



250 USA - World Association of Marching Show Bands National Championship

John. A Farrell Stadium, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, *July 1, 2026 11:00am-4:00pm*

Please review the show information below to be best informed and prepared for this once-in-a-lifetime event!

Frequently Asked Questions

Ticketing

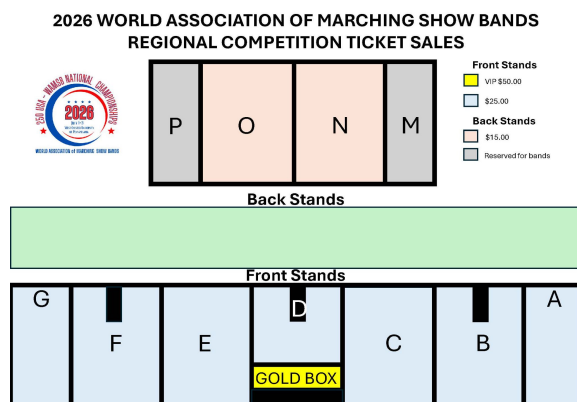
Do I need to purchase tickets in advance or will they be available at the gate?

Tickets will be available at the gate!

Are tickets for reserve seats or general admission?

VIP tickets (\$50) are limited (130 total) and will be for the “Gold Box” section labeled on the map below.

All other tickets will be General Admission. General admission tickets (\$25) are for the front stands, sections A through G or back stands sections O and N if you choose.



(Click image to open a larger version!)

Are tickets for both the parade and field show competitions?

Yes! Your ticket grants you entry to both parts of the competition, and you may leave the stadium and re-enter with a handstamp at any time throughout the show.

How will I receive my tickets?

All pre-sale ticket purchasers will receive their tickets via email (PDF) and should be prepared to show their tickets at the gate when they arrive.

Is there a limit to the number of tickets I may purchase?

No! If purchasing tickets for a group of 10+, be sure to select the "Group Tickets" option, as those are sold at a discounted rate (\$20).

If you are bringing a large group by bus, please email info@vivaceproductions.com so that we may plan for adequate bus parking. Please see the orange "Spectator Bus Parking" on the map below.

If I purchase tickets and can no longer attend, can I get a refund?

No refunds are available. The event will take place rain or shine. If you are no longer able to use your tickets, we encourage you to find another who may be able to go in your place!

If we can purchase tickets at the gate, do we pay with cash or card?

Either are accepted!

Parking

Is there a charge for parking?

No! Parking is free, but please use the "Spectator Parking" lots marked in blue on the below event map. Event organizers are not responsible for tickets or penalties incurred by parking in private, restricted, or illegal zones.

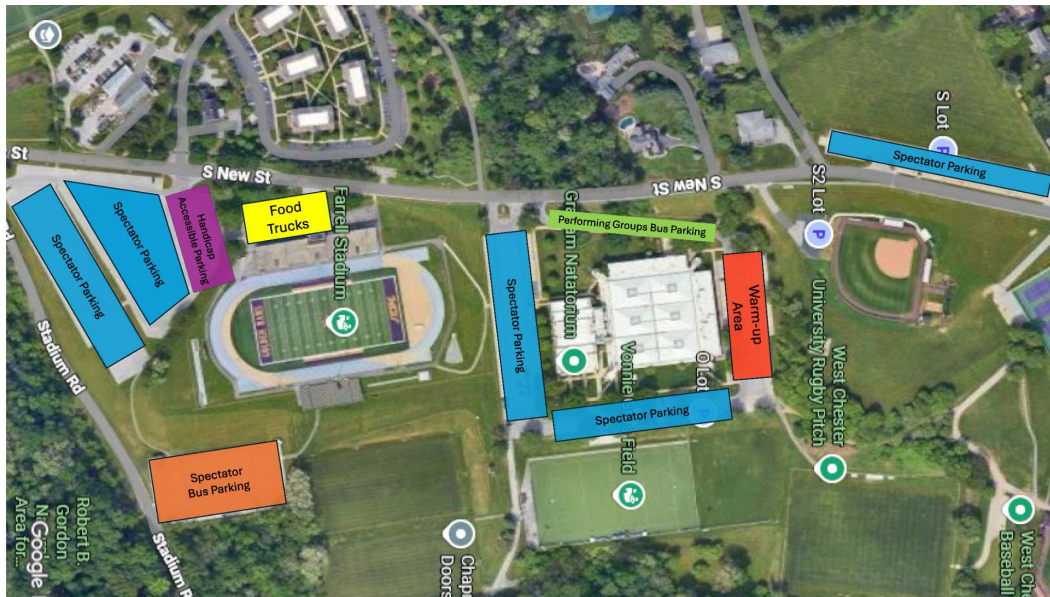
All spectator parking lots are accessed from South New Street.

