

## **Belton High School Winter Guard Festival 2025**

We would like to welcome you and your members to the 2025 Belton Winter Guard Festival. Listed below please find the information needed to help you prepare for your visit.

Please check the website, at [www.mccga.org](http://www.mccga.org) for any changes or schedule update.

### **Location:**

Belton High School Campus

801 West North Ave.

Belton, MO 64012

<https://goo.gl/maps/iws4UhYNZJ4udjjM7> (Google Map Link)

To see a PDF labeled map of school entrances, parking and traffic, unit home bases click here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y1Nu9ySnbWHDvZwizOaC2sCHzMfL6sCQ/view>

For pictures of the facility and online information, click here:

<https://beltonguard.weebly.com/festival.html>

### **Date and Time:**

Saturday, February 1, 2025

Doors will open 2 hours before the contest begins.

Performance Schedule:

- <https://mccga.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025BeltonPRINT.pdf>

Warm Up Schedule:

- <https://mccga.org/>

Critique Schedule:

- <https://mccga.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Belton-Critique-2-1-25.pdf>

### **Admission:**

- \$9 per person
- Children under 5 years of age Free
- Cash and Cards accepted.

*Please note: You will also receive up to 7 complementary staff bands at Check-in. Directors will be expected to use those bands to take care of their staff, volunteers, and bus drivers. MCCGA does NOT provide free admission to bus drivers or additional staff after the 7. If you wish to provide your bus driver with admission to the contest, you will need to use one of your 7 staff wristbands or use cash to purchase a wristband at the spectator entrance.*

## **Contact Information:**

Guard Director: Matt Uppman, M.Ed  
Cell phone: 816-866-3832  
Email: [muppman@bsd124.org](mailto:muppman@bsd124.org)

Band Director: Daniel Ogle  
Cell Phone: 785-220-6653  
Email: [dogle@bsd124.org](mailto:dogle@bsd124.org)

## **Check in:**

Units will check in at the main doors on the North Side of the School. Unit Directors will enter check-in alone without performers to check-in. Performers, staff etc. should stay on the bus until the unit has been checked in. All performing members will be given a wristband at Unit Check-In. They are required to wear this wristband at all times in the building. Directors can then bring the performers into the building to go to their assigned hallway space.

You may also request up to 7 complimentary staff bands at Check-in. Directors will be expected to use those bands to take care of their staff, volunteers, and bus drivers. Any additional staff or volunteers (after your complimentary 7) must purchase tickets at the spectator entrance.

Once your unit is inside and checked in, if available, a volunteer guide will assist you find your hallway storage area and answer any questions you may have about the contest flow. Please Note that if a guide is unavailable, you are still responsible for locating and reporting to the warm up gym (directly inside the North Doors) for your designated time.

All units should plan to check in no later than 90 minutes before their performance time.

Please be sure to complete your [unit fact sheet](#) online at [www.mccga.org](http://www.mccga.org) prior to the contest. MCCGA suggests you bring a backup copy with you, just in case. Be prepared to declare the number of performing members. Penalties will be assigned for false declarations.

## **Bus Flow and Parking:**

Buses will enter at the Cherry Hill Roundabout and take an immediate left, taking you in front of the (north) side of the school for Unit Check in. After unloading students, buses will go down to the Baseball fields and take a right to go behind the school. Buses will park by the football field to accommodate spectator parking closer to the building. Hopefully there will be signage to assist you. Please see the flow map for additional assistance.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y1Nu9ySnbWHDvZwizOaC2sCHzMfL6sCQ/view>

## **Schedule:**

The performance and warm up schedules will be posted online: <https://mccga.org/> and [www.beltonbands.com/GuardFestival](http://www.beltonbands.com/GuardFestival)

If resources allow, A copy will also be attached to this packet during unit check in.

## **Equipment, Tarps, Props, Loading/Unloading and Storage:**

The prop unloading/loading will be located on the South Side of the building near the large garage doors. There is a ramp. The majority of props/tarps will be kept in the band room. Larger props will be stored in the Fine Arts Hallway. Please refer to the [festival map](#) document for further clarification.

