



Cheshire High School Band
Parents' Association, Inc.

**For Immediate Release
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26th Annual *Music in Motion* Marching Band Competition A Huge Success

Cheshire, CT - The Cheshire High School Marching band hosted 19 high school marching bands from across the state on October 10th in one of the largest United States Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) competitions in Connecticut this year. Bands competed within their class, and were evaluated by USSBA judges on music, marching, percussion, show visuals, and color guard.

After rain the night before, the day cleared on Saturday, providing a perfect fall day for the annual Cheshire competition. Trumbull High School was the show's overall winner this year, beating out 18 other bands for the top honor. (As host of the ***Music In Motion*** Show, the Cheshire Ram Band was not allowed to compete during their own event, according to USSBA rules, however the band did close the evening with an exhibition-only performance of their 2009 field show.)

Earlier in the day, 8th grade members of the Dodd Middle School Concert Band rehearsed the *Star Spangled Banner* with the Marching Ram Band and learned basic marching techniques from the Ram Band's marching instructors. Later, the combined bands opened the ***Music In Motion*** show with their joint performance of the song and then many of the 8th graders stayed into the evening to watch the competition.

This year's Music In Motion Show was dedicated to John Kuhner, the Ram Band's director since 2001. (See the separate document for the complete dedication.) A large group of Cheshire High band alumni were on hand for the dedication and the annual home show. Many band alumni return every year to Cheshire for ***Music In Motion***, proudly wearing their Ram Band letter jackets and crowding in front of the football field to watch the band's latest field show.

There are a few more weeks of regular season competition in the two circuits that the Ram Band competes in. Championship competitions begin on Oct 24th with the USSBA New England Championships in New Britain, Connecticut. For more details on the band's schedule for the remainder of the season, visit ramband.com.

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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