

43rd ANNUAL PANTHER MARCHING BAND
FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 43rd Annual
Eastern Illinois University
Panther Marching Band Festival

INFORMATION PACKET

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

The 43rd Annual Panther Marching Band Festival

On behalf of Eastern Illinois University, welcome to the 2019 Panther Marching Band Festival. Please direct any questions to David Boggs (dgboggs@eiu.edu) WE HOPE YOUR VISIT WILL BE ENJOYABLE AND REWARDING.

It's time for the 43rd Annual Panther Marching Band Festival! 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, 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 which varies from year to year depending on the natural breaks that occur when band and school enrollments are listed smallest to largest. IHSA School Sizes are used to divide ensembles into Small (1-650) and Large (651+). Ensembles are then divided by band size.

SMALL DIVISION	1A: 1-55 in ensemble / 1-300 school enrollment
	1B: 1-50 in ensemble / 301-551 school enrollment
	2A: 51+ in ensemble / 400-650 school enrollment
	3A: 50-80 in ensemble / 651-780 school enrollment
LARGE DIVISION	4A: 50-100 in ensemble / 781-899 school enrollment
	5A: 100+ in ensemble / 900-1,500 school enrollment
	6A: 100+ in ensemble / 1,501+ school enrollment

Performance order was decided by the date the registration fee was received at EIU as of Aug.26. There have been some exceptions made for extenuating circumstances.

ADJUDICATION

A panel of 9 judges will adjudicate the Festival:

- David Knowlton - Music Effect – Press Box
- Robert Stiehl - Music Performance – Field
- Josephine Smith - Music Performance – Press Box

- Marc Preston Moss - Visual Effect – Press Box
- Elaine Smith - Visual Performance - Field
- Greg Hamilton - Visual Performance – Press Box
- Kevin McNulty - Percussion
- Ruth Ann Medworth – Color Guard
- Sarah Fairbanks - 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 Small (1A/2A) and Large (3A/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. We also request that they report to the south end-zone approximately 25 minutes prior to the awards ceremony so that they can assist the EIU Panther Marching Band with our flag presentation.

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. There will be light snacks provided here throughout the day.

ARRIVAL

Plan to arrive about 75 minutes prior to your warm-up time. Have buses, etc. use 4th Street to access the “W” (south) parking lot. Hold your students on the bus at this time. There will be two portable toilets near the check-in. There are no other restroom facilities in the parking area/warm-up fields. ***Our hosts will be ready to receive the first bands at 8:00 am. Please email dgboggs1@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 4th 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 you and 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. Please plan on purchasing additional parent tickets at the box office located at O'Brien Stadium. 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. When you check in we will have count out the number of passes allotted per the above to ensure that you have the exact number of parents / staff passes so that you are not delayed at the stadium.

BUS/TRUCK PARKING & STAFF VEHICLES

All buses & equipment trucks will enter 4th 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.

PROP DROP-OFF AREA

The walk to the stadium from the parking lot is a bit far so we are working on creating a prop drop-off area at the stadium. This would be an in-and-out drop-off location and you would NOT be able to leave the equipment vehicle there during the performance. You can access the area prior to your performance time to unload the props and can return to pick up props as soon as they are dismantled and ready to be loaded into the truck. The key to this area is keeping in mind that it is for loading and unloading ONLY. Vehicles need to be moved ASAP to a remote parking area. Please e-mail me at dgboggs@eiu.edu or call me at 618-567-3893 if this is something you would like to consider.

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.

TICKETS

Adults \$10.00; Students and Senior Citizens \$5.00. Children 5 and under are free. Festival Programs will be available for \$5.00. Cash and check only.

PHYSICAL WARM-UP AREAS

Each band may use the physical warm-up area located to the west of the “W” lot. There is plenty of space west of the ‘A’ and ‘B’ warm-up fields for silent stretching prior to your music warm-up.

MUSIC WARM-UP AREAS

Each band will be allowed a music warm-up period of 40 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. Warm-up areas include the ‘A’ and ‘B’ fields west of the ‘W’ Lot and the United Methodist Church parking lot (warm-up ‘C’). 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.

Belleville East and Granite City will have a different warm-up location south of the ‘A / B’ and east of the ‘C’ warm-up areas. We are trying to keep everyone in a reasonably well-lighted area to warm-up.

WARM-UP TO/FROM STADIUM TRANSIT AFTER 7:00 P.M.

For the safety of all participants we ask that all bands use the 4th Street sidewalk to walk on to and from the stadium after 7:00 p.m. The pathway between the pond and rugby field have no lighting so I don’t want students to be placed in a potentially unsafe location from a visibility standpoint. Pit equipment should be able to use these paths as I would assume that your vehicle will have lights.

