



**Doug Casteen (Moseley, VA)** Doug is serving as the Chief for the VMBC Championships. He currently sits on the Executive Board for the Virginia Marching Band Cooperative (VMBC). He formerly was the Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) as their Chief Judge for 17 years and was the Chief Judge for the Carolina Indoor Performance Association prior to that. He has been judging marching bands, drum corps and color guard contests around the country for over 30 years. He was inducted in the AIA Hall of Honor in 2006 for his contributions to the circuit since its inception.

Doug has judged all visual captions for Drum Corps International (DCI) and currently judges the overall effect and visual analysis captions for the Winds Division of Winter Guard International (WGI). He also judges the visual captions for Bands of America at various regional contests. He previously served as a General Effect Judge for Color Guard Division of WGI for 12 seasons where he judged numerous Regional & World Championship contests. Doug was a former marching member with the Avant Garde, 27th Lancers, and Star of Indiana Drum & Bugle Corps.

During the week, Doug is a Project and Program Management Consultant. He holds professional certifications as a SAFe Agilist, Scrum Master, Project Management Professional (PMP), and is a Six Sigma Black Belt.



**Jason Robb (Austin, TX)** is a freelance program coordinator, visual designer, and educational consultant. He is regularly commissioned to create award-winning programs and visual designs for pageantry ensembles. Robb is an active clinician, consulting with programs and presenting educational sessions at conferences across the country. He is also an active adjudicator for Bands of America and serving premier pageantry and concert band circuits nationwide. Before transitioning to full-time pageantry design in 2020, he had a successful career as a band director in Texas. Robb began his career teaching middle school band in The Woodlands for five years. In 2013, he relocated to Cedar Park, Texas to join the band staff at Cedar Park High School, capturing a University Interscholastic League (UIL) Texas State Marching Championship in 2015. In 2016, Robb accepted the position of Director of Bands for Rouse High School in Leander, Texas. Under his direction, the Rouse program has been a Bands of America Regional Finalist, Regional and Super Regional Class Champion, and 5A UIL State Marching Championship Finalist. Robb was named the Phi Beta Mu Texas Young Bandmaster of the Year in 2018. He was inducted into the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu in the spring of 2020. Robb has had an active career in Drum Corps International. From 2008-2015, he served on the brass faculty for the Madison Scouts from Madison, Wisconsin. Robb returned from 2020-2023 to lead the design team as the Program Coordinator. In 2024, he joined the Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps serving as their Staff Coordinator and Design Consultant. Robb received his Bachelor of Music in Education and Trumpet Performance from Sam Houston State University in Houston, Texas. He currently resides in the suburbs of Austin, Texas with his wife Jackie, son Joseph, and their dog Walter.



**Wayne Dillon (Dunedin, Florida)** holds a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and Education from York University in Toronto, Canada, and a Master's degree in Jazz Performance/Pedagogy from The University of Miami (FL). Dillon is the former Director of Bands at Elizabeth High School in New Jersey. He has been awarded the State of New Jersey Governor's Teacher Recognition Award, and most recently was named the New Jersey Outstanding Jazz Educator for 2021. The Elizabeth High School marching band earned ten state championships, and the symphonic and jazz bands achieved consistent superior ratings during Dillon's tenure. He currently provides clinics for schools and organizations on a variety of topics including performance, leadership, mindset coaching, rehearsal management, and show design. He has conducted clinics in Japan, South America, Canada, and the United States. Dillon is currently the Chief Judge of the winds division of Winter Guard International. He also serves on the music administration team for Drum Corps International and the Florida Federation of Color Guards outdoor division. Dillon served as the Brass Caption Head for the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps from 2006-2011. He has also worked on the music staff of the ten-time world champion The Cadets, serving as the music supervisor in 2002. In 2010-2011, Dillon served as a staff member for the US Army All-American Marching Band, and in 2020, Dillon was honored with his induction into The Buglers Hall of Fame.



