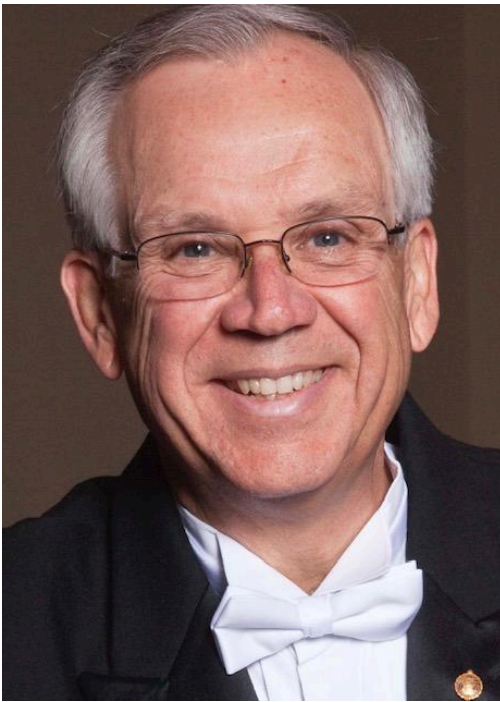


Joseph Hermann

Music Ensemble Judge



Joseph Hermann is Director of Bands Emeritus at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee, where he served for 28 years. Under his leadership the Tennessee Tech Bands grew to a level of national prominence, over 25 new pieces were premiered, and the wind and percussion program became an influential force for bands in the Southeast. Graduates of Tech and past members of the TTU Bands are leading educators, performers in the premiere military bands, and orchestras, and composers, arrangers, recording engineers, and music business directors across the nation.

Before his appointment at Tennessee Tech in 1989, Hermann was a director at the University of Arizona, Indiana University, and East Tennessee State University. His secondary school teaching includes directing the Dowling High School Band, West Des Moines, Iowa, and supervising the Des Moines Catholic Instrumental Music Program. Under his leadership, the school music program grew to unprecedented enrollment. In addition, he served briefly as the Educational Director for Bands of America and McCormick's Enterprises, a music corporation, in Chicago, Illinois.

Hermann is sought after as a conductor, adjudicator, and speaker and has presented clinics, workshops, and has conducted in over thirty states, in Canada, and throughout Japan. His symphonic bands have been featured ensembles at state, regional and national conventions; his interpretations have been broadcast on **National Public Radio**, and recordings of his ensembles have been issued as reference for music educators nationwide through music publishers and on commercial labels. He is a proponent of new music for the winds, has premiered many works for band and remains an active advocate for commissioning projects.

Hermann has been a career-long member of **CBDNA**, **NAfME**, **NBA**, the **Tennessee Bandmasters Association**, has served as the editor for the **New Music Reviews** for the *Tennessee Musician*, and is a past board member of the **Tennessee Music Educators Association**. In 1996, Hermann was elected to the prestigious **American Bandmasters Association**, served as a member of its Board of Directors, and in 2009, Hermann functioned as the **72nd** President of the ABA, served as the Chair of its Board of Directors, and currently works as Chair of the ABA Foundation. He is a member of **Phi Beta Mu**, a past President of the **PAC-10 Band Directors Association**, a past Province Governor for **Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia**, and holds National Honorary membership in **Kappa Kappa Psi** and **Tau Beta Sigma**. He is an Associate Member of **ASBDA**. He is the recipient of the **KKΨ Distinguished Service to Music Medal in Conducting** and the **TBS Paula Crider Outstanding Band Director** awards. In 2015, Hermann was inducted into the **Tennessee Bandmasters Hall of Fame**. Mr. Hermann is affiliated as an Artist/Conductor/Clinician with Jupiter Band Instruments, Inc., manufacturers of band and orchestra instruments located in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, and serves as their Senior Educational Consultant. He was inducted in the National Band Association Hall of Fame for Distinguished Conductors in May, 2022 and was inducted into the Tennessee Music Education Association Hall of Fame in 2024.

He has been married to his wife, Kay, for 54 years, and they have two daughters and five grandchildren. Even after retirement, Hermann remains enthusiastically engaged in conducting, presenting clinics, adjudication, and promoting the positive results of music education in the school curriculum.

David England

Music Effect Judge

Mr. England currently teaches the Blackman Middle School Band in Murfreesboro, TN where he was selected as Teacher of the Year in 2008 and 2017. He has been teaching middle school band since 1994. The Blackman Middle Percussion Section has performed at the Tennessee Day of Percussion and the TN Music Educators State Conference. He graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 1994 where he studied with Lalo Davila. From 1993-2023, Mr. England was the percussion arranger/designer and an instructor at Father Ryan High School in Nashville, TN. In that time span Father Ryan won three WGI World Championships and was a perennial WGI Finalist, medalist and a fan favorite. Father Ryan is also a three-time winner of the PASIC indoor marching percussion standstill competition as well as several local, state and regional awards. Mr. England is a composer for Row-Loff Productions and an artist with Innovative Percussion and Mapex/Majestic Percussion. He is an active clinician having presented at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic, NAFME National Conference, ASBDA Regional conference, TnMEA Conference, TN PAS, and many others. Mr. England is also a very active adjudicator for marching bands and indoor percussion/winds traveling to various states and circuits. He currently serves as Vice-President of the TN chapter Percussive Arts Society. He marched with the Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps from Hackensack, New Jersey. David also served as an instructor for the Dutch Boy Drum and Bugle Corps and was the percussion supervisor and percussion arranger for the Music City Drum and Bugle Corps from Nashville, TN for 2017 and 2018. Mr. England and his wife Jennifer have four children, Breanna, Aaron, Angel and Damien, and two grandchildren, Aliza Dimple and John David