Where is handicap accessible parking?

Vehicles with a proper permit (license plate or placard designation) are permitted to park in the handicap accessible parking section - the closest section in the lot adjacent to the southern side of Farrell Stadium (marked in purple on the map below).

If we are bringing a large group by bus, where should we park?

If you are bringing a large group by bus, please email info@vivaceproductions.com so that we may plan for adequate bus parking. Please see the orange “Spectator Bus Parking” (accessed by Stadium Road) on the map below.



(Click image to open a larger version!)

Stadium Information

Where is the stadium located?

Historic John A. Farrell Stadium is located at 855 South New Street, West Chester, PA, 19383. This is on West Chester University's South Campus.

Are there restrooms at the stadium?

Yes, restrooms are located beneath the front stands.

Will there be security on site?

Yes, public safety agencies will be on site through the duration of the event.

Will there be emergency medical services on site?

Yes, there will be an ambulance on site in case of emergency.

What is the bag policy?

Small bags are permitted for entry and may be searched by on site personnel. We encourage clear bags for ease of entry.

Will there be concessions available?

There will be limited concessions available for purchase.

Can I bring food or drink into the stadium?

While we encourage spectators to patronize the concession stand, outside food or drink is allowed. Please note that no alcohol is permitted.

Can I use a stadium chair or blanket?

Sure! We ask all guests to be mindful of the spectators around them and use only the space they need.

Can I use an umbrella for rain or sun protection?

Please be mindful that a poncho may be best in respect to other spectators for rain while a sun visor and sun glasses may be best for sun. While umbrellas are not prohibited, they can make it difficult for others around them to enjoy the show.

Show Information

What is the schedule for the event?***Field Parade Category Competition (John A. Farrell Stadium)******7/1/2026 – 10:00am – 10:45 am***

9:00 AM – Gates Open

9:55 AM – WELCOME and Opening Remarks

10:00 AM – U.S. NATIONAL ANTHEM

10:05 AM – SWEDEN – GOTA LEJON MARCHING BAND

10:15 AM – GERMANY – GROITZSCHER SPIELLEUTE

10:25 AM – PUERTO RICO – BAND ESCOLAR DE GUAYANILLA

10:35 AM – ENGLAND – ROMFORD DRUM AND TRUMPET CORPS

10:45 AM – BRIEF BREAK

Field Show Category Competition (John A. Farrell Stadium)

11:05 AM – SWEDEN – GOTA LEJON MARCHING BAND

11:25 AM – WISCONSIN – SOUND OF SUN PRARIE MARCHING BAND

11:40 AM – ENGLAND – ROMFORD DRUM AND TRUMPET CORPS

12:05 PM – PUERTO RICO – BANDA ESCOLAR DE GUAYANILLA

12:20 PM – COLOMBIA – SONART PERFORMANCE GROUP

12:45 PM – GERMANY – GROITZSCHER SPIELLEUTE

1:05 PM – ITALY – TRUGGIO MARCHING BAND

1:30 PM – FULL DRUM MAJOR RETREAT

1:35 PM – AWARDS

What is the etiquette for this unique show?

We ask that you do not enter or leave the stands during a band's performance. We encourage LOTS of applause and discourage critiques, as these bands have traveled VERY far to perform in West Chester!

PLEASE REFRAIN from bringing any noise makers, air horns, bells, or whistles. Raucous applause is great! Additional noise makers are prohibited.

What is the awards ceremony?

All bands will come onto the field and receive participation medallions and then the awards will be presented in the two categories.

What is the World Association of Marching Show Bands and why is this so unique?

