

URGENT!

IMPORTANT BHSN COUGAR BAND INFO INSIDE USEFUL CONTACTS

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www.BHSNBANDS.com

BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL NORTH COUGAR BAND

NEWSLETTER

08

INSIDE!

Welcome

Band Camp Info

Color Guard Info

Attendance Policies

Season Schedule

And More!

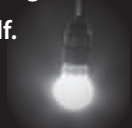


FALL 08 SHOW Lightsource

Original Music by Bruce McConnell

Bruce McConnell is a composer, arranger and music educator. His work has included writing for and teaching marching band, indoor percussion and concert ensembles with schools such as Center Grove, Avon, Lawrence North and Carmel High School. Bruce has written and consulted for numerous other groups in Indiana as well as other schools across the country. Mr. McConnell's twenty year tenure in Drum Corps International includes writing and teaching for such groups as the Star of Indiana, The Bluecoats, The Cavaliers and The Glassmen. He is currently the Director of Concert Percussion at Carmel High School. He resides in Carmel, with his wife and two children.

Our show this year is a harmonic journey from darkness to light a simple concept, but there's more to it than that. When we begin we will illustrate the absence of light. To do this, we will use opaque fabrics, create shadow effects, as well as dark illusions. By the end of the show we arrive at our lightsource and the band will quite literally light up the field musically and visually sparkling with intensity. What does searching for the lightsource mean? That's something you'll have to decide for yourself.



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Christy Wilson designs

www.creativeinbloom.com

Welcome!

to the award winning Cougar Marching Band family and congratulations on your decision to be a part of one of the finest organizations in the state of Indiana. The 2008 marching season gives us all the opportunity to carry on the outstanding tradition of excellence that is the trademark of the Bloomington North Band. There are few organizations of any kind so rich in tradition and success that also include so many real world experiences for students. We are proud to carry on the rich, long-standing traditions that are the North Band's foundation. The Cougar Band has a proud history, and YOU are now part of its exciting future.

During the 2007 marching season, the BHSN Cougar Band earned straight Division I ratings at the Indiana State School Music Association marching competitions for the 15th year in a row. On six occasions, North has qualified for the ISSMA State Marching Band Finals. In 2006 we placed 5th at State Finals, our highest finish ever! The band has consistently placed in the top 10 at regional competitions and has won numerous captions awards at the district level. The band has also represented Bloomington High School North, the city of Bloomington, and the state of Indiana in the 1999 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena California, the 2003 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, New York and the 2006 Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Hard working students, dedicated staff, involved and active parents, and a supportive administration and community all combine to make it possible for Bloomington High School North to offer an outstanding marching band program. Our students are expected to set and reach high goals for themselves and their program. The rewards of meeting those expectations are immeasurable in the development of our students as well-rounded human beings. Members of the Cougar Band will develop musically, emotionally, academically, mentally, socially, and physically.

For these reasons, and many more, I am confident that 2008 edition of the Cougar Band will be one of the best ever! Again, Congratulations!



Sincerely,

Tom

Thomas Wilson
Cougar Band Director
Bloomington High School North

08 COUGAR BAND DATES



July 28,29,30

WINDS

Rookie Marchers, Freshmen, Section Leaders 2:00-5:00pm
Dinner Break 5:00-6:00pm
Full Winds (Grades 9-12) 6:00-9:00pm
Full Winds (Grades 9-12) 12:00pm-5:00pm

July 31, August 1

PERCUSSION

Full Percussion (Battery & Front Ensemble) 6:00-9:00pm
Full Percussion (Battery & Front Ensemble) 2:00-5:00pm

**July 28,29,30
July 31 & Aug 1**

***COLOR GUARD - THIS IS A CHANGE!**

Monday, Wednesday 6:00-9:00pm
Friday 2:00 - 5:00pm

**July 28, 30
Aug 1**

FULL BAND (WINDS, PERCUSSION, GUARD)

Band Camp Monday-Thursday 9:00am-9:30pm
Band Camp Friday (Cougar Encounter) 2:00pm-9:30pm

**August 4-7
August 8**

Monday & Tuesday Full Band and Guard 3:00-9:00pm

August 11-12

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

Regular Season Rehearsal Schedule Begins!
Tuesdays and Thursdays FULL BAND and GUARD 6:00-9:00pm
Alternating Wednesdays Music Rehearsals 2:45-4:00pm

