

BANDS OF AMERICA

(Important information regarding our trip)

What is Bands of America?

“Bands of America” is an organization that provides excellent performance opportunities for the nation’s finest marching bands. There are three (3) levels of participation in the Bands of America circuit...Regional, Super-Regional, and National. The competition we are participating in is a Super-Regional, which includes bands from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, and Maryland. **This competition is in prelims/finals format; meaning that all bands perform in prelims and the top twelve (12) bands perform in finals.** Please understand that we are competing against the top bands across the Southeast and there is a chance we may not make finals. If we do make finals, the band will eat as indicated on the itinerary, warm-up and perform sometime between 7:30 and 10:15pm depending on the spot we draw.

How do I Purchase Tickets and how much do they cost?

Tickets may be purchased online at www.musicforall.org or on site at the Georgia Dome ticket office. **Tickets for this event are \$19.00 for prelims and \$23.00 for finals.** The Dome is cleared out after prelims and the gates will re-open at 6:30pm for finals. We only get passes for the pit crew to enter the field. **Any parent who wishes to watch the band from the stands must purchase a ticket.** I apologize for the price of these tickets, but this is out of our hands. **Please note that even chaperones will have to purchase their own ticket to watch the performance from the stands.**

Can I watch the band perform online if I can’t make it live?

Yes!!! Simply visit www.musicforall.org and click on the BOA Fan Network. You can watch all of prelims live for \$14.95. **Blue Ridge HS performs at 2:45pm.**

Where do I park?

You will need to park in the spectator parking areas. **There may be a charge for parking near the Georgia Dome.** The MARTA transit system is a convenient way to get to the Georgia Dome if you wish to travel that way.

Can I take pictures and videos of our bands performance?

Pictures are allowed, but **under no circumstance should you video tape this performance.** Your video camera could be confiscated and the band could be penalized. DVD's of our bands performance will be available on site.

How much money will my student need for meals?

Students will be purchasing a meal after prelim awards and any concessions they would like to eat during finals. The booster club will provide a meal once we arrive at the Georgia Dome before we perform.

Can my student ride home with me from the contest?

Yes, but only after finals is over. **If you wish for your student to ride home with you at the conclusion of finals, please send a letter to Mr. Grant no later than Thursday, October 30th.** The main reason we are making this trip is so our students can see what comes beyond "state". While I do understand the convenience of taking your student at 3:00pm right after we perform, I hope you understand the importance of your student watching bands that successfully compete at the national level. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Can my student ride with me to the Georgia Dome?

No, there are several logistical reasons this will not work. Please have your student at BRHS on time to ride with the band on the bus. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

I understand that this is a lot of information. However, this contest is unlike any we have ever been to before. I just want to make sure you feel good about what is going to happen and when it is going to happen. Feel free to email or call with any questions or concerns.

Yours,

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