



AzMBA 2024 Evaluation+ Show Format & Clinicians
*A Valuable Season Opening Event For Our Bands With Focus On
A Student Engagement Experience,
While Additionally Facilitating
A Director/Staff Focused Conversational Clinic;
Where Each Band Gains Feedback and Intentional Workshopping
For Performance Design and Effect, both Musically and Visually*

★ **Band Takes the Field**

- Normal Show Performance Run Set-Up for Each Band
- Listening for Performance Announcement Cue's as Normal
- The Evaluation+ Clinicians will greet the Directors and Staff of each band as they make their way to the stands and then will begin to give impressions and feedback- Music Focus & Visual Focus...All Directors and Staff Highly Encouraged to Come Into The Stands Prior to First Performance Run. Evaluation+ Clinicians will be in upper stands, just below the press box

★ **Band Will Perform**

★ **Conclusion of Bands First Performance Run**

- The band will bring it in, as close as equipment allows, to the front 50 yard line
- The students will then engage in a real time clinic with the On-Field Adjudicator Clinicians. This will be an opportunity for them to give direct feedback for individual performance, provide suggestions both musically and visually to immediately improve, provide time for any questions that the students might have about Adjudication, and finally be a hype space for the show and the season...while encouraging an improved 2nd show run
- The Evaluation+ Clinicians will go into mini consultation with the Directors and Staff. This will include clarifying any questions on first read; suggestions for rehearsal and design adjustment; sharing of any costumes, equipment, or props for this show, and finally any overall idea exchanges that they can provide to help the Directors and Staff build their season in a meaningful way

★ **Reset, Regroup, & Second Performance Run**

- Timing Announcements will be made to keep the clinic/consultation time on track, and then cue the students to reset for the 2nd show run

★ **Band Will Perform Second Performance Run**

★ **Post Performance Runs**

- Evaluation+ Clinicians will wrap up any notes or themes that were spoken to during the mini consultation with Directors and Staff
- Directors and Staff will return to the field and will exit with their band

AzMBA is thrilled to offer this educational experience intended to be welcoming, collaborative, and relevant. After making some feedback driven adjustments, we continue to believe that early season feedback will allow our band programs to be set up for success even earlier!

*Please direct any needed clarification or questions to:
AzMBA Adjudication Coordinator, Lance A. Coochyouma at: azmbaadjudication@gmail.com*

2025 Evaluation+ Site Clinicians

Central Region at Perry HS Site:

Music: Ben Hylton

Visual: Preston Howard Jr.

Student Experience: Dr. Jeff Quamo

South Region at Casa Grande HS Site:

Music: Travis Larson

Visual: Phil Madden

Student Experience: Scott Montoya



Dr. Jeff Quamo

Student Experience
Adjudicator Clinician
Central Region Site



Scott Montoya

Student Experience
Adjudicator Clinician
South Region Site



Ben Hylton, Music Clinician Central Region Site

Ben Hylton is an active composer, music educator, and clinician currently residing in Austin, Texas.

Ben arranges and composes music for all types of ensembles and commercial music groups as well as designs competitive shows for the pageantry arts. His works have been performed at the Midwest Clinic and shows have been successful at the local, regional, and national level. Ben's grasp of various musical genres enables him to create new music in a vast array of styles.

Over the past 10 years Mr. Hylton has been an elementary music teacher, middle school, and high school band director in Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida. Ben's diverse teaching experiences guide the pedagogy and student appeal within his compositions and arrangements.

Ben was a member of the Blue Knights and the Blue Devils and has taught brass with The Madison Scouts, The Blue Knights, The Phantom Regiment, and visual with The Crossmen. Most recently, Ben served as the brass caption head for The Academy Drum and Bugle Corps from Tempe, AZ.

Ben performed as a solo trumpeter throughout Southeastern United States and in the Caribbean and has performed with Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Inductee Percy Sledge, Reggae-jazz artist Eugene Grey, Jazz Pianist Donald Brown, and with Carnival Cruise Lines, among many others.

Ben received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from East Carolina University, a Master's Degree in Trumpet Performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and he completed additional graduate studies in Jazz at Florida State University.



Preston Howard Jr., Visual Clinician Central Region Site

Has been designing and instructing for Drum Corps, Marching Band and Winterguard for more than 35 years, as well as Indoor Percussion and Winds Ensembles for many of those years. Preston is known throughout the country and parts of Europe as a passionate Visual Designer, Instructor, Clinician, Performance coach and Adjudicator.

