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St. Charles West Band 2014 Marching Band Festival

Ben Meyer, Director of Bands bmeyer@stcharlessd.org 636-443-4247

April 25, 2014,

Dear Band Director,

I'm excited to invite you to the 5th Annual St. Charles West Marching Band Festival to be held on September 20, 2014! Our festival will be a prelims/finals format, held on the campus of St. Charles West High School utilizing our sport turf field at Steve Stahl Stadium. Bands will be classified by size, specifically number of musicians including percussionists.

As was the case last year, we will be hiring an independent panel of judges to be announced at a later date. Bands will be awarded placements in each classification, plus captions for music, visual and effect. The class winners, plus the next highest scoring bands totaling 10 bands will qualify for an open finals competition in the evening. Modifications to the number of finalists may be made depending on enrollment. Similar to the preliminary round, placements and captions will be awarded in Finals competition.

Important Change: Our finals draw will be changing to a bottom 5/top 5 draw this year to remain consistent with neighboring festivals.

The application will be available on Monday, May 5th at <u>www.scwband.org</u>. Scheduling preferences will be given to last years Grand Champion and class winners only. All other bands will be scheduled by application date. If a previous class winner moves up or down and creates a situation where two previous class winners are in the same class, application date will be used to determine how those bands are scheduled. Bottom line, sign up early!

As with any festival, our number one concern is to make sure the bands in attendance are provided with a high quality, educational experience. Now entering our 5th season hosting this event, I'm grateful for the many directors who have continued to support our event each year and I look forward to hopefully seeing some new faces in attendance this season.

Applications will be due on August 13th, or when the event is full. We are capping the event at 24 bands this year. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. I hope to see you on September 20th!

Ben Meyer

Director of Bands St. Charles West High School bmeyer@stcharlessd.org 636-443-4247

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