The World Association of Marching Show Bands (WAMSB) was founded in 1995 as an international not-for-profit association dedicated to promoting global communication and interaction between marching show bands. The Association aims to encourage active participation in marching show bands universally, to strengthen the movement internationally, and to stimulate the staging of world-class band events. Membership is open to those who participate in or are interested in developing the marching band activity, and partaking in high-calibre events around the world. We encourage you to visit their website and learn more at <https://wamsb.org/>

Can I see the bands perform again after July 1?

Yes, all of the bands will compete in the second part of the competition on July 3 in Philadelphia's SALUTE TO INDEPENDENCE 250TH PARADE beginning at Noon. The parade is free. Check out this web site for more information about the parade!
<https://july4thphilly.com/event/salute-to-independence-parade/>

Who is helping make this show happen?

Vivace Productions Inc, WAMSB Team Members, West Chester University, The Wells School of Music, and Under The Sun Productions Inc.

About the Bands

SWEDEN – GOTA LEJON MARCHING BAND

The Göta Lejon Youth Orchestra was formed in 1962 and consisted of members from various school orchestras. Between 1967 and 1996, the orchestra was led by Sven

Olander, who developed it into what it is today. He introduced the figurative march and built up an extensive repertoire of around 70 works in march and parade music.

The orchestra's first choreographer, Sofia Sjölin, started as a dancer in 1979. She worked for many years as a tambourine major and has choreographed many of the dances that are now part of the dance repertoire. In 1988, she introduced the flag troupe, which further enhances the orchestra's visual expression.

At the first Swedish championship in figurative marching, the orchestra took gold in tough competition with the country's leading parade orchestras. The orchestra also achieved honorable placements at the World Championships for Marching Showbands in Potsdam in 2001 and in Monza in 2003.

ENGLAND - ROMFORD DRUM AND TRUMPET CORPS

The Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps is a youth military style band, based in the London Borough of Havering. As **one of the oldest independent youth marching bands in the country**, it has a proud history, with performances throughout the UK. In recent years the band has traveled further and performed in France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Gibraltar and the USA.

Its uniforms, instrumentation and style is closely based upon that of the Armed Forces Military Bands. The band has performed at prestigious venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Wembley Stadium, St Paul's Cathedral and The London Palladium. It has also had **the honour of performing in the presence of every member of the Royal Family** including a performance at Buckingham Palace for HM the Queen. As **a registered charity**, the band has for nearly sixty years provided the young people of Romford with a rewarding activity. Despite the band receiving no funding, as an organisation, it manages to give a good foundation to youngsters and has continued the ethos of its founder where membership to the band is free of charge. The band has been recognised for its contribution to the young people of Havering with awards such as "The Mayors Civic Award" "The Havering Business Award for Community Projects" and is one of only a few youth groups nationally to achieve a Gold status kite mark from the Assured Quality Youth Project.

On the competition field the Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps has an impressive record of success. It has won the National Championships on seven occasions, including a hat-trick from 1987-89. In November 2003 & 2004 the band achieved the "Double" as the National Champions and National Class League Winners. It remains undefeated in marching competitions since then. In 2006 & 2008 the band entered European

competitions and on both occasions were triple gold medalist in both marching and concert performance. In 2012 the band were awarded the “Best Band Overall” in the world famous St Patrick’s Day Parade in Dublin against an international field of marching bands. This year the band returned to Ireland to the Limerick St Patricks Day Parade and were awarded to prize for the best musical performance.

PUERTO RICO – BANDA ESCOLAR DE GUAYANILLA

The Guayanilla's School Marching Band from Puerto Rico is known for its vibrant performances and strong sense of discipline among its members . It has proudly represented Puerto Rico and became the first Puerto Rican band to perform in the Rose Parade in California. The band has also participated in Disney’s Christmas Parade in Florida and multiple Puerto Rican Day Parades in New York City. Additionally, it has marched in the famous Macy’s Parade on Fifth Avenue, showcasing its cultural pride and musical excellence.

Formed as part of municipal and educational initiatives to promote music education, the Banda Escolar de Guayanilla became one of Puerto Rico’s most recognized school bands. It emerged from a tradition of community-based arts programs emphasizing discipline, teamwork, and civic pride. Over time, the band expanded its instrumentation and repertoire to include classical, Latin, and popular styles.

