

35th ANNUAL PANTHER MARCHING BAND FESTIVAL

INFORMATION PACKET

ATTENTION!!!

Welcome to the 35th Annual
Eastern Illinois University
Panther Marching Band Festival

As a Reminder:

No Long Rangers (or other P.A.'s)
in parking lot or practice fields

No playing/warming-up in the Parking Lot

Remember to leave the Warm-Up Field
promptly to stay on schedule.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of the
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
PANTHER MARCHING BAND!

The 35th Annual Panther Marching Band Festival

On behalf of Eastern Illinois University, welcome to the 2011 Panther Marching Band Festival. Please direct any questions to R. Alan Sullivan (music@eiu.edu) WE HOPE YOUR VISIT WILL BE ENJOYABLE AND REWARDING.

The 35th Annual Panther Marching Band Festival is fast approaching and plans are complete. We sincerely hope that our invitational will be an enjoyable and educational experience for you and your band.

Contest assistance is being provided by The Music Shoppe, Jolesch Photography, the members of Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Sigma Alpha Iota, and many members of the Panther Marching Band. We are grateful for their spirit of cheerful volunteerism.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification is based on the number of band members as reported by each individual band. Classifications are as follows:

1A – 0-55

2A – 56-79

3A – 80-110

4A – 111 - above

Performance order is decided by a random draw for each class. Bands will perform in order of classification. Exceptions are made for extenuating circumstances.

ADJUDICATION

A panel of 8 judges will adjudicate the Festival. As an institution dedicated to advocacy and outreach to music education, five nationally reputed judges will adjudicate your band's overall performance from the press box and on the field for visual, musical, and general effect. One specialty judge for each caption will evaluate the auxiliary units (guard, majorettes, dancers), the percussion sections, and the drum majors. All judges will record comments during your competition period. Judges' recorded and written comments will be available in the Contest Headquarters following each award's ceremony.

AWARDS

The following awards will be given in each Competitive Class: Participation, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Best Percussion, Best Auxiliary, Best Drum Major, and the Top 3 Placings. Please have your drum majors/band representatives in uniform present to accept awards during the awards ceremonies taking place after 1A & 2A and another awards ceremony after 3A & 4A.

ARRIVAL

Plan to arrive about one hour prior to your warm-up time. Have buses, etc. use Grant Avenue/Panther Way to enter the main entrance. Hold your students on the bus at this time. ***Our hosts will be ready to receive the first bands at 8:30am. Please email rasullivan@eiu.edu if you must arrive earlier so we can be prepared!***

DIRECTIONS

Take Interstate 57 to Exit 190A (Route 16 East) or take Route 130 to Route 16 West. Once in Charleston, take route 16 (Lincoln Ave) to University Drive (on West side of campus) and head south. Turn left (or head east) onto Grant Street. O'Brien Stadium will be located on Grant one block on your right. A map is attached to this email for your information, and we will have spotters attending to your busses on arrival.

CONTEST HEADQUARTERS - DIRECTORS & STAFF ONLY

All directors need to check in upon your arrival. The contest headquarters is in the lobby of the Stadium, which is located on the west side of the stadium. Complimentary staff passes may be picked up in the headquarters upon arrival. Judges' CD's, score sheets, results, and recap sheets will be located here at the conclusion of the awards ceremonies.

BUS/TRUCK PARKING & STAFF VEHICLES

These vehicles will be parked in the parking lots located to the north of the stadium for Classes 1A & 2A and the Stevenson Residence Hall lot for Classes 3A & 4A. Student Assistants will be there to assist you. ***All buses & equipment trucks will enter from Grant Street/Panther Way/4th Street. See map for traffic flow & parking arrangements.*** We do not have space for parent vehicles in this area. Keep your students on the busses. Wrist bandings for band members occurs AS the band director is checking in and while buses are being parked.

BAND HOSTS/COMPLIMENTARY PASSES

Members of the Panther Marching Band will meet each band at the entrance to the band parking area. They will serve as your guide for the event and will provide each band member, chaperone, pit crewmember, and driver with a wristband for admittance to the contest. Complimentary passes for staff members will be available at the Contest Headquarters.

DRESSING FACILITIES

There are no dressing facilities so plan accordingly. As a suggestion, we have our band wear gym shorts and a T-shirt under our uniforms to facilitate dressing near the buses. You may wish to consider this to avoid delays.

RESTROOMS

Restroom areas are located in the stadium next to the Concession Stands. Restrooms are available for directors and staff in Contest Headquarters as well.

