



ABOUT CASTLE BANDS

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

The Castle High School Band Program is committed to excellence in the performing arts on the state and national levels. More than 250 Castle High School students are enrolled in one of our many performing ensembles, including:

- **Marching Band**
- **Three Concert Bands**
- **Three Jazz Bands**
- **Two Winter Guards**
- **Winter Percussion Ensemble**
- **Chamber Ensembles**

Marching Band at Castle High School is a co-curricular activity occurring in the summer and fall. The Castle Marching Knights perform at a number of invitational events beginning in September and compete in both the Indiana State School of Music Association (ISSMA) and Bands of America (BOA) circuits. In 2024, the Castle Marching Knights will perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade, adding more than 2 months to their marching season.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The Castle Band Program's tradition of excellence is well-known throughout the state and nation. All of its ensembles strive to perform at the highest level and have garnered a number of awards including:

- **31-time ISSMA Marching Band State Finalist**
- **3-time BOA Grand National Finalist**
- **2017 BOA Class 3A Champion**
- **4-time BOA Regional Champion**
- **2016 Sudler Shield Award Recipient**
- **2022 ISSMA Concert Band State Champion Runner-Up**
- **2-time ISSMA Jazz State Finals Honor Band**
- **2017 ISSMA Marching Band State Champion Runner-Up**
- **2017 Indiana Percussion Association Open Class Champion**
- **3-time Indiana High School Color Guard Association Class A Champion**

CASTLE BAND BOOSTERS, INC.

The Castle Band Boosters, a volunteer-based 501(c)(3) organization, exists primarily to provide funding to lessen the financial burden to band members' families, ensuring every student has the opportunity to participate. Members of this organization spend countless hours planning events, chaperoning trips, moving equipment, providing transportation, and maintaining uniforms. The boosters provide necessary financial support beyond our school corporation allotment to enable the hiring of instructional staff, provide community outreach, and maintain a yearly gross revenue of \$400,000.

DEMOGRAPHICS

13%

Of Castle High School students are involved in the Castle Band program

20%

Of Castle High School students are economically disadvantaged

81%

Of Castle Band students are on the honor roll (≥ 3.3 GPA)

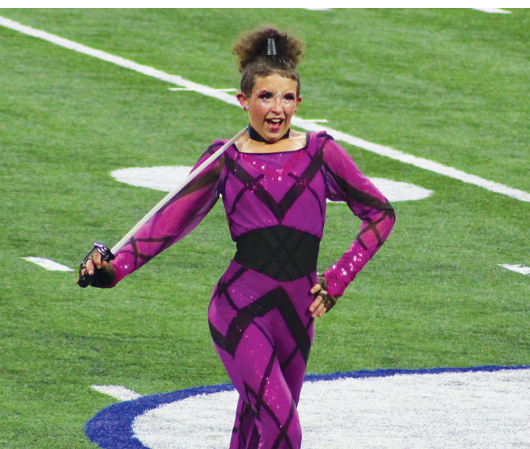
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Castle Band students received the 2023 Lilly Endowment Scholarship



HOW WAS CASTLE CHOSEN FOR THE 2024 ROSE PARADE?

Every year, approximately 100 high school bands submit applications to participate in the Tournament of Roses Parade. Out of these applicants, the Tournament of Roses Committee selects 19 ensembles. The 20th ensemble is chosen and extended an invitation from the committee president after watching all competing bands in the BOA Grand National Championships. Out of the 99 bands competing at the 2022 championships, the Castle Marching Knights were named Grand National Finalists, placed 12th in the nation, and were awarded the prestigious honor of the 2024 Rose Parade invitation. Castle will be the **ONLY** band participating from Indiana and is just one of nine high school bands from the United States marching in Pasadena, California on New Year's Day in 2024.



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“Band taught me that I can do incredible things and gave me the confidence to do things I never thought that I would be capable of doing. I have gained a better work ethic, and I try a little harder at everything I do. I have Autism Spectrum Disorder, and I never really felt that I fit in or belonged anywhere. Band changed that. I met some really wonderful people who accept and love me for who I am. These people have become long-lasting friends. When I joined band, I finally found a place where I belonged, a place where I could be myself, a true family.”

-Reece B. | Flute

“The Castle Band program has significantly improved my life. I have learned how to effectively work as a team, how to problem solve, and to persevere through adversity. Getting to experience Grand Nationals with some of my best friends made for three of the best days of my life. This year, the Castle Marching Knights were selected to attend the Rose Parade, and being able to attend would be an invaluable opportunity for the members of our program.”