**Christine Dillon (Dunedin, Florida)** has been involved in the marching arts activity since 1981 as a performer, instructor, designer, and adjudicator. She holds a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies and an M.A. in Education. Currently, Dillon is an adjudicator for Drum Corps International, Winter Guard International, Bands of America, and several other competitive circuits throughout the United States. As an administrator, she was Education Director of Winter Guard Association of Southern California for eight years and was responsible for color guard classification, as well as instructor education for over 350 color guards in Southern California. She also serves on the advisory board for [colorguardeducators.com](http://colorguardeducators.com), and has written numerous instructional articles for the website. You can read Dillon's performer-education archived articles in *Halftime Magazine*, where she authored the "Guard" byline under the name of Chris Casteel for five years.



**Jen Barton (Greenville, SC)** was previously color guard director at Rouse HS in Leander, TX. She was the color guard director at James F. Byrnes HS in South Carolina managing a consistent program of 80+ students both logistically and creatively. While under her direction, the Byrnes Guard program was a 5-time WGI World Championships Finalist and multiple WGI Regional Finalist and Regional Champion. She has worked with numerous programs throughout her career, including multiple scholastic guard programs, The Cast and Etude Independent winter guards, Pacific Crest (2011-2013, 2016-present), and Spirit of Atlanta (2014-2015). She currently is a visual judge for Drum Corps International.

As a performer, Jen has appeared with the Santa Clara Vanguard and Northeast Independent Winter Guard (Florida). She has also performed with the Florida State University Marching Chiefs, ad astra per ASPERA Winter Guard (GA), and CrownGUARD (GA).

Jen attended Center Grove HS in Greenwood, IN where she was a part of the Bands of America Grand National Champion marching band in 1995, and she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Instrumental Music Education from The Florida State University in 2004.



**Wesley Pendergrass (*Mountain Home, AR*)**, Wes has been involved in marching arts design for 17 years. Shoeless Wes' BOA/DCI/WGI experiences include program design, consultation, and staging/drill design across the United States, Japan, and Thailand. He marched with Delta Brigade for 5 seasons and Phantom Regiment for 5 seasons.

In marching band, Wes' clients have appearances in BOA Grand National Finals; Finals at San Antonio, Indianapolis, Atlanta, and Saint Louis BOA Super Regionals; USBands Championships Finals; and State Finals in Texas (UIL), Colorado (CBA), Kentucky (KMEA), New York (NYSFBC), Kansas (KBA), Oklahoma (OBA), Arkansas (ASBOA), Nebraska (NSBA), South Carolina (SCBDA), Mississippi (MBA), and Florida (FMEA).

Pendergrass' expertise has also garnered finalists in all WGI Guard classes (A, Open, World), and 16+ WGI medals in SA, IA, SO, IO, PSA, PIA, PSO, PIO, WSA, WSO, and WIW---- including 11 WGI Gold medals (spanning the trio of divisions Guard, Winds, and Percussion).

Outside of the marching arts idiom, Wesley Pendergrass stages large scale events including corporate shareholders meetings, political inaugurations, Olympic Opening Ceremonies, The X Games, and more.



