

CIRCUIT TALK

FEB/MAR 2025

WWW.MCCGA.ORG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MCCGA PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

BELOW IS SOME PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION AS YOU BEGIN TO PREPARE FOR THE EVENT. CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025 IN THE SPRINGFIELD AREA. CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULES AND JUDGING PANELS WILL BE PUBLISHED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025. MCCGA UNDERSTANDS THERE MAY BE OTHER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES OCCURRING SIMULTANEOUSLY TO OUR CIRCUIT CHAMPIONSHIPS. UNITS MAY REQUEST TO PERFORM FIRST IN THEIR CLASS (NOT ROUND) BUT NO OTHER REQUESTS CAN BE ACCEPTED. ANY UNIT NEEDING TO MAKE SUCH A REQUEST MUST DO SO NO LATER THAN 6PM CENTRAL TIME ON SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025 BY EMAILING MCCGAPRESIDENT@YAHOO.COM ONCE THE SCHEDULE IS PUBLISHED, IT WILL NOT BE CHANGED. DIRECTORS WITH MORE THAN ONE UNIT SHOULD PLAN AHEAD AS UNITS MAY BE PERFORMING AT OR NEAR THE SAME TIME AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS. IT IS UP TO EACH DIRECTOR TO PLAN FOR THIS. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE PUBLISHED AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE DATE.

NIXA HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL A
START TIME:9:00AM
ROUNDS 1 AND 2 AWARDS:12:00PM
ROUNDS 3, 4 AND 5 AWARDS:5:30PM

OZARK HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOLASTIC AA
START TIME:9:00AM
AWARDS:1:30PM
WINDS AND PERCUSSION
START TIME:4:00PM
AWARDS:5:20PM

WILLARD HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOLASTIC CADET, SCHOLASTIC NOVICE, INDEPENDENT REGIONAL A
START TIME:9:00AM
AWARDS:1:15PM
SCHOLASTIC A, INDEPENDENT A, SCHOLASTIC OPEN, INDEPENDENT OPEN, INDEPENDENT WORLD
START TIME:3:00PM
AWARDS:9:15PM



EDUCATION CORNER

with Julie, Ashley & Liz

EDUCATION CORNER WOULD LIKE TO GIVE SOME ADVICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON:

1. DON'T FORGET ABOUT TECHNIQUE (A GOOD WAY TO KEEP THIS INCLUDED IS TO RUN SECTIONS OF YOUR SHOW, TOSSES, OR DANCE IN TECHNIQUE BLOCK BEFORE YOU GET INTO DRILL FOR THE REST OF REHEARSAL. TWO BIRDS/ONE STONE)
2. KEEP PRACTICING ENTRANCE AND EXIT! KNOW IF YOUR TIMELINE IS HORIZONTAL OR VERTICAL AND FOLD FLOOR ACCORDINGLY. YOUR SHOW SITES ARE LIKELY ALL DIFFERENT, SO PRACTICING FOR EACH SHOW SITE WILL LET YOUR PERFORMERS GET USED TO THE FLOW AND KEEP SURPRISES TO A MINIMUM
3. ALL TIMING PENALTIES ARE NOW IN EFFECT. DOUBLE CHECK YOUR AUTHORIZED EQUIPMENT TIME AND MINIMUM PERFORMANCE TIME ARE CORRECT FOR YOUR CLASS. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE AWARE OF FRONT/SIDE/BACK BOUNDARIES BEFORE SETTING YOUR FLOORS AND PROPS.
4. YOUR INTERVAL TIME BEGINS ONCE ANYONE CROSSES THE TIMELINE. THE TP JUDGE WILL INSTRUCT YOU AS TO WHEN YOU MAY CROSS THE TIMELINE. ONCE YOU BEGIN SETTING UP, THE ANNOUNCER WILL READ THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT. AT THE 1:30 MARK, THE TP JUDGE WILL INSTRUCT THE ANNOUNCER TO READ THE SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT. IF YOU PREFER A DIFFERENT TIME FOR THE SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT, SOMEONE MUST BE BY THE TP JUDGE AND LET THEM KNOW WHEN THE SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT CAN BE READ. ONCE THE SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT IS READ, ANY MOVEMENT BY A PERFORMER (STILL MOVING INTO THEIR SPOT, SCRATCH OF THE HEAD, FLIP OF THE HAIR ETC) WILL START YOUR INTERVAL TIME. PENALTIES WILL ALSO BE ASSESSED IF ANY NON-PERFORMER IS IN THE PERFORMANCE AREA AFTER THE SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT IS READ.
5. ONCE YOUR PERFORMANCE IS OVER, THE INTERVAL TIME WILL STOP ONCE ALL PEOPLE, TARP/PROPS AND EQUIPMENT HAVE CROSSED THE TIMELINE. IT IS HOWEVER EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU CONTINUE TO MOVE OUT THE EXIT DOOR. PENALTIES CAN BE ASSESSED FOR DELAY OF SHOW DUE TO A UNIT TAKING TOO LONG TO EXIT THE PERFORMANCE GYM. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU PRACTICE YOUR SET UP AND TEAR DOWN TO ENSURE THERE ARE NO DELAYS.
6. MAKE A PUNCH LIST AND PRIORITIZE WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE BETWEEN NOW AND CHAMPIONSHIPS. FOCUS ON WHAT WILL ALLOW YOUR STUDENTS TO GO INTO THEIR CHAMPIONSHIPS PERFORMANCE FOCUSED AND CONFIDENT!
7. CHAMPIONSHIPS RETREAT! PLAN FOR THE FUN! MANY GROUPS LIKE TO HAVE SOMETHING FUN THEY WEAR TO FINALS RETREAT (EVERYONE GETS TO GO DOWN!). SILLY HEADBANDS AND SUNGLASSES ARE POPULAR. BUT REMEMBER - NO CONFETTI! WE DON'T WANT THE SHOW HOSTS TO HAVE TO CLEAN UP EXTRA STUFF.