Please have a conversation with the workers at check in to decide when is best for you to unload props, tarp, and larger equipment. Preferably about 1 Hour before performance time but please do what you can to make it a smooth day. To make room for other units, please load your equipment as soon as possible after your performance but do not stress to reload.

\*\*\*If possible, please have your things removed from the band room prop storage before the break at 6:35pm. It is greatly appreciated as we will be sharing the back hallways with our theatre department as they prepare for a show this evening also. \*\*\* Please contact Matt Uppman if this is inconvenient for your school. Will be happy to make arrangements to help make a plan to move or keep things longer in the building. [mupppman@bsd124.org](mailto:mupppman@bsd124.org)

Each guard will have a space in the hallways. Space will be available for personal items and equipment in the hallway spaces, but please understand that storage is limited. Home bases will be [posted here](#) when available and are subject to change until the day of the festival.

Please do not congregate in hallways or storage spaces. MCCGA, Belton High School, and Belton contest workers (staff, students, parents), are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

If you are **concerned about prop loading** or unloading, have large props, would like to make arrangements before the festival or **\*have units that would like to be placed in hallway spaces\*** near each other, please contact Matt Uppman at [mupppman@bsd124.org](mailto:mupppman@bsd124.org) or 816-866-3832.

## **Tarp Folding**

Tarp folding space is available in the cafeteria if you wish. Please be prepared, as this area is much smaller than the performance floor and will probably not fit your floor completely flat. For guards with larger tarps, you should be able to snake your floor onto your cart in the hallway leaving the gym, if you would like. You will have limited time in the folding area and departure hallway. You should hurry as the next unit may be entering. Please refer to the flow document for further clarification.

## **Dressing Facilities and Restrooms:**

Restrooms are available on site for students to change as needed however, space is very limited. These dressing rooms are shown on the map. Please clean and leave these facilities as soon as possible to make room for others. Hair and makeup can be completed in the hallways around unit storage if you would like. Please do not leave items in the dressing areas. MCCGA

or Belton High School is not responsible for lost or stolen items. It is requested that the restrooms near the Field House are for use by spectators only. **DO NOT use the restrooms located near the fieldhouse for changing and performance preparation.** Please notify the volunteer at the Unit Check in table if a restroom needs attention (i.e. toilet paper, trash cans, ect.).

### **Footwear and Equipment Protection:**

All equipment tips on rifles, flag poles, and sabers must be padded and taped. Any props must be protected so as not to damage the floor. Soft-soled shoes need no added protection. Hard-soled shoes must be taped. Any equipment/props that Belton volunteers feel need to be taped, will be required to be taped.

### **Music:**

We request you upload music to our dropbox link before January 27, 2025 at 6pm: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wGHTHsl8wO2PydCyrIVUnI9lvA\\_nsCwL?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wGHTHsl8wO2PydCyrIVUnI9lvA_nsCwL?usp=drive_link)

We will test the music file on Thursday or Friday evening before the show and will email any complications we find. If you upload later, no worries but please, please ensure you come to sound check. If you are not able to upload, All other performance music should be delivered to the sound table personally. Ian McCann will be able to assist you. [imccann@bsd124.org](mailto:imccann@bsd124.org)

**Regardless of your music delivery method, please still come to do a sound check!!!** The sound table is located in the upper level of the field house. There is a staircase on the spectator's right side of the gym. Sound Check will be provided 1 hour prior to the contest start time and during breaks (at the discretion of the announcer/sound table operators).

We will provide a CD player and a 3.5mm Aux Cord. Music should be of a good recorded quality with CDs marked as to which track. **CDs will be ripped to the computer. If using the aux cord, units are responsible for any adapters they may need to connect the aux to a device.**

It is encouraged that you have a backup of your music and that a representative from your unit stays with the Sound Engineer during your performance. We are not responsible for any sound errors that may occur.