**August 13
August 14**

Home Football Game

August 22

Mini Camp at Bloomington North 9:00am-7:00pm
Parent Pitch-in and Display

August 23

Home Football Game

September 5

Rehearsal Full Band Times TBA

September 6

Home Football Game

September 12

AM Rehearsal/PM Franklin Central Invitational

September 13

AM Rehearsal/PM Plainfield Invitational

September 20

AM Rehearsal/PM Brownsburg Invitational

September 27

Home Football Game

October 3

AM Rehearsal/PM ISSMA District at Columbus East

October 4

AM Rehearsal/PM Ben Davis Invitational

October 11

Home Football Game Senior Night

October 17

ISSMA Regionals at Jeffersonville

October 18

Rehearsal/Tailgate Party

October 24

ISSMA Semi-State Warren Central

October 25

ISSMA State Finals at Lucas Oil Stadium

November 1

Bands of America Regional Lucas Oil Stadium

November 8

Band Banquet/Awards Night at North

November 25

Performance at Tri-North Middle School

November 26



PERSONAL BEHAVIOR AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A COUGAR BAND MEMBER

BEHAVIOR

Band members are expected to follow all school rules as well as those outlined in the BHSN code of ethics which each band member must sign. Remember who you are and whom you represent. The reputation of Bloomington High School North and our band rests with each member.

Responsibility to Yourself: You owe yourself the benefit of TRYING. TRYING to play your best. TRYING to march your best. TRYING to perform your guard work the best. Your job is ALWAYS to help contribute to the success of the group and NEVER take away from that success.

Responsibility to each other: Getting along with each other in our complex society is indeed a difficult task itself. You have the obligation and responsibility to respect the rights of others. Antisocial behavior will only breed that same thing in others and bring unwanted trouble into the band. Excessive talking, rumors, bad manners, etc. are all examples of antisocial behavior. Please respect the rights of others both in and out of rehearsal and treat them as you wish to be treated. Common sense will help you make many critical decisions young adults must face.

ATTITUDE

By accepting membership into the Bloomington North Cougar Band, you have agreed to perform to the best of your abilities and work together with the band staff in making this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

You are expected to:

- Report consistently and promptly to all rehearsals and performances - to be in the right place at the right time in the proper dress or uniform with your music, instrument, and/or other required equipment, ready to put forth committed effort needed to accomplish excellence.

- Practice sufficiently to be prepared to rehearse and perform at the highest level according to your capabilities.

- Cooperate to the fullest with your leaders, knowing that you will be held accountable for your actions and your contribution to the success of this organization.

Never is one student to discipline another. If the situation cannot be resolved by a section leader, they are to notify Mr. Wilson of the problem and it will be dealt with immediately.

You will often feel hot – bring a water bottle. You will often feel tired – sleep at night. You will often feel exhausted – It's worth EVERY minute of work.

Expect to work harder than you have ever before. Expect to make lots of new friends. Expect to have fun. Expect to feel a real sense of accomplishment!

Every year is a new challenge. Please know that you will make a difference.



PARENTAL SUPPORT & INVOLVEMENT

As we promote teamwork among our band members, we also want all parents to know that they are a very important part of our team. Your presence at our performances and competitions means a great deal to the band and your child. Our staff and band boosters work diligently to provide support and encouragement to our students, but parental support makes a larger difference in the lives of these young performers. Competition days are a great opportunity to invite extended family members to a day of entertainment and socialization. It was very exciting last year to have such a large group of parents cheering us on to one of our best performances at the regional competition. I hope that we can have that same support at every show this season. I also encourage you to get involved with our incredible parent booster club. Go to www.BHSNBANDS.com to find out more. There will be additional information made available to you on how to get involved at our August 23rd parent display.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MARCHING BAND ORGANIZATION

The Bloomington North Cougar Band is made up of students in grades 9-12 and consists of the following 4 elements:

THE WIND SECTION



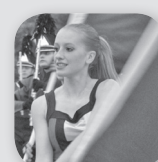
This section is made up of both brass and woodwind players and is the largest in the band.

THE PERCUSSION SECTION



Made up of both drums and melodic percussion instruments with electric keyboard/synthesizers, this section creates rhythm.

THE COLOR GUARD



Girls in grades 9-12 make up this colorful group of flags, rifles, sabres and dancers which add visual support to the music.

THE DRUM MAJOR



This student or group of students conducts the band during shows and assists the directors wherever possible.