Jim Idol

Visual Ensemble



James W. (Jim) Idol is the owner and principal designer of Design Associates and Jim Idol Designs in Knoxville, Tennessee. Mr. Idol also retired from 33 years of work in the Knox County School district, a large school district in East Tennessee serving almost 60,000 students, where he served most of his years as one of the leaders in the area of instructional technology.

His credentials in the performing arts include work as principal designer, program coordinator, and director of marching bands, winter guards, dance teams, and other visual arts performing ensembles across the United States. In his career, Mr. Idol has created and consulted on over 1,000 programs.

Marching Band: Truly, spanning the country, Mr. Idol's previous clients include ensembles from South Carolina to Hawaii. Currently, maintaining a full stable of clients, he continues his work as a designer and consultant, working with many local, USBands, BOA, and State Championship programs. Mr. Idol is known for his work as the principle designer for the University of Tennessee "Pride of the Southland" Band from 1977-1998 and the University of Alabama "Million Dollar" Band from 1999-2002. His works helped earn the University of Alabama "Million Dollar" Band the coveted Sudler Trophy awarded to the best university marching band in 2003.

Indoor Visual Arts: Mr. Idol began his work with indoor visual ensembles in 1978 as an adjudicator. This led to fielding his first competitive indoor winterguard in 1980 while WGI was still in its infancy. Since that time Mr. Idol has accrued over thirty years of directorial experience in the indoor performing arts activity where he has consistently been an integral part of producing and creating many competitive regional and national programs. During this tenure in the indoor performing arts, Mr. Idol has also served in a variety of administrative roles in the Southeastern Color Guard Circuit and the Carolina Indoor Performance Association. Currently, he is the Winds Coordinator for the East Tennessee Performing Arts Association of which he was a founding member.

Student Leadership: Early in his career, Mr. Idol realized the value and importance of leadership training for students. Since 1985, Mr. Idol launched a series of two- and three-day leadership training seminars specifically focused on shared leadership skills with high school students in the performing arts. Over the last 35+ years, he has become passionate about aiding performing artists in developing their leadership skills and knowledge.

These unique clinics bring critical leadership topics from corporate America and experiential learning to students in the performing arts. Since the launch of this effort in the mid-80s, Mr. Idol has worked with ensembles around the South in developing and refining the student leadership skills that can be applied daily to the growth of their ensembles. These seminars are rooted in the ideals of Servant Leadership and team-building techniques.

Adjudication: As an adjudicator with over 35 years of experience, Mr. Idol brings his wealth of experience to the marching band venue in the captions of Visual Effect, Visual Performance, and Color Guard. Judging throughout the southeastern United States, he is annually retained for many state semifinal and final series events. In the Winter season, Mr. Idol continues to serve as an adjudicator for the indoor performing arts activities, specializing in the Effect and Design captions.

Education: Mr. Idol graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1981 with majors in mathematics and Music and minors in Physical Science and Computer Science. Mr. Idol also holds a Masters degree in Educational Leadership with a Specialization in Evaluation Systems, Mr. Idol has served on many advisory capacities to assist in the development and refinement of evaluation systems for performing arts.. Mr. Idol is a lifelong learner and continues to study and expand his knowledge of leadership styles, choreographic trends and evaluation systems.

Family: Mr. Idol is most proud to be both a husband and father. He was married to his wife, Lois, 29 years ago. Lois recently retired from her position as Director of Instructional Technology Training at the University of Tennessee. Jim and Lois have one daughter, Leslie, who is a graduate of Hardin Valley Academy in Knoxville and East Tennessee State University and was a competitive ice skater for the Robert Unger Skating Team. Mr. Idol wishes to express his sincere appreciation to his family for consistently supporting his efforts in the performing arts.

Tom Case
Visual Effect Judge



Tom Case was the band director at Adair County High School in Kentucky for 27 years, retiring in 2021 after a significant career influencing many students. He was known for his leadership and dedication to music education.

Adam Heidenreich
Color Guard Judge

Adam Hidenreich has over 25 years of marching band and pageantry experience, consulting with middle school, high school, college, and independent programs all over the Southeast. He is currently a member of the Gulf Coast Judges' Association and is a Design Analysis and Equipment judge for various winter guard circuits across the Midwest and Southeast.



Chris Deberry

Percussion Judge

Chris DeBerry is a music enthusiast at heart. He officially began his career in percussion at Middle Tennessee State University, where he also earned his Bachelor's Degree in Music Ed.. While at MTSU, he participated in the university's Marching Band of Blue, Steel Bands, Salsa Band, Percussion Ensembles, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble. He was very fortunate to study with Lalo Davila, Julie Davila, German Baratto, Derrick Phillips, and Paul Garretson. He is now a middle school band director in the Middle Tennessee area.