Throughout his more than thirty-five years of involvement in the pageantry world, he has enjoyed designing and working with such programs as the Blue Devils Drum and Bugle Corps, Concord CA, The Academy Drum and Bugle Corp, Tempe AZ, Baltic Brass, Vilnius Lithuania, Lietuvos kariuomenės Orkestro, Vilnius Lithuania (National Military Armed Forces), The Rytas Dance Team, Vilnius, Lithuania. Millennium Drum and Bugle Corps, Verdello Italy, Besana Secutores Drum and Bugle corps, Besana, Italy, Unity Project Drum and Bugle corps, Mosson Italy, Beatrix Indoor Percussion, Hilsversum, NL, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, Fresno State University, Fresno CA. Skyview HS, Vancouver, WA, Clovis HS, Clovis CA, Buchanan HS from Clovis, CA, Clovis North, Clovis, CA, San Marcos HS, Santa Barbara CA, Peninsula HS Los Angeles, CA, Desert Vista HS Phoenix, AZ, Valley Vista HS, Surprise, AZ, Paradise Valley HS, Phoenix, AZ, Corona Del Sol HS Tempe, AZ. Millennium HS, Goodyear, AZ. Matilda Torres HS, Madera, CA. Adest Musica Drum and Show Band, Sassenheim, NL.

Preston started his Drum Corps career with the Seattle Imperials (Seattle WA.). He then went on to perform with the Concord Blue Devils (Concord CA.) in which he was a soloist and earned two most outstanding performer awards. He was then asked to come back and join the visual staff after he had aged out. Preston enjoys writing full marching band field shows, winter guard, winter percussion and indoor winds shows for a living. As well as being an accomplished trumpet player, he has experience in dance and theater that he tries to incorporate into his designs to enhance the overall visual effectiveness through any given show concept.

Find him at www.phshowdesigns.com



Travis Larson, Music Clinician **South Region Site**

Travis Larson believes in the power of music to change lives. His passion for music can be traced back to his earliest childhood, when he listened to records non-stop — eager for the day he could finally sign up for band class and learn to play an instrument himself. He first caught the marching arts bug in 1989 as a member of the Velvet Knights, later aging out with the Blue Devils in 1996.

For over 30 years, Travis has worked with many band programs, encouraging young people to pursue music. He serves as brass instructor, program coordinator, wind composer/arranger and consultant for several high-profile band programs in Arizona, including Millennium, Mountain View, Williams Field, Red Mountain, Peoria and Desert Ridge high schools. His ultimate goal is to provide a high-quality marching band experience, promoting musical values and arts education.

Born and raised in Mission Viejo, California, Travis was a member, then brass instructor for the Mission Viejo High School Marching Band from 1992-2005. In that time, the ensemble achieved great success, winning two state championships and multiple high music trophies.

In 1998, Travis was a brass staff member of the Jim Ott Brass trophy-winning Blue Devils. He later joined the brass team for The Cadets from 2014-2016, winning the high brass trophy at the 2015 DCI World Championships. From 2017-2019 Travis joined the new brass team at the Boston Crusaders and helped build some of the most successful horn lines in their history. He currently serves as the Brass Caption Head for the Blue Stars.

Travis received his Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Grand Canyon University in 2016. He is currently the band director at Mendoza Elementary and Shepherd Junior High School in Mesa, Arizona.

Travis resides in San Tan Valley, Arizona with his wife, Ann, their two children, TJ and Ava, and their Chihuahua Axl.



Phil Madden, Visual Clinician
South Region Site

Phil Madden resides in Portland, Oregon and is a design architect specializing in aviation, military and educational design. Phil has been an instructor and an adjudicator for pageantry events for over forty years. In the past he has served as the Chief Judge, and a Caption Coordinator for Winter Guard International. He was the adjunct Chief Judge with Bands of America and served as the Visual Judge Coordinator for Drum Corps International. He is involved in teaching, planning and writing programs for college and high school marching bands, drum and bugle corps and winter guards.

Phil's pageantry resume includes initiating the color guard program for James Logan High School as well as many other programs that include the Seattle Cascades, Seattle Buddhist Scouts and the East Allegheny Visual Ensemble. He has also served as the Visual Coordinator for the Capital Regiment, San Jose Raiders, Valley Fever and Seattle Cascades Drum Corps.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture with a minor in Studio Arts and History from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Architecture degree from Virginia Tech University.

He and his wife are helping to raise Malachi, an incredible 12-year-old boy.