**Todd Fox (Pittsburgh, PA)** Mr. Fox is currently the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Federation of Contest Judges (PFCJ). He currently judges music for WGI in the Winds Division and has judged for Drum Corps International for 25 years. This will be his 3<sup>rd</sup> time judging the VMBC Finals. Fox has been a music educator for over thirty-five years and was named 2013 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) “Citation of Excellence” award winner. He has held many roles in music education and the pageantry arts. Mr. Fox began as the band director at Brooke High School (WV) for five years, Quaker Valley High School (PA) for fourteen years, marching band director at Gateway High School (PA) for two years and completed his teaching as Band Director at Quaker Valley Middle School. His Concert bands, Marching Bands, Jazz Bands, Winter guards, and Drum line(s) have received countless superior ratings in local, state, regional and national contests, named BOA Regional Finalists, and have been awarded numerous class and grand champion awards throughout the country. Mr. Fox has been a music adjudicator since 1990 and is currently the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Federation of Contest Judges (PFCJ). Mr. Fox completed his undergraduate work at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education and his graduate work was done at Duquesne University & West Virginia University. Mr. Fox began marching in drum corps in 1976 with the Thunderbirds Sr. Drum & Bugle Corps from Erie, Pa. where he was a member of the percussion section for seven years. Since that time he’s held the role of instructor, designer, composer, & consultant, for many other drum corps, marching bands, winter guards, and indoor drum lines. Mr. Fox resides in the Pittsburgh, PA area with his beautiful wife, Mariann and his two children, Mia and Ryan.





**Phillip Riggs (Durham, NC)** Mr. Riggs was the winner of the 2016 GRAMMY Foundation Music Educator Award, who recently retired after 30+ years as a band and choir director In North Carolina. His last appointment was as the band director at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) in Durham, NC.

Prior to joining the NCSSM faculty, he was the first band director and fine arts chair at Ronald Reagan High School in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. Phillip worked in partnership with the Winston-Salem Arts Council to establish the City of the Arts Jazz Festival. Mr. Riggs was the first faculty member selected to the Reagan High School Hall of Fame, (Fall, 2015). Before assuming that position

Phillip currently serves as a guest conductor and administrator with the World Adult Wind Orchestra Project (WAWOP) held in Austria each summer. He has also served on the Jury for the Mid-Europe Music Festival and the Suma Cum Laude Festival at the Musikverein in Vienna. Phillip is a co-founder and conductor of the North Carolina Youth Wind Ensemble. He was also a co-founder and conductor of the Wachovia Winds Youth Wind Ensemble (2004-2008).

Mr. Riggs is a Past President of the North Carolina Band Directors Association. He also served as chair of the North Carolina High School All-State Band (8 years), chair of the NCMEA Technology Committee and founding chair of the NCMEA New Teacher Committee. He was the coordinator of the National Association for Music Educators, (NAfME) National Wind Ensemble at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. (2011, 2012). He served as the Southern Division Representative on the NAfME Council for Band and is the state chair of National Band Association.

Mr. Riggs has served as a cooperating teacher for student teachers from Appalachian State University, Elon University, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Greensboro, and Western Carolina University. Phillip, a national board-certified teacher, received his undergraduate degree from Appalachian State University and his master's degree from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. Phillip is active as a clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States, Austria, and China.





**Anne Brooks (Centerville, OH)** Anne has been a Pageantry Arts Adjudicator for 38 years. She is a former WGI Movement Caption Judge serving on the World Championships panel numerous times in her career. She is currently judges marching bands and winter ensembles across the country. She has judged for the Atlantic Indoor Association for over 10 years. Anne is the former Director of the Centerville HS Color Guard and Winter Guard. Anne is retired from Centerville City Schools having served as a teacher with the district for 31 years. Anne currently supervises student teachers with Miami University of Ohio. She currently resides in Centerville with her husband Jim and their three golden retrievers.



**Andrew Barberi (*Washington, DC*)** currently lives in Washington DC and currently judges for AIA, VMBC, and many other fall and winter circuits across the country. Andrew Barberi began his color guard in 2005 at Milton High School in Milton Florida. After high school, Andrew performed with several World Class organizations including, Spirit Drum and Bugle Corps in 2009, The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps in 2010-2012, Northeast Independent 2010, and Braddock Independent 2012. Andrew has taught and choreographed for some of the top color guards in the US.. Some of these include Nease High School the 2012 WGI Scholastic Open Class Bronze Medalist, Choctawhatchee 2013, 2014 WGI Scholastic World Class Finalist, The Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps 2015 DCI Bronze Medalist and 2016 DCI Champion. Andrew was most recently the Color Guard Director at Westlake High School in Austin Texas.