All of the above named sections perform and practice together under one name:

the
**BLOOMINGTON
HIGH SCHOOL
NORTH
COUGAR
BAND**

BAND STAFF

Cougar Band Director	Thomas Wilson
Assistant Director	Janis Stockhouse
Color Guard Director	Christy Wilson
Percussion Director	Jesse Willis
Color Guard Instructional Staff	Monique Goodwin, Gina Taton
Field Staff	Michael Komperda, James Lawrence, Evan Cooper Matt Wargel

Paid professionals, and technical assistants, are a vital part of our marching band program. Without their help, the Cougar Band would not be able to achieve the standard to which we aspire. They must have the respect of all students and parents. Staff members are chosen by the directors and are directly responsible to the directors. Students should give these staff members the same respect they give any member of the BHSN faculty.

Christy Wilson was born and raised in Evansville, IN. She started her dance training at the age of 4; taking tap, jazz, ballet and gymnastics. She continued this training through her high school years acquiring nearly 15 years of dance training. She auditioned for the Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps in Rockford IL in 1991 and spent the summers on tour with the group performing as a color guard member and dance soloist until aging out in 1995. Christy's color guard instruction experience began in 1992 and continues today. She has taught at Mater Dei HS (Class C), Clay City HS (Class D), Castle High School (Class A), NorthWood HS (Class C) and finally Bloomington HS North (Class B). All were State Finalists under her direction. Christy also taught dancing at LeeAnn Stewart School of Dance in Northern Indiana for 2 years. Christy attended the Herron School of Art in Indianapolis on a talent grant. She graduated in 1996 with a BFA in Visual Communication. She has been employed as a graphic designer/art director for the past 11 years and currently owns *Creative in Bloom*, a graphic design business. Christy and Director, Tom Wilson met in Northern Indiana in 1996. They were married in 2004 in Chatham, MA. She enjoys sharing these marching band experiences with her husband and daughter, Annabelle Elizabeth. This will be her fifth year as director of BHSN's Color Guard.

Monique Goodwin is the oldest of three daughters and she grew up an Army Brat life. Moving from city to city, from school to school. Born in Yuma, Arizona, Monique moved to Okinawa Japan along with her parents when she was only 6 months old. Monique spent the majority of her life in California before finally settling down in Indiana. Monique is an incoming sophomore at Indiana University and graduated from Bloomington High School North in 2006. Monique participated in Marching all four years. Three of those years were spent within the Color Guard as well as in Winter Guard and was co-captain her senior year. Her sophomore year she marched flute. Monique played flute all four years in concert bands and the trumpet for two years. Her instructional experience began in 2007 Winter Guard season when she helped the group take a Gold Rating at their divisional finals. This will be her third season instructing Bloomington High School North Color Guard.

Gina Taton joins us from Mt. Pleasant Michigan. She is transferring to IU this year from Central Michigan University. Gina aged out of the Glassmen Drum and Bugle Corps last summer where she'd been a member of the color guard since 2004 and C.O. She marched Interplay World Winter Guard in 2006-2007 and was a member of Central Michigan's Metamorphosis Winter Guard in 2005. Her instructional experience includes 3 years at Mt. Pleasant Public Schools where her father is the Band Director. She has also taught at Goodwin Heights Public Schools in Wyoming, MI. We are thrilled to have Gina with us in her second season with the Bloomington North Color Guard!

James Lawrence is a senior at IU majoring in Music Education and is originally from Verona, New Jersey. James just finished his one year term as president of the IU Collegiate Chapter of MENC and is student teaching at North Central High School in the Spring of 2009. He is also a member of the Bloomington based band, True Story, which was recently featured on the government sponsored station, Voice of America. This is James's second year on staff.



Annabelle Wilson says

**GO
COUGAR
BAND!**



DRUM MAJORS

Congratulations to our two Drum Majors: Senior Nathan Pratt and Junior Samantha Paul. Nathan and Sam were selected out of a competitive group of students who auditioned for the spots in March. Sam recently attended the Indiana State University Drum Major Clinic, while Nathan attended the Smith Walbridge Drum Major Clinic at Eastern Illinois University. Each were able to brush up on their conducting and leadership skills.

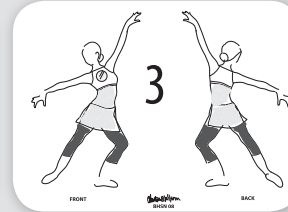
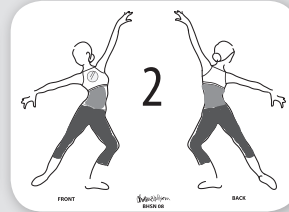
WELCOME COLOR GUARD MEMBERS



In April girls interested in our guard program starting their 3 month audition process at the high school. The group had regular rehearsals throughout May and June in which they received basic training in rifle, sabre, flag and dance. They had auditions throughout their training process and we are excited to have the following students make up our 2008 fall color guard:

Andrea Kiser, Rebecca Roberts, Dianna Henry, Dasha Henry, Lia Morris, Lena Morris, Lee Baltis, Shirley Goodwin, Kaitlyn Pingleton, Kelsey Browning, Emily Chambers, Rebecca Tusing, Evelyn Pender, Jordan Frank, and Rhiannon Brock. Look for GREAT things from these talented girls!

