

JUDGES' BIOS/ASSIGNMENTS FOR STARFEST '11

Tri-State Band Judges Association has provided quality judging throughout the Midwest for the past 27 years. This year Tri-State has provided panels for over 45 parades and field show competitions. Tri-State draws from a pool of 30 qualified judges who have been or are presently band directors or specialists in the marching band area.

Prelim Judges

Ben Firkus, Hugo, Minnesota- -Music Execution

Ben is currently the band director at North Branch Area High School in North Branch, MN. He is an active adjudicator in the upper Midwest for both marching and winter drum line. Ben spends his summers on the visual staff with the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps from Fort Mill, SC.

Jay Matuzak, South St. Paul, Minnesota- -Marching and Maneuvering Execution

Jay has been adjudicating marching bands and drum lines in the Midwest for over ten years. He is currently head judge of the Minnesota Percussion Association and a current member of the Minnesota Vikings official drum line, The Skol Line.

Richard Dufault, Waseca, Minnesota; head judge- -Music General Effect

Butch was a band director in Minnesota for 30 years. His Waseca bands were noted for their excellence in all areas of instrumental music. He co-founded the Waseca Marching Classic and is in high demand as a judge, clinician, and All-State adjudicator.

Kim Cosens, Owatonna, Minnesota- -Marching and Maneuvering General Effect

Kim taught instrumental music for 20 plus years, and he now serves as a guest conductor and clinician and is a respected adjudicator in Jazz, Marching, and Concert Bands. He spearheaded the formation of the Harry Wenger Marching Band Festival in Owatonna, Minnesota which features 12 bands in a parade competition.

Joel Matukzak, St. Paul, Minnesota- -Percussion

Joel is the director of instrumental music at Highland Park Senior High School in St. Paul, MN. He is also the program coordinator and percussion caption head for the Minnesota Brass. Sought after as an arranger, drill writer, clinician and adjudicator throughout the upper Midwest, he also writes for and coordinates the Minnesota Viking's Skol Drum line.

Steve Lyons, Champlin, Minnesota- -Auxiliary

Steve is in his 20th year of teaching band at Champlin Park High School in Champlin, MN where he directs all the bands and teaches percussion studio classes. He also directs the St. Louis Park Community Band

Finals Judges

Tom Haugen, Decorah, Iowa; head judge- -Music Execution

Tom, the founder and head of Tri-State Band Judging Association, is presently supervisor of music student teachers at Luther College, Decorah, IA. Prior to his position at Luther he was a high school band director in Iowa and Minnesota for 38 years. He was inducted into the Minnesota Music Educators Hall of Fame at their convention in February of this year.

John Greene, Apple Valley, Minnesota- -Marching and Maneuvering Execution

John is at Falcon Ridge Middle School in Apple Valley, MN where he teaches 8th grade bands, jazz ensemble, percussion ensemble and studio percussion, trumpet, and flute. As an adjudicator he has judged throughout the Midwest and Canada and has served as judge administrator for the Mid-America Competing Band Directors' Association (MACBDA) for 17 years.

Steve Citta, Cedar Falls, Iowa- -Music General Effect

Steve is a professional musician, music arranger, and drill writer. He currently serves as a marching, jazz, and concert band adjudicator/clinician throughout the Midwest.

Ted Reicher, Davenport, Iowa- -Marching and Maneuvering General Effect

Ted has been writing and teaching music and drill for competitive bands, drum corps, and winter guards for 25 years. He is an active composer and arranger and maintains a private brass studio for students in the Iowa/Illinois Quad Cities area.

Barry Peterson, Eagan, Minnesota- -Percussion

Barry is in his 23rd year of teaching instrumental music. He presently teaches at Black Hawk Middle School in Eagan, MN and Eastview High School in Apple Valley, MN. He continues to be in demand as a clinician, performer, adjudicator, and composer/arranger in the field of percussion.

Jeff Goldsmith, New Brighton, Minnesota- -Auxiliary

Jeff is a former music educator of 15 years who remains active in the Twin Cities music community as a performer, clinician, and adjudicator. He has established a successful career in group travel planning with both instrumental and vocal music ensembles.