**Dave Kaiser (Venice, FL)** is a recently retired Band Director, after 35 successful years in Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. He taught mainly grades 5 – 12 band, and his programs were very active in marching, jazz, and concert band. David is currently serving as Music Caption Head for CSJA, where he has been an active member the past 18 years. He is an independent consultant for marching bands in the Cincinnati/Dayton area, where he also adjudicates various concert festivals. David is also a WGI Winds Adjudicator in Music Analysis, and judges Winds events for various indoor associations, including e-adjudicate (online). He is currently the MEPA Winds Judge Administrator and oversees the judges for MEPA Winds. He has served on the OMEA Adjudicated Events Committee as the Jazz Chair and served as Jazz Chair for OMEA District 13 and 14. This will be Dave's 3<sup>rd</sup> time judging the VMBC Championships. David resides with his wife, Deb in Venice, Florida.



**Jeff Brooks (Woodbridge, VA)** Jeff currently serves as a senior non-commissioned officer in the United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, one of the Army's premier bands and the official escort to the President of the United States. A native of Dayton, OH and a graduate of Centerville HS, Jeff studied Music Education at Eastern Michigan and Wright State University. His involvement as a performer, educator, designer, and clinician with world-class groups spans decades. He performed in DCI with the Classmen, Crossmen, Madison Scouts, and Bluecoats, and in WGI he marched 4 seasons with Rhythm X, helping lead them to their first World Championship 2008 serving as their Ensemble Captain. As an educator, Jeff has worked with Carolina Crown, Madison Scouts, George Mason University, Eastside Fury, Northcoast Academy, and numerous successful high school programs. He is the Chief Judge for the Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) Percussion Division and serves as an adjudicator for Drum Corps International (DCI), and various indoor drumline and marching band circuits across the country. Jeff has judged finals week for DCI on numerous occasions. Jeff is a die-hard Cincinnati Bengals fan, enjoys poker, and spending time with his wife Suzie and their kids Lizzie and Freddie.



**Stephen Howard (Bryan, TX)** Stephen is native of Richmond, Virginia. He holds degrees in Music Education (B.M. from Radford University, 2005) & Instrumental Conducting (M.M. from George Mason University, 2007). Stephen moved to Austin, Texas in 2007 to teach at James Bowie High School as an Assistant Band Director. At Bowie, Mr. Howard received Division I ratings at several UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contests with the many of the school's wind ensembles. The James Bowie High School Outdoor Performing Ensemble also experienced success during his time, being named a UIL 5A State Finalist in 2008, 2010, & 2012, a Bands of America Grand National Finalist in 2009 & 2012, and was a consistent BOA Regional Class Champion & Super Regional Finalist. As Director of Bowie's Color Guard, the program grew considerably to include over 50 members and two levels of courses. Most notably, the Winter Guards competed at the Texas Color Guard Circuit State Championships where both the JV & Varsity teams were named class champions in 2014. The Varsity team went on to appear in the Scholastic Open Class Finals at the WGI World Championships that same year. Stephen served as Director of Bands at the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, a magnet school for women grades 6-12 in the Austin Independent School District. Under his direction, the band program over tripled in size. The Marching Stars are the nation's only all-female competitive marching band and are a consistent Bands of America Regional Class Champion. They performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. He is currently the Director at Rudder HS in Bryan Tx. Mr. Howard is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, the Texas Bandmasters Association, the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, and is President of the Texas Color Guard Circuit. This is Stephen's 3<sup>rd</sup> time judging the VMBC State Championships.



**Reiko Casteen (Moseley, VA)** Reiko is a native of East Tennessee. She graduated from Daniel Boone High School, East Tennessee State University, and Eastern Virginia Medical School. She has taught several guards (fall and indoor) throughout her career. Her judging experience includes serving as a movement caption judge in the Atlantic Indoor Association since 2004 and has been judging marching band competitions across the Southeastern US for the past 20 years.