We love our Guard!



Color guard uniforms and flags have been designed by Christy Wilson and made professionally by Dance Sophisticates Co. in Indianapolis. Our flags and uniforms were designed to make one cohesive visual statement. This year our guard uniform will dramatically add to the visual impact in our show as the girls will make 3 discrete costume changes.

new! ISSMA SEMI-STATE CONTEST '08

After much research and deliberation, ISSMA has added an additional marching contest falling between the weekends of regionals and state finals. The semi-state contest is designed to truly send the BEST ten bands in each class to the state finals contest. NOT the best five from the north and south regionals as it has been in the past. Any band that receives a gold at the district contest will qualify for regionals as always. The top ten scoring bands from each regional (north and south) regard-

less of rating will qualify for semi-state. Twenty bands will then meet at one contest site. From those twenty, the top ten scoring bands will qualify for state finals held in Lucas Oil Stadium. 2008 is the perfect year to start this contest. FFA reserved Lucas and the convention center on the typical state finals Saturday for the next several years. State finals would have been a weekend later regardless! We are excited about this opportunity that has been presented to the Cougar Band!



FINAL BAND PAYMENT & ADDITIONAL COSTS

Please have your son or daughter bring the final \$125.00 to the first rehearsal on July 28th if you have not already paid. Please write their name on the memo line and make checks payable to BHSN Band Boosters. Every Cougar Band member is required to purchase marching band (or guard) shoes and gloves. The cost for shoes is approx. \$30.00 and gloves for band members are \$2.00. (They are purchased through the band). Guard members will be instructed about their gloves & may also have to purchase additional undergarments to be worn under their uniform. Any additional costs for sweatshirts, hats, etc. are optional. Students will receive a show t-shirt before the Parent Display/Pitch In.



REHEARSAL/COMPETITION ATTENDANCE & TIME MANAGEMENT

Please take a moment to review the rehearsal/competition schedule on page 7. You have made a commitment to be in the marching band for the fall season. Everyone is counting on you! In order to have successful band rehearsals and performances, it is essential that we have full attendance. The absence of one person not only affects that person, but also the entire group. The critical factors of uniformity, balance, spacing and alignment cannot be improved or maintained with absences. Legitimate excuses for rehearsal or performance absence are illness, accident, or serious illness/death in the family. Please contact Mr. Wilson or Ms. Stockhouse prior to an absence from a rehearsal. Students must bring an excuse note from parent or guardian following any absence. Absences, tardiness or leaving early because of work or homework are not permitted! Students are responsible for arriving at each rehearsal/performance on time (early) and prepared (properly dressed and equipment ready). Parents are urged to see that their children take this responsibility seriously. Time management is crucial to our success. It is possible by setting your schedule up in a wise manner to have a successful band season and still maintain a high scholastic standing. The success of the organization will lead to success in the individual and vice versa.

S.A.T. on OCTOBER 4th, 2008 and NOVEMBER 1st, 2008

I would ask that Cougar Band members not sign up for the S.A.T. on October 4th OR Nov. 1st. These are the dates of our ISSMA District and State Finals performances. It is critical that everyone be present. The S.A.T. is available shortly thereafter on December 6th. I thank you in advance for your understanding and attention with this matter and your commitment to YOUR organization.

BAND CAMP

Band camp is August 4-7

(Mon.-Thurs. from 9am-9:30pm), and August 8 (Friday 2pm-9:30pm).

Camp this year will be held at

Bloomington High School NORTH This is

the time when we learn our competitive

show for the season. All members

(Winds, Percussion and Guard)

are to **bring a lunch** and the

band boosters provide dinner.

Students should wear light colored

clothing, comfortable athletic shoes,

(NO SANDALS!) socks, and sun block.

Each member should also bring their own

water cooler for water breaks. **Attendance**

every day, all day is MANDATORY!

Each student needs to have a

1/2" -1" three ring binder and sheet

protectors for ready for rehearsal on July

28th. They should also have a string

attached to the binder so that it may

comfortably hang over their shoulder and

across their body for marching rehearsal.

Band members will receive the show music

at the July 28th rehearsal.