Y-E-A is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support the development of young people into magnificent human beings through participation in the performing arts. In addition to USBands' Fall, Winter and Concert events, Y-E-A!'s other programs include The Cadets Drum Corps, and Xcape Dance Company, which serves talented young people in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania.

USBands is celebrating its thirty-first year as a sanctioning body and host for marching band events. From a single event in 1988, USBands has grown to become the largest scholastic music service organization in the country, serving over 60,000 high school students at 130 events in 17 different states each year. You can find out more about USBands' Fall, Winter and Concert events at USBands dot O-R-G.

USBands and Y-E-A promote "Education through the Arts" by providing events and programs that celebrate the role music plays in the lives of today's youth and teach the life lessons of commitment, dedication and pursuit of excellence.

USBands would like to thank its Corporate Partners, the Yamaha Corporation of America Band & Orchestral Division, DeMoulin Brothers Uniforms, Avedis Zildjian Cymbals, Remo Drumheads, Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets, BAND mobile app, A-W-C-T Performance Wear, Director's Showcase International, Tresona Multimedia, and The SPIN Network.

Adjudicator Announcement

(Typically read before the start of the event and during the Intermission)

The adjudicators of today's competition have been assigned by USBands. These esteemed men and women are trained professionals from across the country who represent the top educators and designers in the marching arts industry. Their experience in, and knowledge of the musical and visual arts allows them to provide educational feedback that will help to develop each program you are enjoying here at this event.

Judging Ensemble Music Performance: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

Judging Individual Music Performance: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

Judging Visual Performance: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

Judging Overall Effect: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

Judging Color Guard *(if applicable)*: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

Judging Percussion *(if applicable)*: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

The USBands Event Coordinator is: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

The USBands Assistant Event Coordinator is: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE] The

Tabulator is: [NAME], from [HOMETOWN, STATE]

The following promotional messages can be read periodically throughout the competition and during Intermission, or on any other occasion when there is time for announcements.

Copyright

A reminder to our spectators at this competition: In order to protect the original composers and copyright owners who allow the bands to use their music, USBands strictly prohibits the use of audio and visual recording devices without the expressed written consent of USBands. Thank you for your cooperation.

Courtesy

As a courtesy to those around you and to the hardworking students who will perform for you today, please do not enter or leave the seating area during a band's performance. The performers and your fellow spectators appreciate your cooperation.

Yamaha

This USBands event is brought to you in part by the Yamaha Corporation of America Band & Orchestral Division, the exclusive musical instruments of USBands. It's time for you to play Yamaha.

USBands.org

Want to keep up with the latest happenings in the world of marching band? All you need and more is on the web at USBands.org! Scores, news, apparel, features and more is available at the official website of USBands, only at u-s bands dot o-r-g!

Social Media

USBands goes beyond marching music – it's a community! Connect with friends and fellow performers, watch videos, and see thousands of photos at facebook.com/USBands [*pronounced: "Facebook Dot Com Slash USBands"*], on Twitter and Instagram [@USBands](https://twitter.com/USBands) [*pronounced: "at USBands"*].

Yamaha Instruments

Looking for a lightly used brass instrument for your band or individual use? The Cadets have a great selection of Yamaha brass instruments including trumpets, mellophones, baritones and tubas. Plus choose from high quality pit percussion including marimbas, vibes, timpani and more, all at 60 percent or more off retail. Find out more at Thirty-Four Store Dot Org.

BAND

USBands is sponsored by BAND, the best app for marching bands. Even its name is B-A-N-D, BAND! Are you a director or section leader? If you are tired of text, emails, and phone calls when managing your band or section, BAND app can save you tons of time and improve accountability. You can schedule practices and share files, video, and photos all in one app. Download BAND today on the Playstore or the Appstore, invite your members, and get a chance to win a \$200 gift card!

DeMoulin

This USBands event is sponsored in part by DeMoulin Uniforms. The leader in marching band uniforms, DeMoulin makes your band look great with custom designed uniforms to carry your schools colors on and off the field.

Zildjian

Zildjian Cymbals are a proud educational partner of USBands. Zildjian, maker of the finest cymbals and gongs for high school percussionists around the world.

Remo

Remo Drumheads are the exclusive heads of USBands. From indoor to marching to concert and orchestral, Remo has been the innovator for over 50 years. Trust Remo to sound great!

Vic Firth

Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets are proud to be celebrating their 20th year as the official drumsticks and mallets of USBands. When it matters, ask for Vic.

Director's Showcase International

Director's Showcase International is proud to support The Cadets by supplying Velocity Marching shoes and performance gloves for the drum corps and Elite Rifles, Ever-Jazz dance shoes, and Ever-Dri gloves for the guard. For more information on DSI products, please visit dshowcase.com.

