



20

PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES®

27



ABOUT CARMEL BANDS

The Carmel High School Band Program is nationally recognized for its commitment to musical and personal excellence. With more than 500 student members, it stands as one of the largest and most successful high school music programs in the United States. Carmel offers a wide range of performing ensembles, including:

- **The Marching Greyhounds (6-Time Grand National Champion)**
- **Six Concert Bands (10-Time State Champion)**
- **Five Jazz Bands**
- **Two Winter Guards (6-Time Scholastic World Champion)**
- **Percussion Ensemble**
- **Numerous Chamber Ensembles**

Marching Band at Carmel High School is a co-curricular activity held each summer and fall. The Carmel Marching Greyhounds are consistent finalists and champions in both the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) and Bands of America (BOA) circuits. In 2027, the Carmel Marching Greyhounds will proudly represent the state of Indiana in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California — an honor that celebrates decades of dedication, artistry, and excellence.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Carmel High School Bands have built an unparalleled legacy of excellence at both state and national levels, including:

- **6-Time Grand National Champions**
(2005, 2012, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2022)
- **10-Time ISSMA Concert Band State Champions**
- **35-Time ISSMA Marching Band State Finalists**
- **29-Time BOA Grand National Finalists**
 - 25 years in the top 5
 - 17 years in the top 3
- **29-Time BOA Regional Champions**
- **6-Time World Guard International Champions**
(2007, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2023)
- **12-Time Indiana High School Color Guard Association State Champions**

BY THE NUMBERS

99.1%

Carmel High School's graduation rate, exceeding state and national averages

10%

Of Carmel High School students are involved in the Carmel Band program

3.57

The average GPA of the Carmel Band program

44

The number of Carmel Marching Greyhounds that have a 4.0 GPA or higher

28

Total program State Championships
(concert band, marching band, winter guard)



HOW WAS CARMEL SELECTED FOR THE 2027 ROSE PARADE?

Each year, hundreds of schools apply to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade. Only a select few are chosen for their excellence in performance, musicianship, and leadership. The Carmel Marching Greyhounds will be the ONLY Indiana high school band performing in the 2027 parade and one of fewer than ten U.S. bands worldwide selected.

Interested in sponsorship opportunities? Visit carmelbands.org/donate or contact president@carmelbands.org



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“Joining marching band has been one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. I’ve gained lifelong friends, strong discipline, and a real sense of belonging. Every rehearsal and performance has taught me teamwork, focus, and pride in what we create together. The energy on the field, the music, and the bond with the band make every moment unforgettable. I truly love being part of this group, and I highly encourage anyone thinking about it to give it a try. You’ll grow, have fun, and become part of an amazing community that will stay with you forever.”

-Nate M. | Clarinet

“I’ve always loved bands, but watching my sister march her first show inspired me to join — and it changed my life. Though I’m not naturally outgoing, the band’s welcoming community helped me grow socially and find lifelong friends. Marching band is more than music and movement; it’s a second family that teaches discipline, resilience, and how to be a better person. The lessons I’ve learned extend far beyond the field, shaping who I am and guiding me in everyday life with support, growth, and lasting friendships.”

-Jaxon D. | Baritone

“My freshman year, I was a really shy person, who did not like to go out of my comfort zone. Through marching band I learned how to put myself out there and to become more self-assured and confident. Because of this I have made so many amazing friends who have genuinely made my life so much more full. Through band, I have had so many phenomenal experiences and made many incredible memories with some of my closest friends. I will cherish them for the rest of my life.”

-Emma Z. | Trumpet

BAND AS A POSITIVE YOUTH PROGRAM

Students in music classes benefit with lasting results to produce better citizens and workers now and for years to come. Music students:



Have a higher GPA than non-musicians in the same school.¹



Have significantly higher levels of mathematics proficiency by grade 12.²



Can have increased neural processing speed and stronger brain structures related to memory, auditory, and motor skills.³



Have the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs among any group in our society.⁴



One U.S. congressman commented that, “In today’s climate of high-stakes testing, it’s important to recognize that skills learned through studying music translate to skills that help students succeed in life. Music education aids critical thinking and more.”⁵

¹Ingles, Steven J, et al. “National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988.” *National Center of Education Statistics*, U.S. Department of Education Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 1990, nces.ed.gov/pubs90/90464.pdf, Accessed 29 April 2017. ²Catterall, James S, Richard Chapleau, & John Iwanaga. “Involvement in the Arts and Human Development: General Involvement and Intensive Involvement in Music and Theater Arts.” *Arts Edge*, UCLA, 1999, artsedge.kennedy-center.org/champions/pdfs/involvmt.pdf, Accessed 29 April 2017. ³Hyde, Krista L., et al. “Musical Training Shapes Structural Brain Development.” *The Journal of Neuroscience*, vol. 29, no. 10, 2009, pp. 3019–3025, doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5118-08.2009. ⁴United States, Congress, House, Committee on Education and the Workforce. *Expressing the Sense of the Congress Regarding the Benefits of Music Education*. Government Printing Office, 2000. 106th Congress, 2nd session H. Con. Res. 266. ⁵United States, Congress, House, Congressional Record. *Recognizing the Benefits and Importance of School-Based Music Education*. Government Printing Office, Vol. 152, No. 41, 2006. 109th Congress, 2nd session, H. Con. Res. 355.

