

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

2019 ADJUDICATORS

DOUG ARMSTRONG received his BA in Music from Virginia Tech and MA in Music, with emphasis in instrumental conducting, from Radford University. The early years of his career were spent teaching in Shawsville, Christiansburg, and Glade Spring, all in southwest Virginia. In 1995, Mr. Armstrong moved to Stafford County and became the Director of Bands at Brooke Point High School. After serving in that capacity for eight years he established the band program at Stafford County's Mountain View High School in the fall of 2005 and retired from that position in 2015. Following his retirement in Virginia, Mr. Armstrong moved to Warsaw, Poland to teach MYP Music and Band at The American School of Warsaw, serving in that capacity until June, 2018.

The bands directed by Mr. Armstrong received consistent Superior ratings and 17 Virginia Honor Band recognitions. He has received commendations from the Virginia General Assembly, the Stafford County Board of Supervisors and the Stafford County School Board for his service and commitment to education. In 2003, Mr. Armstrong was selected as the "Teacher of the Year" for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In January of 2010, he was honored with selection to the Bandworld "Legion of Honor", one of eight international awards given annually by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Mr. Armstrong holds memberships in The National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Virginia Music Educators Association, the American School Band Directors Association, and Phi Beta Mu, International Bandmaster's Fraternity. He is a Past President of the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association.

DOUG CASTEEN currently resides in Richmond, Virginia and is a graduate of North Carolina State University. He has been judging and instructing marching bands, drum corps and color guards for over 20 years. His marching experience includes marching in Drum Corps International (DCI) with Avant Garde from Saratoga Springs, NY, the 27th Lancers from Revere, MA, and the Star of Indiana from Bloomington, IN. He has been active as an adjudicator for the USBands, SCBDA, NCMEA, ISSMA, Oklahoma Bandmasters Association, AIA, CIPA, and FFCC. He is the Chief Judge for the Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) and is a Visual Performance judge for DCI. He has also judged multiple seasons for Winter Guard International (WGI) in the General Effect caption. He was inducted into the AIA Hall of Honor in 2006.

JASON DERTING has been involved with winterguard and marching band since 1995. He has been adjudicating marching bands and winterguard since 2006. Jason spends lots of time in the fall adjudicating for the Virginia Marching Band Cooperative and other marching band shows across the country. Jason is entering his 4th year as an Equipment judge for Winterguard International. He also

serves several other winterguard circuits across the United States including the Atlantic Indoor Association, Florida, Texas, Michigan, Ohio and Missouri to name a few.

Jason was a bass drummer and clarinet player before switching to colorguard during the college years. Winterguard marching experience included Chimeras Independent World and Infiniti winterguard. As a member of Infiniti winterguard, he won a gold medal in IA class in 2000 and multiyear WGI finalist. Jason previously worked with numerous colorguard and marching bands in Virginia and Tennessee. He is thankful for teaching Fred J. Miller clinics during the summers in 2002-2004. Jason resides in Fredericksburg, VA with his wife and 2 daughters, working as a Physical Therapist Assistant in Orthopedics.

DAVID DUFFY is A native of Collinsville, Virginia and is a 1989 graduate of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. While there he studied Bass Trombone Performance and Music Education graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, Magna Cum Laude. He is currently an Assistant Director of Bands with the Dripping Springs ISD (Texas). Before this appointment, he was Assistant Director at Hendrickson High School in Pflugerville, TX. Prior to moving to Texas, Mr. Duffy has taught for the past twenty-three years at Powhatan High School, Nelson County High School, Bassett High School and also at John D. Bassett Middle School serving as head director at these schools all located in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 2003 he moved to West Johnston High School in Benson, North Carolina. He served as the Director and Program Coordinator/Drill Designer for the marching band. He directed the Wind Ensemble and the Symphonic Band, and is the Visual Coordinator/Designer for both the winter guards and the indoor drumline as well.