Her winter guard performing experience includes Daniel Boone High School from 1992-1995, Nuendo Winter Guard from 1996- 2000 where they were the WGI Bronze Medalists in 1996, and Infiniti World Winter Guard in 2003. Reiko's drum corps experience includes marching with Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps from Rockford, Illinois from 1994 (3rd place), 1995 (5th place), and 1996 (DCI Gold Medalist). Reiko currently lives in Richmond, VA with husband and son. This is Reiko's 4<sup>th</sup> time judging the VMBC Championships.



**Jason Derting (Fredericksburg, VA)** Jason has been teaching and judging marching band for over 20 years. He has marched with 3 finalists at Winter Guard International (WGI) including winning a world championship with Infiniti Winter Guard and Chimeras World Winter Guard. Jason was a clarinet and drummer in marching band and has experience teaching and designing band and color guard shows for various high schools in Virginia and Tennessee. Jason is currently the Chief Judge for the Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA). He also judges with other winter guard circuits in the United States. He is entering his 8th season as a WGI Equipment Judge this year. He adjudicates numerous marching band competitions annually in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. He resides in Fredericksburg, VA with his wife and 2 children, working as a Physical Therapist Assistant.





**Joshua K Potter (Charlotte, NC)** is currently the Director of Bands at Palisades High School. Previously, Mr. Potter was the Director of Bands at Providence Senior High School in Charlotte for 10 years and Wakefield High School for 11 years – beginning with its opening in 2000. He received his Bachelor of Music Education from UNC - Chapel Hill and completed a Masters in Wind Band Conducting at ECU. Mr. Potter also served as the Director of Bands at West Rowan HS and Charlotte Catholic HS.

During his time at Wakefield, the program developed into a comprehensive music education program that featured three concert ensembles, two jazz bands, a percussion ensemble studio and a winter percussion ensemble, four winter guards, a chamber music program, and a music theory and AP Music Theory program. The marching band was a Bands of America Regional Championship Finalist on multiple occasions. The Winter Guard was a four-time Winter Guard International World Championships finalist. The Wakefield band program was featured twice at the NC Music Educator's Conference.

At Providence, the Wind Ensemble was a featured ensemble at the 2013 NC Music Educator's Conference. In addition, the Pride of Providence Marching Band was a finalist at the 2013 Bands of America Winston-Salem Super Regional, the first band from Charlotte to earn this honor.

Mr. Potter is currently a General Effect judge for Winter Guard International (WGI) for the color guard division.



**Jim Brooks (Centerville, OH)** obtained his Bachelor of Music degree from Wright State University in 1980, and was the assistant band director Kokomo HS, Kokomo Indiana, from 1981-1982, and was the assistant director at Centerville, (OH) High School, from 1983-1988. At both Kokomo and Centerville, he designed and instructed the winter guard, directed the percussion ensemble, and was visual designer for the marching band. Jim did graduate work at the University of Dayton in Educational Leadership, and also at Wright State University in music education. He was a band director and music educator in Dayton Public schools from 1992-2002.

Jim was an extra percussionist with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and has performed professionally with such artist as, Moody Blues, Doc Severinsen, Shirley Jones, Clarke Terry, Lionel Hampton, Art Garfunkel, Roger Williams, and Sarah Vaughn. He played drums and percussion for dozens of musical theater productions in the greater Dayton/Cincinnati area, including: Sweeney Todd, Evita, Brigadoon, Children Of Eden, Cats, Gypsy, Cabaret, A Chorus Line, Guys and Dolls, Applause, Anything Goes, Will Rogers Follies, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Falsetto Land, and many others.

Jim is the color guard judges coordinator for the Midwest Judges Association, and judges for numerous other circuits across the country. He has judged for WGI, DCI, and DCA. He currently resides in Centerville, Ohio.