

Southwest Iowa Honor Marching Band

PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose behind the Southwest Iowa Honor Marching Band is to unite all Southwest Iowa High School Bands into a single group with a common cause - to promote music in Southwest Iowa in a non-competitive environment and to foster good relations between the member schools.

The Southwest Iowa Honor Marching Band exists to promote musical excellence and marching skill, bringing out the Southwest District's cohesiveness and unity in a shared activity. This ensemble will be larger than is possible in any of the member schools, and will have as its goal to march in a major, national music festival.

This ensemble is unique in its make-up, having membership made up of students from the interested schools in Southwest Iowa. This uniqueness allows us to bring to the state of Iowa the musical talents of this districts' students through its appearance in the State Fair Parade. We are truly one of "Iowa's Ambassadors of Music."

HISTORY OF THE BAND

January 16, 1984. S.W.I.H.M.B. idea is presented to a group of band directors. Result - survey to 63 schools requesting opinions. Response - over 30 positive, 2 negative.

February 6, 1984 - Meeting of interested school representatives. Result - letters sent to all 63 schools in district asking for a definite commitment. Result - 50 positive, 3 negative.

March 27, 1984 - Commitment to Cotton Bowl to bring a 250 member band.

1985 Head Director - Lee Nelson, Harlan

Music - Only Time Will Tell & New World Symphony

1987 - Head Director - Vic Wood, Audubon

Music - Birth of the Blues & Tchaikovsky's Fourth

Assistant Director - Larry Peppers, Nishna Valley

1989 Head Director - Geoffrey Schive, Tri-Center

Music - Topaz & Old Man River

Assistant Director - Kurt Schwarck, Creston

1991 Head Director - Kurt Schwarck, Creston

Music - Durango & Procession of the Nobles

Assistant Director - Curt Klein, Glenwood

1993 Head Director - Curt Klein, Glenwood

Music - New World Symphony & Firestorm

Assistant Director - Pete Jacobus, Glenwood

1995 Head Director - Peter Jacobus, Glenwood

Music - Tchaikovsky's Fourth & Aztec Fire

Assistant Director - Cindy Aldrich, Clarinda

1997 Head Director - Cindy Aldrich, Clarinda

Music - Barnum and Bailey's Favorite & How The West Was Won

Assistant Director - John Hewett, Denison

1999 Head Director - Bret Lee, Atlantic

Music - Yankee Doodle Boy & Caravan

Assistant Director - Tracy Ryan, Malvern

2001 Head Director - Tracy Ryan, Malvern

Music - Karn Evil 9 & Salsa Man

Assistant Director - John McGilligan, Sidney

2003 Head Director - John McGilligan, Sidney

Music - How the West Was Won & Yaleo

Assistant Director - David Clark, Council Bluffs, TJ

2005 Head Director - David Clark, Council Bluffs, TJ

Music - Dancing Men & Topaz

Assistant Director - Jeff Schoening, Treynor