ENTRANCE & EXIT FROM THE FIELD

Bands will enter the stadium via the Southeast gate (backfield side 2) and will exit from the Southwest gate (front of field on side 1). 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 is allotted 15 minutes to enter the field, warm-up on the field, perform your show and exit the field. All cadences must cease when you leave the field. 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 for minor emergencies. If a major emergency occurs we will call for an ambulance ASAP. Safety of our guests is our highest concern so please realize that if someone passes out or has symptoms which are outside the norm we will err on the side of keeping our guests safe by calling for an ambulance. We do not have the staffing to treat minor issues such as cuts, bee stings, and minor sprains. Please have your staff and/or parent prepared with a first aid kit to handle such incidents.

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 50' extension cord just in case.**

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. Prices are average stadium prices. One may find many fast food restaurants in the University Union Food Court and on Route 16 (Lincoln Avenue) just North of the stadium.

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.

Bradley Leeb Photography will be on hand to take group and individual photos. Photos will be taken in the far southwest corner of the stadium near the front ensemble entrance. These photos are completely optional.

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. We do not provide a hospitality area for parents and drivers.

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.

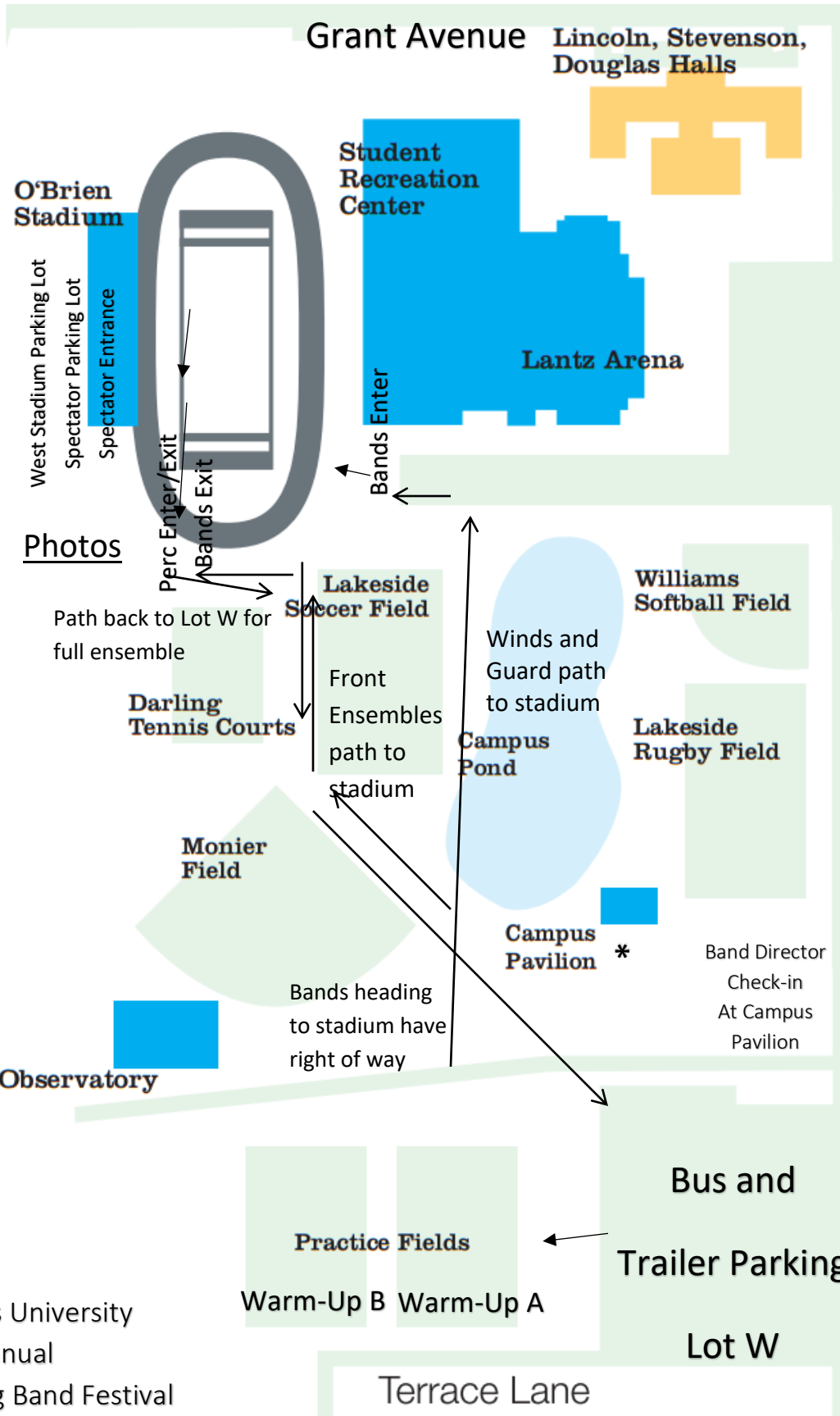
INSTRUMENT REPAIR

Kurtis Decker and David French from Music Shoppe will be on hand throughout the day to assist with musical needs. They will be located under the bleacher seating in 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

David Boggs
dgboggs@eiu.edu
618-567-3893 (cell)



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 October 5, 2019