TICKETS

Admission for the Panther Marching Band Festival is as follows: adults \$8.00; student, preschool, & senior citizens \$5.00. Children 5 and under are free. Festival Programs will be available for \$5.00.

PHYSICAL WARM-UP AREAS

Each band may use the physical warm-up area located south of the band warm-up fields. Please use the side designated A or B no earlier than 30 minutes before your music warm-up time. There is room on and around the field for silent stretching prior to warm-up.

MUSIC WARM-UP AREAS

Each band will be allowed a music warm-up period of 30 minutes. Please be prompt. The schedule cannot permit early warm-up. Please face south to ensure that bleeding sound does not disrupt the band performing in O'Brien stadium. A map has been included for your convenience and reference. Long Rangers and other P. A. equipment may not be used during the festival. The sound carries to the stadium and infringes on other competing bands. Please plan accordingly.

ENTRANCE & EXIT FROM THE FIELD

Bands will enter the stadium via the Southeast gate and will exit from the Southwest gate. Pit crews will enter through the Southwest gate. As one band exits the field, the following band will enter. ***Following your performance, please pass in review in front of the Home side from North to South along the front portion of the Track.*** This will help eliminate traffic jams at the gate. Please be careful not to use vehicles that might damage our field/track. **Motorized vehicles are not allowed on the field.**

All pit crews will remain at the Southwest gate while the previous band completes its performance. Approximately 8 minutes before your band begins competition, your pit percussion will be brought to a staging area on the track. Please do not disturb the competing band. Lawn Tractors and ATV's are acceptable for moving your equipment.

******LARGE TRACTORS AND AUTOMOBILES ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE TRACK PER UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS AND NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD SURFACE******

PERFORMANCE

Each band may perform up to 10 minutes in length with an additional 3 minutes allowed for entrance and on-field warm-up. There is also an allotted time of 2 minutes for exit off the field before cadences must cease. Use of pyrotechnics, pressurized canisters, flammable materials, and other hazardous substances is expressly forbidden. Additionally, the discharge of firearms will not be permitted.

POWER SUPPLY

We will have power outlets available for your use of amplification in the pit. However, competing bands must provide power cords. We recommend AT LEAST a 100' extension cord.

HASH MARKS

Since O'Brien Stadium is lined for collegiate football, temporary hash marks will be provided for high school dimensions. These will be adjusted in between bands.

BAND MEMBER SEATING

Students may sit in areas of the home stands that are not needed by patrons with tickets. Please remind your students to be courteous and appreciative of all performing bands. Please do not move in and out of the seating area during a performance.

CONCESSIONS

Concessions will be provided at the concession stands located under the home stands. Concessions are sub-contracted through the university so we do not benefit from this service. In addition, there are many fast food restaurants located in the University Union Food Court and on Route 16 (Lincoln Avenue) just North of the stadium.

JOLESCH PHOTO

Jolesch Photography will be at the festival site to take group pictures following your performance. Additional information regarding their services is included. This is an opportunity to get a great photograph of your band. Band pictures will be located in the parking lot next to Lantz field house. See map.

HOSPITALITY FOR DIRECTORS & STAFF

Refreshments will be available in the Victory Suite of the Press Box for **directors and staff only**. No drivers will be allowed in the Victory Suite. No one will be allowed in the adjudication areas of the Press Box. This is the top portion of the press box.

JUDGES' CD's & CRITIQUE

Directors may pick up their judges' CD's immediately following the awards ceremony in Contest Headquarters. There will not be a judges' critique session for directors following the awards ceremony.

REMINDERS

Make sure your students bring all needed medication, inhalers, bee sting kits, etc.

RAIN

One of the advantages of our performance venue is great drainage and NO MUD! The show will be cancelled only at such time as the safety of spectators or performers is in question. Every attempt will be made to complete an entire class before such a decision is made. ***Eastern Illinois University cannot return Registration fees as they are already encumbered for judges' fees and the cost of running the contest.***

INSTRUMENT REPAIR

Representatives from Music Shoppe will be on hand throughout the day to assist with musical needs. They will be located South of the West parking lot of O'Brien Stadium. ***Thanks to the Music Shoppe for repair services during the contest!***

BEST OF LUCK! We hope you have an enjoyable and educational experience at the Eastern Illinois University Panther Marching Band Festival. Thank you for your participation and please continue to share your suggestions with us.

QUESTIONS

R. Alan Sullivan

rasullivan@eiu.edu

Office: 217-581-6087

Cell: TBA (only on day of contest please)