-Allison B. | French Horn

“When it was time to choose a high school, I had two great options; marching band made the difference, and I haven't looked back since. Though it is hard work, the long hours practicing bond us as people with a common goal and a love of music. My experience in the high school band has increased my interest in, knowledge of, and appreciation for music. Through the long hours of practice I have learned discipline, patience, and respect for my section leaders, directors, and bandmates. From the field, we can see the faces in the audience, and it's amazing to see them get as excited about the music as we are.”

-Aurora S. | Oboe

BAND AS A POSITIVE YOUTH PROGRAM

Students in music classes benefit with lasting results to produce better citizens and workers now and for years to come. Music students:



Have a higher GPA than non-musicians in the same school.¹



Have significantly higher levels of mathematics proficiency by grade 12.²



At Castle High School have a non-waiver graduation rate (84.16%) which exceeds both the Warrick County School Corporation rate (81.3%) and the Indiana rate (82.38%).³



Have the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs among any group in our society.⁴



One U.S. congressman commented that, “In today's climate of high-stakes testing, it's important to recognize that skills learned through studying music translate to skills that help students succeed in life. Music education aids critical thinking and more.”⁵

¹Ingles, Steven J. et al. “National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988.” *National Center of Education Statistics*, U.S. Department of Education Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 1990, nces.ed.gov/pubinfo90/90464.pdf, Accessed 29 April 2017. ²Catterall, James S, Richard Chapleau, & John Iwanaga. “Involvement in the Arts and Human Development: General Involvement and Intensive Involvement in Music and Theater Arts.” *Arts Edge*, UCLA, 1999, artsedge.kennedy-center.org/champions/pdfs/involvmt.pdf, Accessed 29 April 2017. ³2016 Graduation Rate Data.” *Indiana Department of Education*, 2017, www.doe.in.gov/accountability/find-school-and-corporation-data-reports, Accessed 29 April 2017. ⁴United States, Congress, House, Committee on Education and the Workforce. *Expressing the Sense of the Congress Regarding the Benefits of Music Education*. Government Printing Office, 2000. 106th Congress, 2nd session H. Con. Res. 266. ⁵United States, Congress, House, Congressional Record. *Recognizing the Benefits and Importance of School-Based Music Education*. Government Printing Office, Vol. 152, No. 41, 2006. 109th Congress, 2nd session, H. Con. Res. 355.



TRIP SPECIFICS

ABOUT THE ROSE PARADE

Known as “America’s New Year Celebration,” the 135th Rose Parade will take place on Jan. 1, 2024 in Pasadena, California. Ornately decorated floats, equestrian units, non-profit organizations/municipalities, and marching bands will travel 5.5 miles down historic Colorado Boulevard. Each year, around 750,000 in-person spectators gather along the two-hour parade route. There are more than 45 million national viewers and 28 million international television viewers.

In conjunction with the Rose Parade, the Tournament puts on a marching band festival called Bandfest hosted at Pasadena City College’s Robinson Stadium. More than 8,000 people attend the performances throughout two days. The 2024 Tournament of Roses President Alex Aghajanian recently announced the theme for the 2024 parade, “Celebrating a World of Music: The Universal Language.” Aghajanian said, “The 2024 theme brings us together through music. In a world of different cultures, beliefs, hopes, and dreams, one language unites us all — music. The sound, texture, rhythm, form, harmony, and expression meld together to move, soothe, excite, and delight the world. From bossa nova to blues, classical to country, metal to mariachi, and rock to rap, thousands of genres invite us to become one in celebrating a world of music. Whether near or far, young or old, we invite you to year-long festivities that culminate on New Year’s Day at the Rose Parade. Let the music begin!”

ABOUT CASTLE’S TRIP

On Dec. 27, 2023, the Castle Marching Knights will depart from Newburgh by charter bus to Louisville, Kentucky, where they will board a 285-seat charter plane to Los Angeles, California. Thus begins their seven-day/six-night trip of a lifetime. Some trip highlights include:

- **Rose Parade Performance** - Perform for a live audience of 750,000 people down the 5.5 mile parade route
- **Bandfest Performance** - Perform the 2023 competitive marching band show at Robinson Stadium
- **Disneyland Performance** - Perform for thousands of guests in an iconic Disney parade
- **Universal Studios** - Get-behind-the-scenes access to real, working movie and television studios
- **Hollywood Tour** - Experience the Walk of Fame and Chinese Theater, and see the infamous Hollywood Sign
- **Santa Monica Pier** - Visit one of the most photographed places in the world and stroll along the historic pier
- **Griffith Observatory** - Marvel at the breathtaking views of Los Angeles from one of the city’s highest vantage points
- **Rose Bowl Picture** - Visit the historic Rose Bowl Stadium and snap a memorable picture with the entire band
- **New Years Eve Celebration** - Ring in 2024 with 250 of their closest friends
- **El Capitan Theater Event** - Exclusive screening of Disney’s latest blockbuster film



