

V-USBANDS

VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

Virtual USBands in 2020

General Overview

Schools have counted on USBands for 32 years, this is the next chapter. Educationally sound, criteria based, providing cumulative improvement over time in a national format.

Virtual Platform for Performance & Creativity

- Alternative electronic competition platform
 - Delivers on USBands mission of providing ultimate experiences in education and performance while keeping students at the center of all activity
- More than just an online I&E contest.
- Provide students with stability and a meaningful, educational experience and unique performance opportunities with peers
- Provide educators with structure, continuity, flexibility in their music programs in a time of uncertainty and disruption

Education

V-USBANDS

VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

Directors

- Opportunity to structure fall educational plans around rehearsal, participation, results
- Keep students engaged and motivated
- Educationally sound supported by nationally-recognized evaluators
- Presentation to school administration as significant, meaningful musical participation
- Promote to peers and colleagues to make platform locally, regionally and nationally relevant

Least Open

- Distance Learning Option
- v-USBands Participation
 - Individuals Performers only
 - Tech-based Creative Class
 - Small ensembles based on local guidance



Partially Open/Significant Restrictions

- Schools In-Person Learning/Staggered scheduling
 - No major organized activities
- v-USBands Participation
 - Individual Performers
 - Tech-based Creative Class
 - Standstill Ensembles (10-25 students)



Schools Open with Restrictions

- Schools In-Person Learning
 - Organized activities are permitted
- v-USBands Participation
 - Individuals + Tech-based Creative Class
 - Small ensembles (10-50 students)
 - Short marching performances



Schools Open

- Schools In-Person Learning/Extracurriculars Underway
- Marching Band performance/Halftime
- Short in-state travel is possible
- Traditional USBands participation
 - Full or Limited based on state/local guidelines
- v-USBands Participation continues in Red/Orange/Yellow

v-USBANDS
VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

2020 School Scenarios

Performance Structure

Four Performance Categories

- 1. Individuals for Distance Learning**
 - Non-elitist “all-swim” philosophy
 - Comfortable for students to share talents
- 2. Ensembles for In-Person/Distant/Hybrid Learning with Allowed Extracurricular Activities**
 - Drumlines/ Percussion/ Pit/Winds/Mixed/ Dance/Colorguard/Drum Major
 - Small ensembles (<25 students)
 - Standstill & Pep Bands (25< students)
- 3. Marching Bands for In-Person/Distant/Hybrid Learning with Allowed Extracurricular Activities**
 - Non-traveling groups that want to perform and keep students engaged.
 - (3) Divisions Based on Number of Students (26-50), (51-80), (81+)
 - Mixed ensembles (25< students)
- 4. Creative Class for In-Person/Distant/Hybrid Learning**
 - Must have a connection to a school; Multi-discipline
 - Few Limitations. Whatever you create, we will give a space

Criteria

Goals

- Creation of an evaluation system appropriate for this platform
- Evolution of current USBands evaluation system modified for the use of USBands adjudicators
- Educational improvement week over week throughout the fall season
 - Encourage performers and bands to submit a new video every week
- Provide criteria that is for all level of performers; not only the elite students

Criteria

Performance Categories

- **Individual** - Evaluated by 1 Adjudicator
 - Brass
 - Woodwind
 - Percussion
 - Visual
- **Ensemble** (up to 25 students) - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators
 - Brass
 - Woodwind
 - Percussion
 - Front ensemble, Battery, Mixed
 - Visual
 - Mixed Ensembles
- **Standstill and Pep Bands** (25< students) - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators
- **Marching Bands** - Evaluated by 3 Adjudicators
 - Division 1 (26-50) ○ Division 2 (51-80) ○ Division 3 (81<)
- **Creative Class** - Evaluated by 2 Artistry Adjudicators
 - Any mixture of acoustic, digital, cross-genre and enhanced or processed performance are allowed

Criteria

Individual/Ensemble/Standstill/Pep Band Structure:

