



Cheshire High School Band Parents' Association, Inc.

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Even Tornadoes Didn't Stop the Ram Band from Taking First Place at Lyman Hall

Cheshire Band Beats Out 11 Bands (Including 7 in Higher Classes) To Win Show's Top Honor

Cheshire, CT – The Cheshire High School Marching Ram Band topped all of the bands competing at the USSBA marching band competition at Lyman Hall on Saturday, October 3rd, winning not only their Division III Class but also scoring better than 7 bands in Classes IV, V, and VI. There was uncertainty early in the day as to whether the show would have to be moved indoors, but the judges' results lacked indecision about which band was the winner at the end of the night, with the Ram Band winning the event's overall top award along with every sub-category within the competition. The Ram Band scored an 82.5, a full point better than any other band at the Wallingford competition, its first USSBA event of the season.

"It's the best I've heard them play so far this year," said John Kuhner, the band's director since 2001. "I am proud of each and every one of them for staying focused and adjusting so well during a day that was full of distractions. They practiced hard all day in the rain and headed to Wallingford expecting to perform on the field. We arrived to a tornado warning, which led to a 90-minute delay, and then we had to switch gears when it was confirmed that we would be performing indoors. They kept their heads in the game through all of this and pulled off a winning performance."

Marching band fans, music lovers, and anyone looking for a night of exciting entertainment are invited to the Ram Band's 26th Annual ***Music In Motion*** Competition at Cheshire High School this Saturday, October 10th from 4 to 10 PM. The evening will feature a USSBA competition of 19 top high school marching bands as well as an exhibition performance of Cheshire's 2009 field show.

About the CHS Marching Ram Band

The 2009 Marching Ram Band, under the direction of John Kuhner, is considered one of the top high school marching bands in the Northeast. The band is a member of the US Scholastic Band Association, finishing first in the Connecticut Division in last year's USSBA New England Championship and second in Division V at the USSBA's Northern States Competition. The Marching Ram Band is also a member of the Musical Arts Conference and placed first at the 2008 MAC Championship in the Division IV group. In recent years, the CHS Marching Band has participated in

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Tournament of Roses Parade, and the 53rd Presidential Inaugural Parade. The Ram Band has been the Champion of its USSBA Division in five of the last ten years and won the 2007 Outback Bowl Grand Championship. Visit www.ramband.com for more information.

About the Ram Band's 2009 Field Show and Music Repertoire

The Ram Band's 2009 Field Show, "**Buggin' Out**," features an outstanding original musical score by noted arranger and composer, John Meehan. The complex work is a spectacular musical and visual interpretation of life from a bug's perspective. A full complement of props, costumes, and visual effects makes the beautiful music and motion come to life for a memorable field show. The First Movement, **The Anthill**, opens with ants coming out of their anthill on a quest for food. They discover a bountiful banquet at a picnic and the celebration begins. The Second Movement, **The Garden**, features Cheshire's award-winning color guard as butterflies in enchanting and exquisite flight through a garden. And finally, the Third Movement, **The Web**, begins with a percussion feature where ensemble members get caught in a black widow spider's web. The Third Movement ends with all of the bugs returning to a blissful celebration full of festive merriment.

MEDIA CONTACT

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