

BRANDON VALLEY *Big* SIOUX REVIEW

Judges



John Greene | Head Judge/Marching Execution

John Greene retired after 37 years of teaching instrumental music, mostly in ISD 196 -Rosemount-Apple Valley. He holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and Minnesota State University.

Most recently at Falcon Ridge Middle School in Apple Valley, MN. Under John's direction, the Falcon Ridge Middle School Jazz Ensemble was awarded numerous honors at regional jazz festivals and appeared at the MMEA Mid-Winter Clinic twice. Prior to Falcon Ridge, John was at Rosemount High School where he founded and led the competitive marching band program.

John has served as the Jazz Chair for MMEA. He was a middle level director for Minnesota Youth Jazz Bands. John is a member of MBDA and was inducted into Phi Beta Mu. He has been active as an arranger and clinician for concert, jazz, marching, percussion and chamber groups. In his role as an adjudicator, John judges over numerous events, which have taken him to 14 states and Canada. He has served in leadership roles as the Judge Administrator for the Mid-American Competing Band Directors Association (MACBDA) and the Minnesota Percussion Association.

In 2013, John was awarded the "Minnesota Music Educator of the Year" by the Minnesota Music Educators Association.

He has directed both the MBDA 6-8 State Honor Jazz Band and MBDA State Honor 6-8 Concert Band. John was inducted into the Youth in Music Hall of Fame as the Butch Dufault Memorial recipient in 2017.

John resides in Apple Valley with his wife Patti, who is also retired. They have two adult children, Chelsea and Johnny.

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Paul Brizzi | Music General Effect

Paul D. Brizzi is former high school band director at Ankeny High School in Ankeny, Iowa. His Ankeny bands were successful competitively in solo/ensemble contests, large group contests and marching band contests. He taught in Iowa high schools for thirty-six years.

During the 2006-2007 school year he served as interim Symphonic Band and Marching Band Director at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Since 2007 Mr. Brizzi has supervised music student teachers for Drake University as well as serving as Symphonic Band Director and student teaching supervisor for Iowa State University. Since 2008 Mr. Brizzi has served Drake University by supervising music student teachers as well as teaching some music education classes. During the fall of 2010 he served as interim Concert Band and Wind Ensemble director at Drake University. Paul is past-president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association and has served on the 20 member Board of Directors of the National Band Association, he is a past state chairman for the National Band Association.

Mr. Brizzi was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for active teachers by the Iowa Bandmaster Association in 1999. In 2003 he was awarded the Silver Baton Award by the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity. In 2004 he was recognized by the Sousa Foundation as a recipient of the Legion of Honor Award. In 2005 Brizzi was recognized with Distinguished Service award for retired members by the Iowa Bandmasters Association. He has been a leader in the state of Iowa in both band and professional associations and continues to serve on volunteer boards for the Iowa Bandmasters Association. Mr. Brizzi completed both his BA and MA at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, IA .

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Gary Swanson | Guard

Gary Swanson has been involved in the marching arts for over 40 years. His credits include color guard instruction and visual design with many groups over the years, his longest running affiliation being with the Irondale High School Marching Band and Color Guards in MN since 1990. Gary has led the Irondale program to many local and national awards including 26 State Winter Guard Championships, several WGI National Scholastic Finalists and even the WGI Scholastic Open Class World Champions in 2002. Gary has instructed and designed for the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps and Minnesota Brass, Inc. Drum and Bugle Corps. Helping the Blue Stars move back into World Class and leading MBI to a national championship were a few of his highlights with these groups.

He is the Past President of the North Star Color Guard Circuit. Gary continues to be involved in the marching arts activity through adjudication, consulting, and special event choreography both locally and nationally. Gary was inducted into the Minnesota Youth in Music Hall of Fame for his many years of contribution to the marching arts activity in the upper Midwest.

Gary has a BS in Apparel Design from the University of Minnesota and works at Mounds View High School as well as continuing his freelance design work. He resides in Minneapolis, MN.

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Jeff Norton | Percussion

Jeff Norton is a graduate of Oskaloosa High School, Oskaloosa, IA. He received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree (emphasis in Percussion) from New Mexico State University.

Jeff has served as:

- Assistant Director of Bands, Percussion Instructor—Edinburg Texas
- Director of Bands—Webster City, Iowa
- Adjunct Staff Member, Percussion Instructor—Oskaloosa, Iowa
- Assistant Marching Director—Warren Junior Military Band, Warren, Ohio
- Percussion Instructor—Ankeny, Iowa
- Percussion Instructor—Bondurant, Iowa
- Percussion Instructor—Newton, Iowa
- Percussion Instructor—Urbandale, Iowa
- Board of Directors, Instructor—Cyclone Percussion Academy Drumline Camp, Iowa State University
- He has served as clinician, drill designer and adjudicator throughout the United States.

Jeff and his wife Sally live in Des Moines.

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Steve Citta | Visual General Effect

Steve Citta is the former Director of Bands at Waterloo West High School in Waterloo, Iowa. His marching bands, jazz bands and wind ensembles earned numerous honors and awards in the twenty years that he was at West High. In 2017, he retired after teaching in Iowa for 34 years.

Mr. Citta is a professional music arranger, designer, drill writer and works extensively throughout the Midwest as a clinician and adjudicator. He has presented marching band clinics and seminars at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention, the Iowa Music Educators Association Conference and continues to work as an arranger, clinician and visual consultant for many bands throughout Iowa.

Steve is an adjudicator for Tri-State Judging, the Iowa High School Music Association and Heritage Festivals in Chicago. In the past, he has judged the Fiesta Bowl National Band Championship in Phoenix, AZ, the New Mexico State University Tournament of Bands in Las Cruces, NM as well as the Youth In Music Championship in Minneapolis, MN.

Steve Citta holds a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the University of Northern Iowa and graduate hours from Illinois State University, Iowa State University, University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa. Steve and his wife Mary live in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

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Greg Orwoll | Music Execution

Greg Orwoll retired from the directorship of Colts Drum and Bugle Corps in 2013 after a successful 32-year career. During his tenure, the organization grew from two to five programs and from 120 to over 300 participants in grade 3 through age 21.

Orwoll was elected to the Drum Corp International (DCI) Hall of Fame in 2008 and was Drum Corps Midwest (DCM) Director of the Year in 1993 and 2003, and DCI Central Division Director of the Year in 2005.

He has served on the DCI Board of Directors for 22 years as the DCI finance committee member for 14 years, including 2 as finance committee chair. He was chair of Drum Corps Midwest for 11 consecutive years and DCI Central Division for 3 years.

He has been active since 1975 as a clinician, consultant, or visual designer for numerous high school bands in 1975 and staffed the visual program for the U.S. Army All American Marching Band in San Antonio in 2011. He has judged in sixteen states: Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin.

Highlights include the Michigan State Championships, USSBA Regional Finals in Giants Stadium, Arizona State University Sun Devil Invitational, University of Kansas Championships, University of Missouri Finals, Indiana State District Championships, Kentucky State Championships, Arizona State High School Finals and New Mexico State Championships.