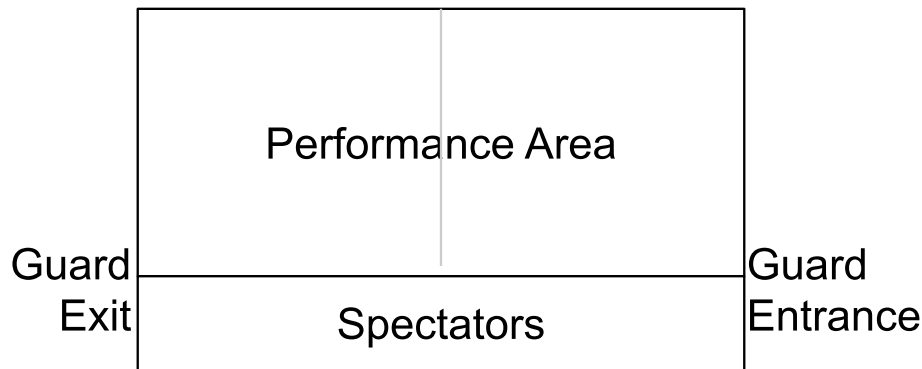
### **Warm Up Area:**

Both body and equipment will be in the same location (Auxiliary Gym, also known as our "Old Gym") with no movement between the two. The Guards will warm-up on either side. There should be a volunteer to assist you at the entrance of the Aux Gym (near unit check in). Please do not utilize other areas of the school to warm-up on equipment prior to your actual warm-up

time. **Music will be allowed during the second half of your warm-up.** If you choose to use music during warm up, you should bring your own speaker or device.

### **Performance Area and Timeline:**

We will utilize the vertical timing line. If looking at the floor from the spectator's perspective, the Units will enter from front right and exit the front left. Please refer to the contest flow document for further Clarification.



### **Videotaping:**

WGI and MCCGA have adopted a No Videotaping policy at all our festivals. This is due to the continued Copyright Infringement issues that WGI deals with. Any liability associated with unauthorized recordings will rest with the individual or organization making the recording.

### **Concessions:**

Concessions will be available throughout the day for all performers and spectators. The concession area is located adjacent to the performance gym in the Field House Commons and will be in operation all day. A second concession will be open near the tarp folding during the lunch rush. It will offer a variety of food items. We will have a [concessions menu posted here](#) as soon as it's available. As with most MCCGA festivals, the money raised in concessions is used to run the music programs. Please show your support and plan on eating at our concession area. **Please do not bring outside food into the contest.**

### **Tabulation and Judging Areas:**

These areas are off limits to everyone except authorized personnel. Please be respectful to these taped off areas in the stands.

### **Score Sheets and Judges Commentary:**

All MCCGA Festivals will use Competition Suite for tabulation purposes and commentary processing. You will be provided with an access code to the Competition Suite where you will be

able to access your judge's commentary on your cell phone, laptop, etc. Also, through Competition Suite, you will be able to access recaps for the festival once they are processed and posted. MCCGA will email access codes for Competition Suite to Unit Directors. Please make sure to sign all your staff up to receive this commentary prior to the day of the festival. There will not be paper copies of the recaps. Please see a representative from MCCGA for further details.

### **Critique:**

This festival will have critique in the Judges Room, Room 704. It is the classroom in the small hallway just past the vending machines. <https://mccga.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Belton-Critique-2-1-25.pdf>

### **Retreat:**

Captains will report to the Warm-Up Gym and line up in performance order. During awards ceremonies, the number of unit representatives is limited to 2 performers per unit. This will allow for extra spacing between units during retreat. **More information will be shared the day of the show.**

### **Photos:**

Professional pictures are available at <https://orders.bjohnsonphotography.com/mccga/>

If you have photos of you are your teams enjoying the day that you would like to share, please upload them here: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/sM8D3vaWMNV7opqhT5Ly>  
Feel free to share this link with students and families. :-)

### **Respect of Properties and "Off-Limits" Areas:**

We ask that you please instruct your students and visitors to be respectful of others' property in the hallways. **Please do not prop any doors open.** Some areas of the school are off-limits. Do not enter the posted or locked areas. Remember that the Belton High School Campus is a Smoke and Drug Free Campus.

### **MSHSAA Sanctioning:**

This festival has been sanctioned through MSHSAA.

### **Assistance:**

Belton parents, students and staff will be available throughout the day to assist you. Please feel free to ask any of them to help you. There should be someone quickly able to assist you at the Spectator (Fieldhouse) Entrance, at the Unit Check in (Main Entrance) or the Sound table (upper level field house) for almost all of the day.