TRIP STATISTICS

4,000

Flight miles

10,000

Driving miles (6 charter buses and 1 equipment truck)

74,000,000

Parade day viewers

THE ROSE PARADE IS COMING TO EVANSVILLE!

The 2024 Tournament of Roses President Alex Aghajanian and his wife, Paula, will travel to Evansville in early May 2023 to experience all our band program and region have to offer. During their visit, we will take them on city tours, share with them our favorite southern Indiana cuisine, and introduce them to local news media. They will also attend the Castle All School Band Festival on May 9, a culminating concert including all Castle Band members grades six through twelve. We will send them off in style for their final evening in Evansville at our Gala, with entertainment from the Castle 12 O'clock Jazz Ensemble and keynote speaker Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch.

3

World-class performances

1

Life-changing experience



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Rose Sponsors - Send a student to the Rose Parade

RED ROSE

25 student trips

\$100,000

BLUE ROSE

15 student trips

\$60,000

YELLOW ROSE

10 student trips

\$40,000

GREEN ROSE

5 student trips

\$20,000

WHITE ROSE

1 student trip

\$4,000

Travel Sponsors

JET SETTER

20,000 gallons of jet fuel

\$100,000

GLOBETROTTER

10,000 gallons of jet fuel

\$50,000

EXPLORER

10,000 gallons of diesel

\$40,000

ADVENTURER

5,000 gallons of diesel

\$20,000

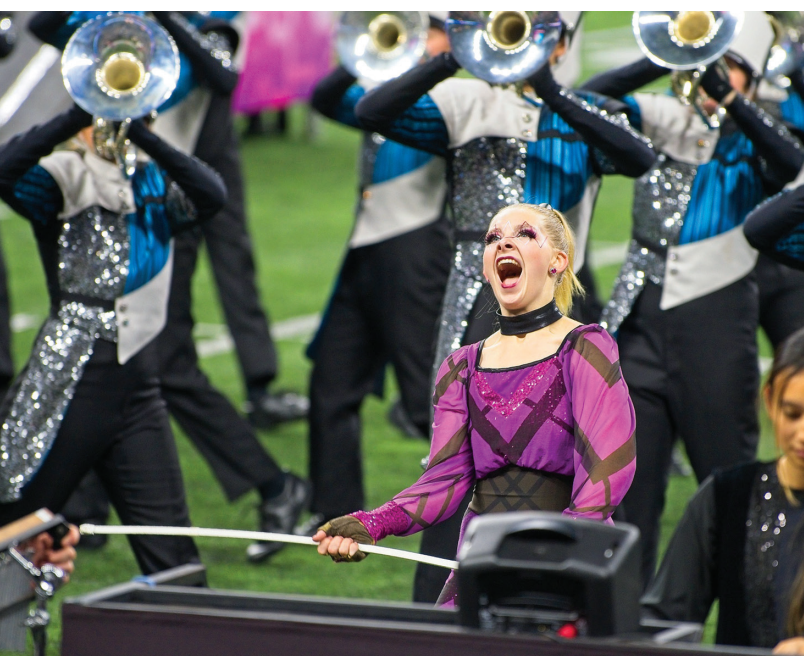
VOYAGER

1,000 gallons of diesel

\$4,000

Other Areas in Need of Support: Uniforms | Instruments | Chaperones | Staffing | General

It takes a lot to run a band program. Consider making a donation to your choice of one of the following funds: Uniform (purchasing new uniforms for growing member number, cleaning uniforms, and designing custom color guard costumes); Instrument (repair, replacement, and maintenance of instruments and electronic equipment totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars); Chaperone (25+ volunteer chaperones travel with our students everywhere we go, keeping them safe and fed); Staffing (our support staff includes music teachers, designers, private lesson instructors, choreographers, and marching band technicians who are all educators of the highest caliber); and General (The Castle Band Boosters maintain a yearly gross revenue of \$400,000).



castlebands.org

812-853-2009 | sponsors@castlebands.org

3344 State Hwy. 261 | Newburgh, IN 47630

