



**Visual Enhancement or Visual Distraction?
Building Your Color Guard Curriculum to Enhance Your
Field Program**

CLINICIAN:

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**Texas Bandmasters Association
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**HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Visual Enhancement or Visual Distraction?

BUILDING YOUR COLOR GUARD CURRICULUM TO ENHANCE YOUR FIELD PROGRAM

AUDITIONS

- Posture
- Strength
- Stressing and restressing what is important
- Move quickly to build a strong work ethic
- Toss on day one so there is no phobia
- What relates most to your show? What is fun - is that drop spins?
- Attention to detail – train them to find errors (questions help)

PERFORMANCE NOW

- Make performance a priority from day one!
- Build gradually (posture, quality, energy, focus, commitment)
- Commitment in performance on everything they do
- Give them specific focal points/places to look

EQUIPMENT TRAINING IN STEPS

- Learn basic fundamentals on right and left
- Add body contribution to fundamentals
- Fundamentals moving in space (across the floor)
- Choreography phrases early on
- Challenge them but things must be readable for it to be successful (on many levels)



ON THE MOVE

- Combine moving with flag early on
- Body control is amplified with a flag
- Get them moving bigger & faster early and reel it in later
- Lots of dance is great but how likely are they to dance without a flag or prop?

DESIGNING FOR THE FALL

- Music or concept first?
- What sits well with the music? What colors do you see?
 - Is there a common link or thread?
- What props lend themselves to these pieces of music?
 - How can the color guard contribute? What will be most interesting?
- What should they spin? What props lend themselves to these pieces of music?
 - Can we do rifles and flags at the same time?
 - Staging & drill for color guard

WHERE DO WE GET EQUIPMENT & COSTUMES?

- www.thebandhall.com
- www.fjminc.com
- www.mccormicksnet.com
- www.dancesoph.com
- www.theguardroom.com (used flags and costumes)

HOW DO WE RECRUIT?

- Posters in the halls or flyers through teachers.
- Performance component or video for classes or extracurricular fair
- One on one contact at lunches – pass out info

