Four music educators named to the Bands of America Hall of Fame

Music for All announces four industry leaders to be inducted to the Bands of America Hall of Fame in at the 2018 Music for All National Festival

INDIANAPOLIS – Music for All is pleased to announce the four 2018 inductees into its Bands of America Hall of Fame: Kevin Ford, Tarpon Springs, Florida; Randy Greenwell and Matt James, Directors of Bands at Lawrence, Indiana; and Dean Westman, Avon, Indiana.

Music for All’s Bands of America Hall of Fame members have made a significant impact on Bands of America, music education, and America’s band activity, represent impeccable character, ethics and professionalism; and are role models for music education professionals.

Kevin Ford is the founder and Director of the Leadership Conservatory for the Arts at Tarpon Springs High School. As Director of Bands for over two decades, he oversees the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band, which won the Bands of America Grand National Championships in 2014, in addition to coaching and supervising all Conservatory performance ensembles, and developing the curriculum for the Conservatory Student Leadership Courses. A nationally recognized show designer, he is the co-founder of the Inspire…Music and Entertainment Production Company. A graduate of the University of Florida, he is also a frequent leadership speaker, guest clinician, and adjudicator nationwide.

Randy Greenwell, retired Director of Bands at Lawrence Central High School, graduated with high honors from Illinois State University and holds a Masters in Wind Conducting from Ball State University, and has taught at both the middle school and high school levels in Indiana. He is an active clinician at national and state conferences and a music arranger for many leading marching bands. In addition to his numerous awards for distinguished service and teaching, Mayor Bart Peterson named Greenwell a Distinguished Citizen of Indianapolis.

Matt James is Director of Performing Arts at Lawrence Central High School and an award-winning drill designer. His designs have received numerous honors, including two Bands of America Grand National Championships, two Fiesta Bowl championships, and over a dozen state championships. A euphonium player, he holds a bachelor’s degree in music education from Michigan State University, as well as a master’s in conducting from Butler University.

Dean Westman is Performing Arts Department Chair and Orchestra Director at Avon High School in Avon, Indiana. Westman founded the Avon Orchestra program in the fall of 2007 with 40 sixth grade beginners. Since then, the Avon Orchestra has grown to over 700 students grades 6 through 12. He also serves as Program Coordinator for the three-time Bands of America Grand National Champion and 10-time Indiana State Champion Avon High School Marching Black and Gold; and Program Coordinator for the 2016 DCI World Champion Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps. He is an Educational Consultant for Music for All and an alumnus of the University of Illinois.

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These newest members will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Saturday, March 15, 2018, during the Gala Awards Banquet at the Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha. They will be permanently recognized in the Bands of America Hall of Fame at Music for All’s Indianapolis headquarters, along with all the Hall of Fame members inducted since the first in 2003.

“These four music educators represent the very best in education and continue to inspire new generations of teachers,” said Eric L. Martin, President and CEO of Music for All. “Their involvement in Music for All and their leadership in music education and the performing arts has helped make this organization what it is today.”

**About Music for All**
Since 1975, Music for All, through its Music for All, Bands of America, Orchestra America, and choir programs, has been a destination and set the standard for scholastic music ensemble performance and music education advocacy. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, Music for All's mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. Music for All's vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music making in his or her scholastic environment. Music for All’s programs include 30+ annual events, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships and Regional Championships for marching bands, the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for students and teachers, the Music for All National Festival and Affiliate Regional Music Festivals for concert bands, orchestras, choirs, chamber ensembles, percussion ensembles, and the national honor concert band, jazz band, orchestra, and the Bands of America Honor Band that will march for the fifth time in the Rose Parade® in 2021.

**Sponsor Information**
Music for All efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor: Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor: Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Student Travel Partner: Music Travel Consultants; Official Performance Equipment Sponsor: Wenger Corporation; Corporate Sponsors: Ball State University, United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, Zildjian and Vic Firth Company, Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, and Strategic Advocacy Partner: NAMM; Associate Sponsors: Delivra, Vandoren, Director’s Showcase International, REMO, Tresona Multimedia, and Woodwind & Brasswind; and Grand National Semi-Finals Sponsor J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, the Ball Brothers Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr. Memorial Foundation, Inc., and Arthur Jordan Foundation.

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