JUDGES CORNER

with Cheryl Myers

HELLO EVERYONE, CAN YOU BELIEVE HOW QUICKLY THIS SEASON IS PROGRESSING? I WANTED TO CHECK IN MID-STREAM, AS WE ARE SEEING LARGELY COMPLETE PROGRAMS, AND LIST A FEW REMINDERS ABOUT THIS YEAR'S WGI INITIATIVES AND SOME NEW TERMS YOU MAY HAVE BEEN HEARING FROM YOUR PANELS.

WGI HAS ASKED ADJUDICATORS TO INCREASE OUR FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING:

- COMPLETION OF SKILLS (AND THE TRAINING TO SUPPORT SAID SKILLS) IN EQUIPMENT, MOVEMENT, DESIGN, AND EFFECT.
- CRAFTMANSHIP OF PHRASES (WHICH TIES INTO THE ABOVE, RE: COMPLETING THE PHRASES)
- RISK AS AN ELEMENT ACROSS ALL CLASSES

BASICALLY, THESE BULLET POINTS MEAN PRECISELY WHAT ONE WOULD EXPECT THEM TO: DO THE PERFORMERS HAVE THE TRAINING, KNOWLEDGE, AND ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE SKILLS THEY HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ACHIEVE? SUBSEQUENTLY, ARE THE PHRASES CRAFTED IN A MANNER THAT MAINTAINS COMPATIBILITY WITH THE PERFORMERS' ABILITIES AND TRAINING? MOREOVER, ARE THE PERFORMERS APPLYING THEIR TRAINING TO COMPLETE PHRASES RATHER THAN "MOMENTS" IN THE PERFORMANCE?

RISK NOW TAKES ON A DEEPER MEANING, AS ADJUDICATORS HAVE BEEN TASKED WITH CALLING OUT ITEMS THAT MAY POSE A RISK TO THE PERFORMERS. IN PAST YEARS, RISK WAS LIMITED TO THE IW SHEET AND THEN ADDED TO THE SW SHEET, WHERE TEAMS WERE CREDITED FOR "RISKY" MOMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE. IT'S A DEVELOPING RHETORIC, AND ONE WHICH I AM SURE WILL BECOME CLEARER OVER TIME.

FINALLY, REMEMBER THAT MARCH IS THE TIME WHEN EXPRESSIVE QUALITIES AND DYNAMIC RANGE START MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE FOREFRONT - AND BECOME MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT AS YOUR PANELS RANK AND RATE EACH TEAM. WEIGHT, TIME, SPACE AND FLOW ARE YOUR NEW BESTIES AS WE MOVE TOWARDS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WGI - USE THEM WELL! ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO ONE OF THE REGIONAL REPS OR TO ME DIRECTLY!