Under his direction, the West Johnston varsity guard was the Scholastic A Class Silver Medalist in 2004 and has been a WGI Open class finalist five times, winning the WGI world championship in 2010. In 2011, WJHS was the very first Scholastic World Class unit to compete from the mid-Atlantic area of the country and was a WGI world class finalist placing 12th in finals. Under the direction of Mr. Duffy, the WJHS Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble never received less than a Superior Rating at State Concert Band Festival. The band was a six-time BOA Grand National Semi-Finalist placing third overall in class AAA at the 2009 BOA Grand Nationals. He is a member of NSBDA, NCMEA, MENC and the NEA. His designs have been televised worldwide for the World Cup opening ceremonies for soccer in 1994 and has had groups perform for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade and the Walt Disney Christmas Day parade. He has designed for several Drum and Bugle Corps and has been a member of the National Board of Directors of Winter Guard International.

TONY FALCONE is the Associate Director of Bands at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His duties include directing the Cornhusker Marching Band, conducting the Symphonic Band, teaching instrumental arranging, and assisting with the administration of all University Bands. He is also active in the Percussion Studio, teaching lessons, and conducting the Percussion Ensemble. He has held previous appointments at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville; James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA; and Truman State University in Kirksville, MO. He earned his B.M.Ed. and M.M. degrees from James Madison University where he studied percussion with C. William Rice and conducting with Dr. J. Patrick Rooney. He was also a student of concert artist Leigh Howard Stevens in his intensive Summer Marimba Seminar.

Mr. Falcone is very active as a marching and concert band clinician, arranger, and adjudicator for school music programs throughout the country. He serves regularly as a guest conductor for honor bands and his clinics have been received at several state conventions including TMEA and the Midwest

Clinic in Chicago. Arranger's Publishing Company and Alfred Publications have published his arrangements. He has also performed across the nation as a percussionist and percussion soloist appearing on national television, radio and motion pictures. Locally he is a member of the Plymouth Brass, and a regular performer with the Lincoln Municipal Band, and Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra. He is also an educational artist for Innovative Percussion and Remo Inc. He currently serves as National Vice President for Professional Relations for Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity and has served as Concert Band Chair for the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association and Nebraska Chapter President of the Percussive Arts Society.

ANDREW GEKOSKIE is in demand as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator and guest lecturer, is the Music Director of The Gardens Pops Orchestra, and Artistic Director/Conductor of The Orchestra X Project - a professional chamber orchestra located in South Florida. In addition Mr. Gekoskie is currently a Conn-Selmer Master Teacher/National Educational Clinician.

Former positions have included: Music Supervisor of the Angleton Independent School District in Angleton, Texas, Music Department Chair/Director of Instrumental Music and Bands at Langley HS in Fairfax County Virginia, and Director of Bands at Northwestern Lehigh HS in Pennsylvania. With nationally-recognized excellence as a wind conductor, orchestral conductor and music educator, Mr. Gekoskie has been recognized by colleagues, students and leading professionals alike. He has been a guest on National Public Radio's "Desert Island Disks", featured in School Band and Orchestra Magazine, received the National Band Association "Citation of Excellence" and has produced many educational concerts, clinics and events.

His ensembles have been selected as the featured high school concert band at the Music Educators National Conference Biennial National Convention, in Minneapolis, MN, invited featured concert band at The Western International Band Clinic in Seattle and twice featured to perform at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, IN. Mr. Gekoskie's ensembles have also been invited and featured on three separate concert occasions at Carnegie Hall in NYC, State Music Conventions, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, NYC, and featured at the Music Educators National Conference (NAFME) All Eastern Division Conference in New York City.

Mr. Gekoskie's marching bands have also been recognized for outstanding and innovative, national-level quality throughout the country by colleagues and audiences alike. Mr. Gekoskie directed the first ever Class A Marching Band to win a Bands of America Regional, as well as securing the Bands of America 1996 Class A Grand National Championship. His marching bands have also won numerous other awards, honors and grand/state championships including: FMBC State Champion; Cadets Marching Band Cooperative National Champion-Giants Stadium; The US Coast Guard Class A East Coast Champion three consecutive times-New London, CT; The Gator Bowl National Marching Band Champion - Jacksonville, FL and the Fiesta Bowl National Marching Band Championship as a finalist-Phoenix, AZ.

An active adjudicator, Mr. Gekoskie's affiliations have included DCI, BOA, DCA as well as many independent and state contests throughout the United States.