Aside from his duties as a professional educator, he stays involved in the competitive music scene through his participation as an adjudicator, clinician, and educator. Chris regularly judges for local TN band contests, indoor percussion, and USBands as a music and percussion judge. He is also involved with WGI as an educator and consultant for local ensembles, and DCI as the Percussion Caption Head for Music City Drum Corps from Nashville, TN. He has also worked with the Glassmen Drum and Bugle Corps on visual staff. When not involved with percussion, Chris keeps his musical activity going through his responsibility as Music Director for a community youth dramatic arts program.

Chris has enjoyed many performance opportunities over the years. Some notable performances are an ensemble competition at PASIC, marching percussion clinic with MTSU at PASIC, live performances with Jeff Coffin from Bela Fleck, Chris Tanner (steel drum virtuoso), and the Nashville Jazz Orchestra, and a percussion video shoot with Scott Johnson, Lalo Davila, Glen Caruba, and German Baratto. He also performed competitively as a member of Music City Mystique on the snare line through all four of his years in the ensemble.

George W. Hayden

Drum Major Judge



George Hayden is a retired band director from Maryville City Schools in Maryville, Tennessee. He taught band for 30 years to students ranging from grades 5-12. His intermediate bands, in grades 5-7, consistently scored superior ratings totaling 124 superior ratings & 5 excellent ratings. His young bands would perform grades 2, 3, & 4 music at various concert festivals (Smoky Mountain Music Festival, Music in the Parks, Trills & Thrills, TSSBDA, ETSBOA-lower, middle & upper areas), State Concert Festivals, Disney World, Universal Studios, TSBA -Tennessee School Board Association Conference in Nashville, & the Midwest Clinic-an International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago. Mr. Hayden received his BS from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville & his MS from

Lincoln Memorial. His professional memberships include: TMEA, ETSBOA, TSSBDA, NBA, TEA & Phi Beta Mu. Mr. Hayden conducts clinics & workshops across the country for students & band directors. These include sessions at various junior clinics throughout the Southeast & the West Coast, numerous camps, UTK, ETSU, UTC, Carson Newman, TMEA, California All State, the Midwest Clinic (2008 & 2012), & has taught graduate courses at Vandercook College of Music in Chicago as well as serving as a contributing editor to The Instrumentalist. He judges concert & marching band festivals in music & drum major & hosts the GWHayden School of Conducting for Drum Major for nearly 40 years.

Leza Carver – Tabulator/Chief Judge

From: Leza Carver supports the Mountaineer Band as the Director of the Color Guards, a position she has held since 2004. Mrs. Carver is an alumnus of Maryville HS (1998). Leza attended the UT-Chattanooga, where she was a member of the color guard, guard captain, and color guard tech in The Marching Mocs.

Adjudicating/Teaching: She has served as a director, designer, choreographer, and technician for many groups throughout the area, including Hixson HS, Red Bank HS, Dalton HS, Maryville HS, Alcoa HS, Intensity Winter Guard, Fuel Winter Guard, and several other local groups. Leza started her judging career in 2003 and regularly judges for local TN band contests in the color guard or visual effects caption, or works as a competitionsuite tabulator and chief judge for events.

Impact: “I would not be where I am today without the amazing people I have worked with over the years, but my biggest inspiration for my involvement in the Marching Arts is Thomas ‘Tom’ Delozier and Stuart Benkert. These outstanding directors supported my young dreams and still provide guidance today. To them, I am forever grateful and can only hope I can impact my students the way they impacted me.”

Hobbies: Mrs. Carver is involved in the marching arts year-round, and when she has downtime, she enjoys camping, cooking over an open fire, dreaming of her retirement home in the woods, eating watermelon, and watching movies.



Tyler Owens – Announcer

From: Maryville, TN. Attended Carson-Newman University for Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Music Education, and the University of Tennessee for Masters of Music in Choral Conducting.

Impact: His high school choir director Mr. Clift had a profound impact on me. He constantly pushed me to do my best and instilled in me a love of music.

Hobbie: He enjoys CrossFit and Gaming!



2025 Volunteer Classic Marching Band Competition

Band	Place	Score	Performance Time
Class 1A			
Oneida High School			1:00
Smith County High School			1:15
Class 2A			
Knoxville Central High School			1:30
Eagleton Career Academy			1:45
South-Doyle High School			2:00
Volunteer High School			2:15
Scott High School			2:30
West High School			2:45
Break			3:00
Class 3A			
Alcoa High School			3:30
Cleveland High School			3:50
Gibbs High School			4:10
Lenoir City High School			4:30
Anderson County High School			4:50
Cherokee High School			5:10
Carter High School			5:30
Dinner Break			5:50
Class 4A			
Maryville High School			6:50
Class 5A			
William Blount High School			7:10
Class 6A			
Farragut High School			7:30
Walker Valley High School			7:50
Exhibition			
Heritage High School			8:10
Awards: 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, & 6A			8:45