~CHERYL

Region Highlights

Southern Region- Willard High School



DIRECTORS: CELESTE MCGLASSON & AUSTIN GOMEZ
 CLASS: SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL A
 INFO: THE WILLARD COLOR GUARD HAS BEEN PART OF THE WILLARD CUTTING EDGE MARCHING BAND FOR OVER 70 YEARS. WE HAVE BEEN COMPETING DURING THE WINTER SEASON SINCE THE 1980S AND THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRETY OF MCCGAS EXISTENCE. THROUGHOUT THIS TIME WE HAVE BUILT UP MANY GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS IN BOTH AWARDS AND TEAM TRADITIONS. WE PRIDE OURSELVES IN ESTABLISHING A GREAT TEAM DYNAMIC WHERE STUDENTS WORK TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL AND BUILD EACH OTHER UP. WE MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT GROWTH MINDSET, THAT NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, YOU ARE NEVER DONE LEARNING. ONE OF OUR NEWER TRADITIONS WE HAVE STARTED IN THE PAST COUPLE YEARS IS AFTER HUDDLING AND GETTING OURSELVES IN THE RIGHT MINDSET, EACH PERFORMER IS GIVEN A SINGLE LEMON DROP TO EAT BEFORE GOING ON THE FLOOR. THIS IS TO SYMBOLIZE OUR LAST DROPS OF THE DAY.

Eastern Region- Heartland Independent of Southeast Missouri State University

DIRECTOR NAME- LUKE CHRISTISEN
 UNIT CLASSIFICATION- INDEPENDENT REGIONAL A
 THIS IS HEARTLAND INDEPENDENT'S INAUGURAL SEASON AS SEMO'S FIRST EVER WINTER GUARD. HEARTLAND INDEPENDENT CONSISTS OF 15 PASSIONATE STUDENTS MOSTLY COMPOSED OF FALL COLOR GUARD AND MARCHING BAND STUDENTS FROM SEMO'S "THE PRIDE OF THE HEARTLAND MARCHING BAND." THE STUDENTS AND STAFF ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO MCCGA FOR WELCOMING THEM TO THE CIRCUIT TO BEGIN THEIR WINTER GUARD JOURNEY. THE 2025 PROGRAM IS TITLED "THE BRIDGE BETWEEN US." THE PROGRAM EXPLORES THE EMOTIONAL NATURE OF RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH THE MUSICAL SELECTION OF "BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER," COVERED AND PERFORMED BY SO HYANG. HEARTLAND INDEPENDENT IS DIRECTED BY LUKE CHRISTISEN WITH ASSISTANCE FROM STUDENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAILEE DUNCAN. THE STUDENTS AND STAFF AT HEARTLAND INDEPENDENT ARE GRATEFUL TO SEMO FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR A LEGACY OF COLOR GUARD AND WINTER GUARD AT SEMO.



Region Highlights

Western Region- Lee's Summit West



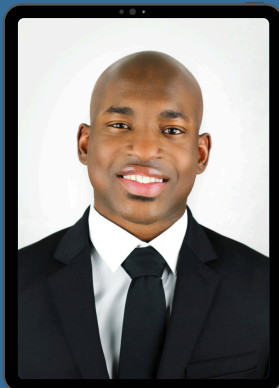
DIRECTOR: ABBY VANDERMAN
SCHOLASTIC REGIONAL A

LEE'S SUMMIT WEST COLOR GUARD HAS BEEN A PART OF MCCGA SINCE 2005. THE LSW COLOR GUARD IS A ONE TIME BRONZE MEDALIST, FOUR TIME SILVER MEDALIST, TWO TIME GOLD MEDALIST AND LAST SEASON (2024) WE COMPETED IN WGI FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 10 YEARS AND PLACED THIRD IN PRELIMS AND THIRD IN FINALS AT THE KANSAS CITY REGIONAL. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HOSTING EVERYONE AT OUR HOME SHOW THIS SEASON AND WISH EVERYONE THE BEST OF LUCK THIS YEAR!

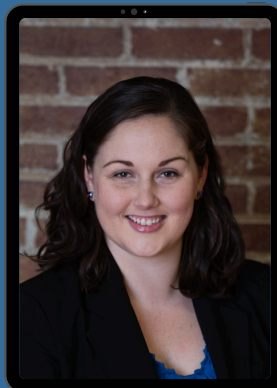
Meet your T & P Judges



Emma Sanders



Alex Vallar



Jean Padawan



Jeff Storey



Jason Bergman