



Announcer Guide

Indoor 2020

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us today as the announcer for this USBands-sanctioned indoor competition. You are an extremely important member of the team, in that your words will be the voice of USBands to the hundreds of students and parents who will attend this event.

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

First, it is important to remember that many of the people attending your event may never have been to an indoor competition before. Therefore, much of what is included in this guide will help you explain to the audience exactly what is going on. Experienced fans will not mind listening to an explanation again.

Tips to Keep in Mind:

- Speak clearly and slowly.
- Read through every ensemble's program names and directors to ensure that you know how to pronounce them. If you have a question, please consult the USBands Event Coordinator onsite.
- Do not speak too closely to the microphone.
- Always have a good idea of what you are going to say before you speak into the microphone.
- Be energetic and have fun!

Before the event begins, talk to the USBands Event Coordinator. He/she will tell you who will be giving you the go-ahead signal to announce each group.

Once an ensemble has begun performing, please turn the microphone OFF, and do not make any announcements. The closing announcement is made ONLY when the guard or percussion ensemble has finished their performance.

Over the years, a general format has evolved for announcing groups as they enter and leave the floor. Please stick with this format because the students and directors are used to it, and there is less chance of confusion.

Welcome Announcement

SCRIPT

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen, and welcome to the 2020 [Event Name] here at [Name of High School]! This U-S-Bands Indoor event is presented by Yamaha and includes the Indoor Color Guard Series, as well as the Vic Firth-Zildjian [ZIL-jun] Indoor Percussion Series.

Today, we will enjoy great young performers presenting some of the best indoor color guard and indoor percussion performances our area has to offer.

Before we begin today's event, I would ask that you all please rise, and remove your caps as we honor our great nation with a performance of The Star-Spangled Banner.

(Play recording, OR if a live performance, use the following introduction...)

Only if live performance: **[Singing/Playing] our National Anthem today is [Name of Individual, Group or Ensemble].**

(Anthem plays)

(Pause briefly following applause, then continue on next page)

USBands Introduction

TIP: As a benefit to the corporate partners of USBands, the following announcements should be made during your USBands local high school competitions. 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

SCRIPT

U-S-Bands 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.

From just one event in 1988, U-S-Bands has grown to become the largest scholastic music service organization in the country, annually serving over 70,000 high school students from 26 different states at more than 130 events throughout the nation. More information about U-S-Bands can be found at U-S-Bands dot o-r-g.

U-S-Bands and Y-E-A promote “education through the arts” by providing events and programs that celebrate music’s role in the lives of today’s youth and teach the life lessons of commitment, dedication and the pursuit of excellence through music.

U-S-Bands would like to thank its Corporate Partners, the Yamaha Corporation of America Band & Orchestral Division, DeMoulin [*Da-MOH-lin*] Brothers Uniforms, Avedis [*ah-ved-is*] Zildjian [*ZIL-jun*] Cymbals, Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets, Remo Drumheads, A-W-C-T Color Guard Costumes, the BAND mobile app, Director’s Showcase International, and Tresona Multimedia.

Announcement of Judges and Event Staff

SCRIPT

The adjudicators for today's competition have been assigned by U-S-Bands. They are trained professionals representing the top educators and designers from across the country. Their experience in, and knowledge of, the musical and visual arts allow them to provide educational feedback that assists in the development of each program you are enjoying here at this event.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming our adjudicators and event staff:

(Color Guard judges - announce prior to color guard portion of event, and prior to color guard awards)

- **Judging Equipment Analysis:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging Movement Analysis:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging Design Analysis:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging General Effect:** [Name], **from** [Hometown] **and** [Name], **from** [Hometown]

(Percussion judges - announce prior to percussion portion of event, and prior to percussion awards)

- **Judging Music:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging Visual:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging Effect Music and Artistry:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **Judging Effect Visual:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]

(Event staff - announce with both color guard and percussion panels, and prior to awards)

- **The U-S-Bands Event Coordinator is:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **The U-S-Bands Assistant Coordinator is:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]
- **And the U-S-Bands Tabulator is:** [Name], **from** [Hometown]

Unit Performance Announcement

The model below follows a national standard when introducing the performing units. Please utilize this format as many groups practice beginning their performances with this announcement.

SCRIPT

(As the unit is entering the floor):

Now entering the floor, from [City, State], the [High School/Unit Name]!

(pause)

*(If there is a unit information sheet, read it here)

(pause)

(Wait for signal from the USBands Event Coordinator, who will let you know that the judges are ready to begin, and ensure the unit is also ready to begin.)

Performing their 2020 program, [Show Title, if given], U-S-Bands is proud to present [High School/Unit Name]!

(After the unit's performance)

Ladies and Gentlemen, [High School/Unit Name], from [City, State], under the direction of [Unit Director's Name].

*Many groups prepare a show information sheet, which can be read as they enter the floor.

Promotional and Sponsorship Announcements

The following promotional messages can be read periodically throughout the competition and during the Intermission, or at any other occasion when there is time for announcements. It is not necessary to read them all at one time.

SCRIPT

A reminder to our spectators: In order to protect the original composers and copyright owners who allow the units to use their music, U-S-Bands strictly prohibits the use of audio and visual recording devices without the expressed, written consent of U-S-Bands. Thank you for your cooperation.

As a courtesy to those around you and to the performers, please do not enter or leave the seating area during a group's performance. The performers and your fellow spectators appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Zildjian [*ZIL-jun*] Cymbals and Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets are a proud educational partners of U-S-Bands and the official sponsors of the 2020 USBands Indoor Percussion Series. Zildjian: maker of the finest cymbals and gongs for high school percussionists around the world.

