

# 41st ANNUAL PANTHER MARCHING BAND FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 41st Annual  
Eastern Illinois University  
Panther Marching Band Festival

## INFORMATION PACKET

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

# The 41st Annual Panther Marching Band Festival

**On behalf of Eastern Illinois University, welcome to the 2017 Panther Marching Band Festival. Please direct any questions to Dr. Benjamin Druffel (bjdruffel@eiu.edu)**

***WE HOPE YOUR VISIT WILL BE ENJOYABLE AND REWARDING.***

The 41st 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, 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 a hybrid system. IHSA School Sizes are used to divide ensembles into Small (1-850) and Large (851+). Ensembles are then divided by band size. Because of the large number of bands with enrolment 55 and under, another class was added with the intention of leveling the playing field.

SMALL DIVISION	1A: 1-45 in ensemble
School Enrollment 1-850	1B: 46-55 in ensemble
	2A: 56-65 in ensemble
	3A: 66+ in ensemble
LARGE DIVISION	4A: 1-100 in ensemble
School Enrollment 850+	5A: 101+ in ensemble

*Performance order was decided by the date the registration fee was received at EIUI. There have been some exceptions made for extenuating circumstances.*

## **ADJUDICATION**

A panel of 9 judges will adjudicate the Festival:

- Music Effect – Press Box
- Music Performance – Field
- Music Performance – Press Box
- Visual Effect – Press Box
- Visual Performance - Field

- Visual Performance – Press Box
- Percussion
- Auxiliary
- Drum Major

Scoring for the Panther Marching Band Festival is 60% music, 40% visual.

Judges sheets will and recap will be available on the track following the awards.

Recorded comments will be available through a drop box organized by Omni Star Events within a week of the Festival.

## **AWARDS**

The following awards will be given in each Competitive Class: Participation, Best Music (highest combined music performance score), Best Visual (highest combined visual performance score), Best General Effect (highest combined musical and visual effect score), Best Percussion, Best Auxiliary, Best Drum Major, and the Top 3 Places. There will also be Best Soloist and Grand Champion awards presented at both the 1A/2A/3A and 4A/5A competitions. Please have your drum majors/band representatives in uniform present to accept awards during the awards ceremonies taking place after each competition.

## **FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS**

Festival Headquarters will be in the Victory Suite – the lower level of the press box. The Victory Suite also serves as the Directors Hospitality Lounge.

## **ARRIVAL**

Plan to arrive about one hour prior to your warm-up time. Have buses, etc. use 4<sup>th</sup> Street to access the “W” (south) parking lot. Hold your students on the bus at this time. ***Our hosts will be ready to receive the first bands at 8:00am. Please email [bjdruffel@eiu.edu](mailto:bjdruffel@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 4<sup>th</sup> Street (on West side of campus) and head south. The “W” lot will be on the right just past the athletic fields. A map is provided for your convenience and we will have spotters attending to your busses on arrival.

## **CHECK-IN**

All directors need to check in upon your arrival at the Pond Pavilion next to the “W” lot. Members of the Panther Marching Band will meet each band at the entrance to the band parking area and they will serve as your guide for the event. Wristbands will be provided for admission for band members and additional wrist bands for parent helpers, one for every 10 members of your group. Three passes will be given to each director to view the festival from the

press box. Due to space limitations, no extra passes will be available. The Press Box is for directors and staff only.

### **BUS/TRUCK PARKING & STAFF VEHICLES**

***All buses & equipment trucks will enter 4<sup>th</sup> Street. See map for traffic flow & parking arrangements.*** We do not have space for staff/parent vehicles in this area. They may park by O'Brien Stadium or next to Stevenson Tower. Keep your students on the busses until you are met by your host EIU student.

### **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. There are no restrooms available in the parking area.

### **TICKETS**

Adults \$10.00; Students and 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 to the east of the "W" lot. Please use the side designated A or B no earlier than 30 minutes before your music warm-up time. There is space 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 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. As one band exits the field, the following band will enter. ***Following your performance, you may 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\*\*\*\***

### **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 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. A .5 point/per minute penalty will be assessed to any group going over 15 minutes.

### **FIRST AID**

A trained first aid assistant will be on hand in the stadium.

### **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. One may find many fast food restaurants in the University Union Food Court and on Route 16 (Lincoln Avenue) just North of the stadium. Directors wishing to have a box lunch prepared for their bands in advance should consider contacting What's Cookin' in Charleston.

## **VIDEO TAPING AND PHOTOS**

Videographers from EIU will be recording all performances from above the press box. These will be available via a YouTube channel that will be available to you after the Festival.

