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# Celebrating Texas Bands! Never, Never, Never Give Up

## Michael Brashear, TBA Executive Director



The Holiday Season is a wonderful time to celebrate all the accomplishments and successes of Texas Bands! To ALL high school directors—BRAVO for incredible work with your marching bands this fall. You have had an amazing positive impact on your students, their parents, and your communities! You truly embody the phrase: “We will never, never, never give up!” I was stunned at the quality of the groups showcased at the State UIL Marching Contests this year. In my opinion, the standard of excellence from all participants in all classifications was even higher than Pre-COVID days. The shows were more creative, the movement and playing skills better than ever! We are happy to recognize those groups who performed at state starting on page 28.

To middle school directors, THANK YOU for your dedication and perseverance this fall. The most important work that takes place in our band world happens in middle school. This is where students form their playing habits and attitudes that follow them throughout their band careers. Your patience as you rebuild your programs from “Virtual Band” days WILL PAY OFF and your students will benefit. You are the directors most responsible for creating a bright future for Texas Bands!

All Texas directors owe a dept of gratitude and thanks to the many outstanding college and university directors who continued to set the standard, find a way forward, and serve as mentors and support for Texas bands during the difficult COVID days.

Several groups from Texas will perform at The Midwest Clinic in Chicago and are recognized on our inside front cover. Being selected to perform at Midwest is a huge

honor, and this experience will be a highlight in the careers of all those performing. Congratulations to Midwest President Richard Crain and the entire board and staff on another great convention—their 75th Anniversary!

Speaking of anniversaries, plan to attend TBA 2022 as we celebrate TBA’s 75th ANNIVERSARY! President Roland Sandoval, the board and staff are busy planning a special convention. I am excited to announce that the U.S. Navy Band from Washington, D.C. will be performing and that Eugene Migliaro Corporon is our Featured Clinician and Omar Thomas is Featured Composer. Please note that:

- **Online Registration and Housing Reservations will open Tuesday, February 15, 2022.**
- TBA Welcome BBQ will be Wednesday, July 20, 6-9:00 p.m.
- TBA Academy for New Band Directors will be Thursday, July 21.
- TBA Student Day and Booster Training will be in-person Friday, July 22.

Help us plan. Using the button on our homepage, submit your suggestions for clinics and clinicians. (Submission deadline is February 1.) Look for more exciting announcements as plans become finalized for the TBA 75th Annual Convention/Clinic.

I hope you enjoy reading the many wonderful, informative articles in this magazine. I wish you a Happy Holiday Season! Get lots of rest, have lots of fun with family and friends, and recharge for your best spring semester ever!