GERMANY - GROITZSCHER SPIELLEUTE

The Groitzscher Spielleute e.V. is a modern marching band from eastern Germany that has been a guest on international stages for many years. One of the absolute highlights in the history of our band was our participation in the 2017 World Championships in Palm Springs, California, where we won three third places among the world's best. As the only German marching band to participate in the 250th anniversary today, it is an incredible honor to be allowed to participate in the Independence Day Parade here in Philadelphia and to be allowed to represent our hometown Groitzsch, our federal state Saxony, and all of Germany. We are equally proud to be able to write a part of American history on this day, and we would like to thank you for this opportunity.

We, as a traditional but also modern marching band, present a selection from our extensive repertoire today. Not only traditional German marches are part of our music, but also modern pieces from rock and pop. In addition to the flute, our melodists also master the signal horn perfectly, which has a characteristic brass sound. This is rounded off by the precise and captivating rhythms of our drummers, who have been playing at a high technical level for years. Our band is led by Drum Major Florian Krumbolz.

ITALY – TRIUGGIO MARCHING BAND

TRIUGGIO MARCHING BAND was founded in Triuggio (Italy) in 2004, with the aim of promoting music education and socialization among local youngsters.

Over the years, owing to the commitment and determination of its members, this small Northern-Italy-based band has managed to expand and become known even on an international level, continuously refining and developing thanks to several instructors from all over the world, greatly experienced in the performing arts.

In addition to performing at events throughout Italy, we have participated in several promotional events for well-known commercial brands, such as BOSS, Philippe Plein, Ceres, Hamleys, Jeckerson, Renault, Wild Turkey, Lamborghini, Fondazione Prada and Vogue Italia.

We have often appeared on TV programmes such as "X Factor", "Italia's Got Talent", "Michelle Impossible & Friends" and "Paperissima Sprint".

One of the group's most important achievements was their performance at the 134th Tournament of Roses Parade held on January 2nd, 2023, in Pasadena, California (USA), as the first Italian marching band to ever perform at this event.

Here are some of the most important events in which TMB performed:

- Festival Internacional de Musica de Festa 2024 (Castelló de la Plana, Spain)
- Carnaval de Nice 2024
- 134th Tournament of Roses Parade 2023 (Pasadena – California, USA)
- Milano Rally Show 2019
- Milano Pride – 2018/2019
- Rome New Year's Day Parade and Festival 2018 (Roma)
- Uefa Champions League Trophy Tour Milano 2017
- Defilé Carnavalesque de Gauchy 2016 (Parigi)
- Fête du Citron, (Mentone, Francia)
- Sibiu International Theatre Festival 2016 (Sibiu, Romania)
- Milano Expo – 2015
- Shanghai International Tourism Festival 2014 (Shanghai, Cina)
- Europe Day Bucarest 2014 (Bucarest, Romania)
- Certamen Internacional de Bandas 2012 (Valencia, Spagna)
- London New Year's Day Parade and Festival 2012 (Londra, Inghilterra)
- 19° Festival internazionale FIJO Cheb 2010 (Cheb, Repubblica Ceca)
- Videoclip "Brucia Ancora", Club Dogo feat. J-Ax 2009

- 30° International festival – 2009 (Komptendorf , Germania)
- Danish open championship – 2007 (Copenaghen, Danimarca)
- MTV Music Awards, Milano 2007
- MTV Total Request Live, 2006

WISCONSIN – SOUND OF SUN PRAIRIE MARCHING BAND

The Sound of Sun Prairie is a voluntary, extra-curricular marching band. It is comprised of 8-12th grade students who have an interest in performing with percussion and wind instruments or color guard.

The purpose of the Sound of Sun Prairie is to provide an environment in which students can learn to work cooperatively toward common goals, the power of positive attitudes, personal responsibility, self-motivation, individual sacrifice for the good of the group, and striving to work to the best of one's ability at all times. It is a student-centered organization that promotes personal growth and student leadership. The band's philosophy is based on the belief that learning to be successful in marching band involves the same process as learning to be successful in other endeavors and that understanding the process for success is the most important part of attaining success.

SONART PERFORMANCE GROUP – COLOMBIA

