



Here's My Guard, What Do I Do With Them?

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SPONSOR: TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

Texas Bandmasters Association 2011 Convention/Clinic



**JULY 24-27, 2011
HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Color Guard

for the novice

Finding the right instructor

established guard
new guard
goals (competitive level, full year? fall only?)
budget (district, booster, salary)
other alternatives - dvd, camp

Recruiting

visit 8th graders - consider non-musicians
show them something (dvd's or exhibition; go or invite to HS [band night])
personal contact (lots of it)
middle school color guard program

Audition process

come one come all (1st year or 2)
as program grows, may get more selective (what is your ultimate goal for size
[proportion to band] - how many per year to maintain that size)

Scheduling

at minimum what band does (band has a 3 year head start)
summer camps - in house for your technique/discipline Jun and wk before band
off campus good for leadership or if no instr. at all (technique)
may not always be current with band in choreography but close (learning by rote)

Fall visual package

staged well (no floating arcs!); integration, features (even small/young guards)
spacing, pass-throughs, troublesome forms*
visual should reflect audio (big moments, silence, drums feat. sections/breaking
in groups - not all unison all the time)*always exceptions to the rules
write in transitions for equipment changes!!
Flags and costumes and shoes, oh my!

What's my budget?

can be as much or as little as you can afford (who's paying - kids pay any/all?)
consider the guard as a part of the band - finance, attention; they will know if they
are an afterthought - **you don't want any member of your band feeling
unimportant or that you don't care about them!**

Why winter guard?

'concert season' - gym and a CD	
training for following year	shaping future leaders
expanding repertoire	exposure to other units
chance to shine on their own	scholarship

- again, as much or as little \$\$ as you can/want to spend (what are your **goals**?)
- many schools offer guard as year long class for PE, fine arts, or dance credit
- similar rehearsal requirements as fall

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Questions/ general notes:

FYI....

resources to get you started



Ali Martinez

Texas State University - San Marcos Color Guard
O'Connor HS Color Guard - SA
Brandeis HS Color Guard - SA

alimartinez@me.com



Color Guard Circuits

Membership, Classifieds, Education, etc.

Winter Guard International

www.wgi.org

Texas Color Guard Circuit

www.texascolorguardcircuit.org

North Texas Color Guard Association

www.ntca-online.com

Texas Educational Color Guard Assoc.

www.go-teca.org



Costuming/Equipment Needs

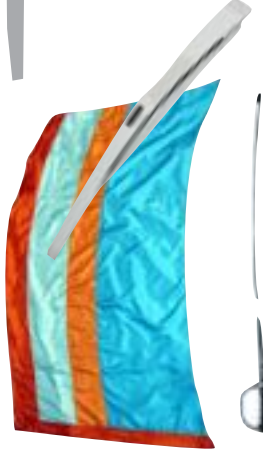
A Wish Come True (Contact Ali)

McCormicksnet.com

Algyperforms.com

TheBandHall.com

FJMinc.com



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