MATT SAVAGE is a graduate of the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, New York and The University of Southern California. He has taught at every level of public education from elementary to the college level. Along with teaching in public education, Matt also has over thirty five years of playing, teaching and arranging experience in the marching percussion field. This experience includes playing snare drum

with the legendary Bayonne Bridgemen and serving as the percussion director and arranger for the Anaheim Velvet Knights and the Canton Bluecoats. His virtuosic snare drum performances can be heard on Row-Loff Publications, The Rudimental Cookbook and Just Deserts.

At the collegiate level, Matt has served as percussion instructor for the USC Trojan Marching Band and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he has also in the past, served as Assistant Director of University Bands.

Matt has been heavily involved with the WGI indoor percussion activity as an adjudicator and has served on the WGI Percussion Steering Committee. Matt has delved into the art of drumstick and mallet design for Malletech, creating a signature line of marching snare drum sticks. His publication "Savage Rudimental Workshop", is a state of the art rudiment development book with 2 CD accompaniment published by Alfred Music.

He is the founder and director of the Matt Savage Marching Percussion Camp that takes place every summer in the Carolinas. (www.drumcamp.net) Along with being a marching percussion specialist, Matt is a Remo hand drum artist and drum circle facilitator leading drum circles for a variety of both local and national events with his company Rhythm Alive (rhythmalive.com)

He is a proud clinician and endorser for the Yamaha Corporation, Malletech, Sabian Cymbals, and Remo Inc.

IBE SODAWALLA is the Executive Director/CEO and founder of the Legends Performing Arts based in Kalamazoo MI. This organization sponsors the Legends Drum Corps along with education outreach programs and drum corps events in Michigan. Under his direction, Legends is rapidly becoming a household name in the activity and is a participating organization of the Drum Corps International (DCI) Open Class. He is the Chair for the DCI Open Class and serves on the DCI Board of Directors. Ibe was selected DCI Open Class Director of the Year (2009, 2015) with Legends also being named DCI Open Class Most Improved Corps (2009, 2012, 2015).

Ibe is a music arranger through his business Impax Productions, a company that focuses on creative music design and entertainment production. He is currently the music arranger for Portage Central High School from Portage, Michigan and maintains an active schedule as an arranger for the Western Michigan University Bronco Marching Band. Ibe is also sought out clinician and adjudicator for various programs/events.

Prior to building the Legends Organization (2001-present day), Ibe performed as a rook-out with the Madison Scouts in 2000 (Euphonium). He served as Program Coordinator and Brass Arranger for Dimensions Drum & Bugle Corps (2002-2003) and Director (2003). In 2004-2006, Ibe joined the administrative team for the Colts Youth Organization in Dubuque IA where he assisted in Operations. Additionally, he served as the Tour Manager for the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps (2004-2005) and Brass Arranger for the Colt Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps (2005-2011).

As an entrepreneur, Ibe is the owner of Legends Trucking & Transportation. Ibe holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Michigan University, where he studied music education and entrepreneurship.

LORI VALENZUELA began her color guard career spinning rifle and flag at Linden High School in Linden, MI. Prior to participating with the marching band at Linden she was a competitive baton twirler

on the national level for 10 years. Lori went to Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI. where she was the captain of the color guard. She was a member of the Star of Indiana Drum & Bugle Corps from Bloomington, IN. for the 1986, 1987 and 1988 seasons. Lori was also a member of the 1988 and 1989 Winterguard International World Champion State Street Review Winter Guard from Madison, Wisc.

Lori started teaching drum corps in 1989 with the Bandettes All-Girl Drum & Bugle Corps from Ste. St. Marie, Ontario Canada. In 1990 she moved to California to teach the Freelancers Drum & Bugle Corps for two years. That short-term job turned into a sixteen year stay in California, during which time she met her husband, Rick, while she was teaching the Freelancers and he was with the Santa Clara Vanguard.

Lori has taught numerous high schools across the country including Plymouth-Centennial Educational Park Marching Band, which won the high color guard award at the Bands of America Championships in 1989, and the James Logan Marching Band from Union City, CA. She is currently in her 12th year as the Head Color Guard Instructor for the Northern Illinois University Huskie Marching Band in DeKalb, IL.

Lori moved back to the Midwest 12 years ago with her husband who is the Executive Director of the Phantom Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps from Rockford. She is the Office Manager for the corps and is a busy mom for her two children.