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

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

U-S-Bands is more than just band – it's a community. Connect with friends and fellow performers, get inside scoops, watch videos, and see photos at facebook.com/U-S-Bands ["Facebook dot com slash U-S-Bands"], on Twitter @U-S-Bands ["at U-S-Bands"], and on Instagram and Snapchat.

Looking for a lightly used brass instrument for your band or individual use? Y-E-A has a great selection of gently used Yamaha instruments including trumpets, mellophones, baritones, tubas and more, all at 60% or more off retail. Plus, check out their great selection of keyboard percussion and timpani at great discounts. Budget friendly leasing options are available for any school's music programs. Visit yea.org/shop for more information.

Assembly of Unit Captains and Representatives

Prior to the event, the Event Coordinator will let you know where unit captains and representatives should gather to line up for awards. This area is usually in a hallway or just outside of the unit entrance to the performance area. Make sure you ask where the Event Coordinator would like these folks to assemble before making the announcement.

This announcement should happen multiple times, preferably prior to each of the final two performances before the awards ceremony.

SCRIPT

At this time, we ask that all unit and ensemble captains and representatives report to [Location] to prepare for the awards ceremony. Again, all unit and ensemble captains and representatives report to [Location] to prepare for the awards ceremony. Thank you.

Awards Ceremony Notes and Announcements

After the last unit 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 please be professional and treat every show as if it were a Championship event. The following is the standard procedure:

- Last unit performs
- Tabulator has judges check their numbers
- Tabulator certifies results and prints the award sheet
- Tabulator brings you the award sheet
- YOU, as the announcer, check for the tabulator's signature for score verification
- Tabulator reviews the award sheet with you to discuss the order in which things are read
- As you read each score, please utilize the following script. (The awards sheet is formatted in this order for your convenience.)

Have a list of the ensembles – in performing order – ready to announce.

(Wait for cue from the Event Coordinator to begin)

*If your school is presenting any special awards outside of the regular USBands format, these should be announced prior to or following the official USBands Awards Ceremony. Also, the distinction between host-specific awards and those presented as part of USBands standards should be acknowledged. Please realize that as a sanctioning body, we must strive for consistency from show to show.

SCRIPT

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome back representatives from each of the performing ensembles we've seen here today!

(Read list of performing ensembles)

(Once all performers are set, continue with each of the following announcements, with a brief pause between each)

At this event, we celebrate the impact music has on young people. The color, the pageantry and the music are the results of hundreds of hours of practice by each individual, and that shows 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 and indoor programs have long offered young people the opportunity to learn, grow, and take the valuable life lessons learned on the practice and performance floor well into their adult lives. A few of the performers here today will go on to be music educators who will teach the next generation of students, while most will go on to become magnificent adults in many other fields of work.

At this time, we would like to thank an important group of people. Where would we be without all of the parents who serve as the motivators, the car-poolers, the rehearsal monitors, and the biggest fans of their children and their hometown high school ensembles? U-S-Bands salutes YOU, the ones who make these performances possible! Students, give it up for your band parents!

U-S-Bands would like to thank its Corporate Partners, the Yamaha Corporation of America Band & Orchestral Division, DeMoulin [*Da-MOH-lin*] Brothers Uniforms, Avedis [*ah-ved-is*] Zildjian [*ZIL-jun*] Cymbals, Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets, Remo Drumheads, A-W-C-T Color Guard Costumes, the BAND mobile app, Director's Showcase International, and Tresona Multimedia.

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U-S-Bands and Y-E-A promote “education through the arts” by providing events and programs that celebrate music’s role in the lives of today’s youth and teach the life lessons of commitment, dedication and the pursuit of excellence. You can play a role by joining and following the U-S-Bands community on Facebook and by visiting the USBands website at U-S Bands dot o-r-g.

Before we announce the results of the competition, we have spoken about the impact of marching music on the millions of young people who participate in this activity each year. The life lessons they learn as members of these great indoor programs will last them a lifetime.

But it is the support, dedication and passion of their teachers, music educators, instructors and designers that teach these young people how to be magnificent both on the floor, and out in the world. Please join me in thanking every educator and instructor who is here with us today for their hard work in making this activity so great!

(Pause)

And now the results...

RESULTS SCRIPT

- **In _____** [Class: e.g., Scholastic Novice Guard, etc.]
- **In ____** [7th, 6th, 5th, etc.] **place**
- **with a score of _____.**
- [unit name].

Repeat for all classes in the show.

In the case of a tie, we do NOT use the word “tie.” Our experience finds that this causes an odd crowd response that 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 2nd place or below, say, **In ____ place, with a score of _____, [then BOTH units’ names].**
- If the tie is for 1st place, complete the 3rd place announcement, then say: **And in FIRST place, with a score of _____, our CO-CHAMPIONS are, _____ AND _____.**

Final Announcement, after all scores have been read:

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in one more round of applause for all of the amazing performances we have witnessed here today!

(Brief pause for applause)

Performers, you are dismissed. Thank you for attending this 2020 U-S-Bands Indoor event, and for supporting the music program in your school. We look forward to seeing you throughout the winter, as U-S-Bands hosts its 10th Indoor Season. If you would like to learn more about U-S-Bands, please visit U-S-Bands dot o-r-g.

Goodnight/Good afternoon! And please travel safely.

Thank you!