

2010 Ryle Judging Panel

Jay Wilkerson - Avon, Indiana (Music Performance)

Mr. Wilkerson is a graduate of Indiana State University with a degree in Music Education. He has experience as a middle and high school band director, color guard instructor, arranger, show designer and private teacher. Besides being a band parent in one program and a staff member for another, he works full time as an air traffic controller.

Tom Dean - Newburgh, Indiana (Music Effect)

Tom Dean is a 1984 graduate of Castle High School in Newburgh, Indiana. After graduating with honors from Ball State University in 1988, he taught for three years at Eastbrook High School in Upland, Indiana. He was then awarded a 2-year graduate assistant position at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. Tom received his Master's Degree in music education and conducting while under Mark Kelly. Tom was hired as the associate director at Castle High School in 1993 and after one year became the head director and music department chairman. From 1994-2006, under his direction, the Castle Bands were consistent Indiana State finalists in both marching and concert events. In 2001, Tom received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Ball State University. He is an active clinician, consultant, designer, arranger and adjudicator for many musical programs. Tom lives in Newburgh, Indiana with his wife and two daughters and he teaches at Castle Junior High School.

Aaron Robin - Lafayette, Louisiana (Music Effect)

Aaron Robin served as a high school band director for 35 years. He was at Comeaux High School in Lafayette, Louisiana for 30 years. Mr. Robin began serving as an adjudicator in 1977, and has since adjudicated band events throughout the US. During his tenure as a high school band director, his bands received national recognition in the areas of marching, concert, and jazz performance. His bands were seen in many nationally televised events including the Rose, Presidential Inaugural, and Macy's parades. The band at Comeaux was a frequent participant at Bands of America events and the national adjudicator events. Mr. Robin was a recipient of the John Philip Sousa Foundation Order of Merit, BandWorld's Legion of Honor, and the National Band Association's Citation of Excellence awards. Mr. Robin holds a Master's of Music Education and the Educational Specialist Degree from the University of Louisiana Lafayette. He also served on the boards of the Louisiana Band Director's Association, the Louisiana Music Educators Association, and the Executive Board of the National Adjudicators Association. He is currently retired from the Lafayette Parish School System and presently serves the Central States Judges Association as both an adjudicator and member of the Executive Board.

Mark Culp - Cold Spring, Kentucky (Visual Performance)

Mark Culp is from Cold Spring, Kentucky and has worked as a visual and color guard designer for marching bands and winter guards throughout the Midwest. Units under his instruction have won numerous awards on the local, regional, and state level. He is a former marching member of both the Golden Knights Drum & Bugle Corps and the Pride of Cincinnati Winter Guard. He is currently the Assistant Director of the Central States Judges Association as well as a member of the Tri-State Judges Association. He is an active adjudicator of marching band and winter guard throughout the United States and has judged state and circuit championship events in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida.

Tony Ballin – New Paris, Ohio (Visual Effect)

Tony Ballin holds a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and a M.Ed. from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. He is a member of Central States Judges Association, Kappa Kappa Psi, Ohio Music Education Association, Music Educators National Conference, Indiana Music Education Association, Indiana Bandmasters' Association, Creative Arts Works Shops Association, Indiana State Teacher Association, and the National Educators Association. Tony has been an active adjudicator in all visual captions for the past 15 years, and also works as a visual designer. In addition he has been a clinician and consultant for the past 18 years, being mentored by the late visual expert Mr. Dick Cool in 1991. Mr. Ballin has studied under and work with Mr. Gary Speck, Mr. David Shaffer, Dr. Claire Boge, Dr. Chris Tanner, Dr. James Albin, and Mr. Harold Jones. He is the Fine Arts Department Chair at Richmond Community Schools and currently lives in New Paris, Ohio with his wife Tracy and children Cole, Collin, Connor, and Cailey.

Ken Martinson - Nashville, Tennessee (Color Guard)

In the past 28 years, Ken has been involved with literally every facet of the marching activity -- performer, instructor, event manager and judge. He has served on judging panels at parade and field competitions throughout the United States. His work as a color guard designer for eleven years earned numerous top guard awards and brought him to distinguished events such as the Fiesta Bowl Parade and Tournament of Roses Parade. He marched with the Sky Ryders Drum & Bugle Corps and serves on the board of directors of Music City Drum & Bugle Corps. Ken was the force behind the Vikingland Band Festival in Alexandria, Minnesota, helping develop it into Minnesota's parade marching championship.

In 1996 he founded Marching.com which has become an authoritative source for marching-related events, links, resources, news and photos. Marching.com provides a passionate and positive voice for the marching activity and in 2009 the site served more than 600,000 unique visitors. You can view the site at www.marching.com.

Brad Bell - Warren, Michigan (Percussion)

Brad Bell is a highly respected composer, technician, and adjudicator in the field of marching percussion. Originally from Greenville, Ohio, Brad graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a percussion emphasis. He is also an adjudicator for the Great Lakes Marching Band Association, the Central States Judging Association, and the Michigan Color Guard Circuit and recently attended the Winter Guard International adjudicator academy in Las Vegas, NV.

Brad was a performing member of the Glassmen Drum and Bugle Corps from Toledo, Ohio. During his time with the Glassmen, he placed in the top 5 and the Drum Corps International individual and ensemble competition on keyboard. Brad has also performed with Northern Aurora Drum and Bugle Corps (from Saginaw, MI), the BGSU Falcon Marching Band, as well as the Symphonic Band and Americas Finest Singing Machine, the BGSU Men's Chorus.

During his days at Greenville High School, Brad was selected as a finalist for the McDonald's All American Marching Band as well as receiving a national merit award for percussion at the Showstoppers National Show Choir Competition in Chicago, IL.

Brad is a former percussion caption head of the Lake Erie Regiment drum and bugle corps from Erie, PA and the Marion Glory Cadets from Marion, OH. Brad received international recognition working as a technician for the 2003 Winter Guard International bronze medalists Wauseon High School. Brad is currently the Percussion Caption Head for Perkins High School in Sandusky, Ohio and Chippewa Valley School in Clinton Township, Michigan. Brad is also a writer and advisor for Huron High School in Huron, Ohio and a member of the world renowned Vic Firth Educational Team.