There has been an issue with booking a professional photographer this year. As of Sept.10, this was still be resolved. I hope to have details in the coming weeks.

## **HOSPITALITY FOR DIRECTORS & STAFF**

Each director will be given three press box passes for the director and two additional staff members. You may view the competition from the Victory Suite where refreshments will be available. No one will be allowed in the adjudication areas of the Press Box. No other parents, drivers or students are allowed in the press box.

## **REMINDERS**

Make sure your students bring 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 judging fees and the cost of running the contest.

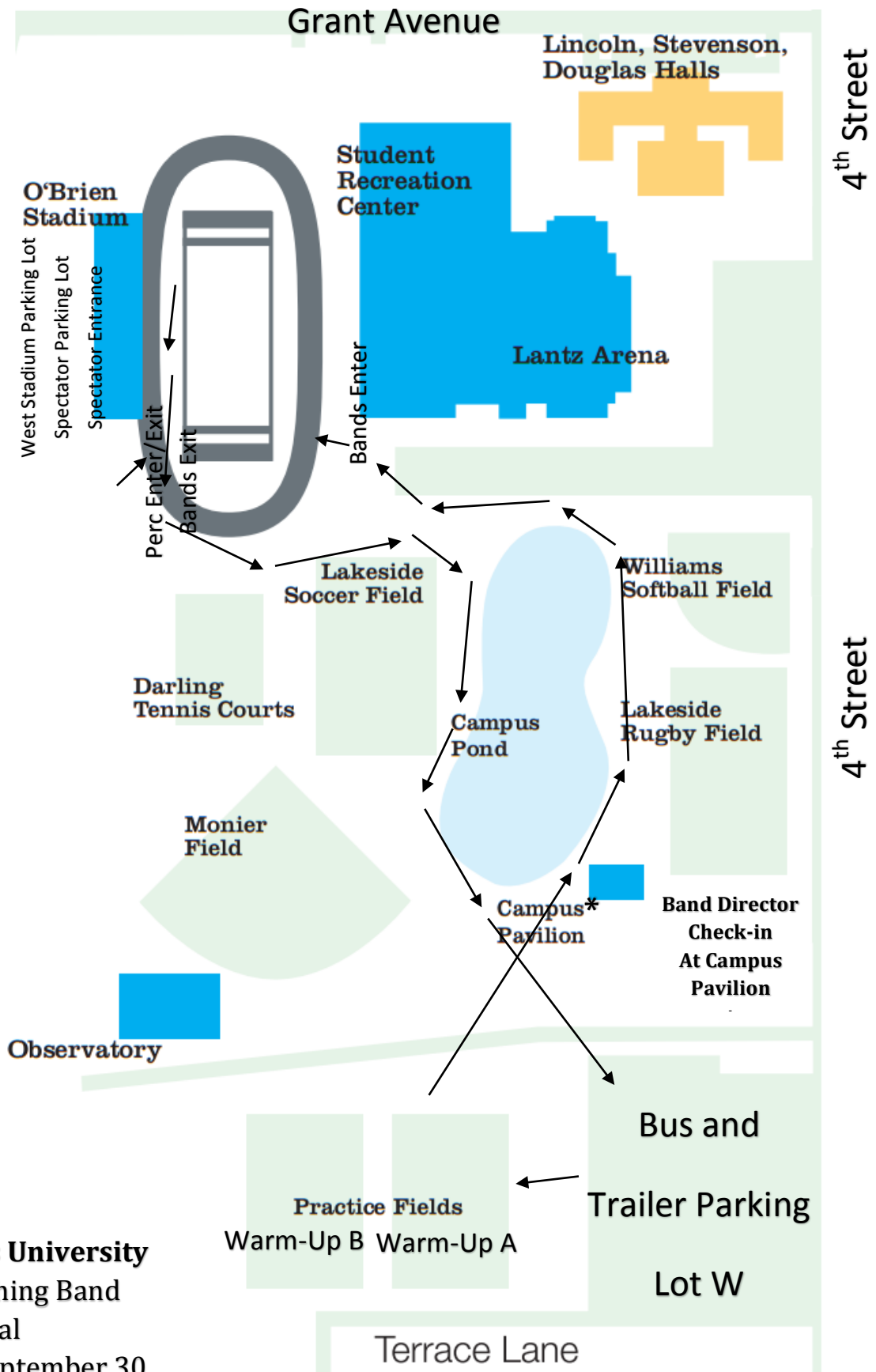
## **INSTRUMENT REPAIR**

A representative 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**

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Panther Marching Band  
Festival  
41st Annual – September 30,  
2017