- Total time of all submissions will be no more than 5:00 minutes
 - Introduction will be no more than 1:00 minute.
 - Name of each performer (10 performers or less)
 - High School represented
 - Name of musical selection
- Each performance must be at least 2:00 minutes and no longer than 4:00
- RAW: Performance will be a single unedited shot focused on the performer(s) – simply recorded and not enhanced
- PROCESSED: Editing and enhancement options: through mixing and editing for Creative Class

Criteria

Marching Band Structure: Performance Categories

- Bands
 - Marching or other Modified Band Shows are welcome
 - Division I - 26-50 Members
 - Division II - 51-80 Members
 - Division III - 81+ Members
 - Band sizes may be revised based on registration numbers. Additional groups or reclassification may be announced prior to September 1
 - Total time of all submissions will be no more than 8:00 minutes
 - Introduction will be no more than one minute.
 - High School represented
 - Name of program and musical selections
 - No minimum performance time

Criteria

Individual & Ensemble Adjudication:

- Begins with first note or movement and ends at 4:00 minutes.
- Performer(s) will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments at the conclusion.

Individual Music/Visual Performance – one adjudicator

Music Adjudicator (200 Points)	OR	Visual Adjudicator (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect• 100 pts for Performance = accuracy and technique		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect• 100 pts for Performance = excellence

Ensemble Music Performance – two adjudicators

Music Adjudicator (200 Points)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect• 100 pts for Performance = accuracy and technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Program Effect• 100 pts for Showmanship

Ensemble Visual Performance – two adjudicators

Visual Adjudicator - 200 pts total	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Composition• 100 pts for Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 pts for Program Effect• 100 pts for Showmanship

Criteria

Band (Marching/Standstill/Pep/Other) Adjudication:

- Begins with first note or movement and ends at 8:00 minutes.
- Performer(s) will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments at the conclusion.

Standstill & Pep Bands – two adjudicators

Music Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Artistry Adjudicator (200 Points Total)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect● 100 pts for Performance = accuracy and technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect● 100 pts for Performance = showmanship

Division 1-2-3 Marching Bands - three adjudicators

Music Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Visual Adjudicator (200 Points Total)	Effect Adjudicator (200 Points Total)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect● 100 pts for Performance = accuracy and technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100 pts for Artistry = content and effect● 100 pts for Performance = excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 100 pts for Program Effect● 100 pts for Showmanship

Evaluation Process



V-USBANDS VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

- Video is uploaded and the judge has 72 hours to complete the evaluation
- USBands will handle all judge assignments to ensure quality and criteria
- RAW: Performance will be a single unedited shot focused on the performer(s) – simply recorded and not enhanced
- PROCESSED: Editing and enhancement options: through mixing and editing for Creative Class

Video Host Platform



General

- All performances of Individuals, Ensembles, Bands will be posted on one platform
- Performances will be posted on Saturday and removed by 11:59PM Sunday each night on FloMarching
- Pre-produced Saturday night results event
 - 15-20 minutes
- Copyrights are included within the FloMarching platform

Things to Consider:

- “Opt-in” for all performer to be showcased no matter their level of proficiency
- Privacy control remains with Individual or Band Director

Fee Structure



- Open Registration for all schools
- Registration for *v-USBands* are as follows:
 - Individual - \$25 per submission
 - Ensemble – \$50 per submission
 - Division I Band–\$75 per submission
 - Division II Band – \$85 per submission
 - Division III Band –\$95 per submission

Geography

V-USBANDS VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

- Competitions by State or Region depending on volume of submissions
- Open Invitational Format for most events
- State Championship Formats for October 31
 - CT, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, PA, TN, TX, VA, ID
 - Additional State Championships possible pending volume of submissions

Schedule

V-USBANDS VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE

- September 26 - FloMarching Kick-off
- October 3 - Yamaha Cup
- October 10 - DeMoulin Invitational
- October 17 - Zildjian-Vic Firth Challenge
- October 24 - Remo Invitational
- October 31 - State Championships
- November 7 - National Championships
BAND Mobile App Scholarship Presentation

BAND Scholarship Opportunities



As a special acknowledgement and incentive for students to participate in the 2020 *v-USBands* season, a total of five Scholarships valued at \$500 each will be awarded by the BAND Mobile App in order to further their educational career in music or other fields.

Criteria and an application will be posted shortly.