A Wish Come True

When your color guard or winter guard is looking for amazing costumes, look no further than A-W-C-T. But A-W-C-T is more than costumes! Count on A-W-C-T for all your performance needs. A-W-C-T, the official costume partner of USBands

AWARDS CEREMONY

****IMPORTANT NOTE:*** Any awards given outside of the following USBands awards ***MUST*** be previously approved in writing by the USBands Office.

(As drum majors enter):

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome the drum majors from today's performing bands:

[LIST BANDS]

(Read after drum majors are set:)

USBands would like to thank its Corporate Partners, the Yamaha Corporation of America Band & Orchestral Division, DeMoulin Brothers Uniforms, Avedis Zildjian Cymbals, Remo Drumheads, Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets, BAND mobile app, A-W-C-T Color Guard Costumes, Director's Showcase International, Tresona Multimedia and The Spin Network.

At this event, we celebrate the impact music has on young people. Marching band is a part of Americana, and what you are witnessing is marching music at the grass-roots level, where young people can display their talents of musicianship and performance before an appreciative audience. The color, the pageantry and the music are the results of hundreds if not thousands of hours of practice by each individual, and they show us all what is possible. This achievement is what makes marching music like no other activity in the world. It is entertainment with a purpose. Marching band has long offered young people the opportunity to learn and grow, and take those valuable life lessons learned on the practice and performance fields well into their adult lives.

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We all know the fine young people performing here tonight and the impact music has on their overall education. At this time, we would like to acknowledge the band parents here in attendance. Where would we be without these devoted individuals who serve as the motivators, the car poolers, the rehearsal monitors and the biggest fans of their children and their hometown high school bands? USBands salutes YOU, the ones who make the music possible. Students, give it up for your band parents!

Before we announce the results of the competition, we would like to acknowledge the impact of marching music on the millions of young people who participate in the activity each year. The life lessons they learn being part of their high school marching band will last them a lifetime. It is the support, dedication and passion of music educators, instructors and designers across this great nation who teach these young people how to be magnificent on the field and off. Please join with me as we take this opportunity to thank each and every educator and instructor who is here with us tonight for their hard work in making this activity so great!

And now, the results...

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AWARDS CEREMONY:

After the last band performs, the tabulator will provide you with an Awards Sheet. Please do not rush the tabulator. They must have each judge double-check their numbers, certify the results and sign the Awards Sheet before you can begin announcing the placements. Keep in mind that the students and directors take the awards very seriously, so this may not be the time to show your announcing personality.

Please be professional and treat every event as if it were the championships. The following is the standard procedure:

- The last band performs
- Tabulator has judges check their numbers
- Tabulator certifies results and prints Award Sheet
- Tabulator brings you the Award Sheet
- YOU, as the announcer, check for the tabulator's signature for score verification
- The tabulator will review the Award Sheet with you to discuss the order in which things are read
- Pay special attention to caption awards
- As you read each group, you should follow this script. (The awards sheet is formatted in this order for your convenience.)
- The USBands Event Coordinator will help you pace the awards announcements. Please be willing to adjust if they ask you to speed up or slow down based on the flow of the Awards Ceremony.

- In Class ____ (I, II, IV, etc.)
- In _____ place (7th, 6th, 5th, etc.), with a score of [SCORE], the [SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band.
- * now move to next school in the same class
- **When you come to a band that is receiving one or more caption awards, announce them as follows:
- In Class _____ [I, II, etc.], in _____ [first, second, etc.] place, with a score of _____, and winning the Caption Awards for Best _____, the [SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band!
- Repeat this for the other captions.
- *If there is only one school in the Class and Group, say this before first place: **And in First Place, winning all captions, including Best Music, Best Visual, Best Effect, Best Color Guard, and Best Percussion, with an overall score of _[SCORE], the [SCHOOL NAME] Marching Band!**
- Repeat for all classes in the event.

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In case of a tie, we do NOT use the word “tie.” Our experience finds that this causes an odd crowd response and isn’t in the best interest of the hard-working students. Here is what to do in case of a tie:

- *If the tie is for second place or below, say, “In _____ place, with a score of _____,”*
then BOTH high school’s names.
- *If the tie is for first place, complete the third place announcement, then say:
“And in
FIRST place, with a score of _____, our CO-CHAMPIONS are, _____ AND
_____.”*

(Read once all scores and awards have been announced:)

Ladies and gentlemen, let’s give one more huge round of applause for all of the amazing performances we have all witnessed here today/tonight!

Drum majors, you are dismissed.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for attending the 2019 **[EVENT TITLE]**. We look forward to seeing you throughout the fall at USBands events. If you would like to learn more about USBands, please visit [u-s bands dot o-r-g](http://u-s-bands-dot-o-r-g). Goodnight/afternoon, and please travel safely!