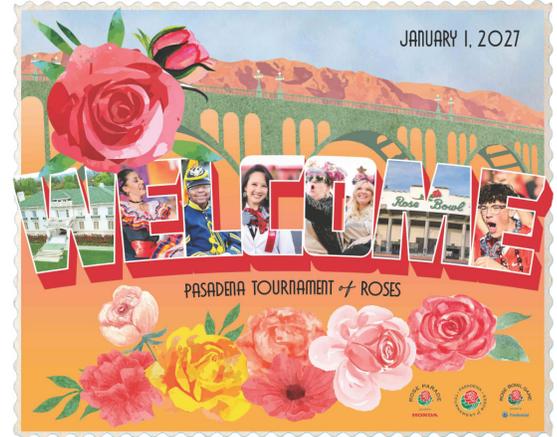


TRAVEL DETAILS

ABOUT THE ROSE PARADE

Known as “America’s New Year Celebration,” the 138th Rose Parade will take place on Jan. 1, 2027 in Pasadena, California. Ornately decorated floats, equestrian units, non-profit organizations/municipalities, and marching bands will travel 5.5 miles down historic Colorado Boulevard. Each year, around 750,000 in-person spectators gather along the two-hour parade route. There are more than 45 million national viewers and 28 million international television viewers.

In conjunction with the Rose Parade, the Tournament puts on a marching band festival called Bandfest hosted at Pasadena City College’s Robinson Stadium. More than 8,000 people attend the performances throughout two days. The 2027 Tournament of Roses President Terry Madigan recently announced the theme for the 2027 parade, “Welcome.” The theme celebrates the simple joy of belonging — that feeling that you’re always welcome, no matter who or where you are. It’s the warmth of family — whether related or chosen, the love of good friends, and the welcoming embrace of community.



TRIP SPECIFICS

On Dec. 27, 2026, the Carmel Marching Greyhounds will depart from Indianapolis to Los Angeles, California. Thus begins their seven-day/six-night trip of a lifetime. Some trip highlights include:

- **Rose Parade Performance** - Perform for a live audience of 750,000 people down the 5.5 mile parade route
- **Bandfest Performance** - Perform the 2026 competitive marching band show at Robinson Stadium at Pasadena City College
- **Disneyland Performance** - Perform for thousands of guests in an iconic Disney parade
- **Universal Studios** - Get-behind-the-scenes access to real, working movie and television studios
- **Hollywood Tour** - Experience the Walk of Fame and Chinese Theater, and see the infamous Hollywood Sign
- **Santa Monica Pier** - Visit one of the most photographed places in the world and stroll along the historic pier
- **Rose Bowl Picture** - Visit the historic Rose Bowl Stadium and snap a memorable picture with the entire band
- **New Years Eve Celebration** - Ring in 2027 with 300 of their closest friends



THE ROAD TO THE ROSE PARADE

4,000

Flight miles

10,000

Driving miles (7 charter buses and 2 equipment trucks)

74,000,000

Parade day viewers

3

World-class performances

1

Life-changing experience



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Rose Sponsor - Send a student to the Rose Parade

GRAND MARSHAL

25 student trips

\$100,000

ROYAL COURT

15 student trips

\$60,000

COLORADO BOULEVARD

10 student trips

\$40,000

FLORAL FLOAT

5 student trips

\$20,000

RED ROSE

1 student trip

\$4,000

Corporate Sponsor

DIAMOND

\$10,000

PLATINUM

\$5,000

GOLD

\$2,500

SILVER

\$1,000

BRONZE

\$500

Other Areas in Need of Support: Uniforms | Instruments | Chaperones | Staffing | General

It takes a lot to run a band program. Consider making a donation to your choice of one of the following funds: Uniform (purchasing new uniforms for growing member number, cleaning uniforms, and designing custom color guard costumes); Instrument (repair, replacement, and maintenance of instruments and electronic equipment totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars); Chaperone (25+ volunteer chaperones travel with our students everywhere we go, keeping them safe and fed); Staffing (our support staff includes music teachers, designers, private lesson instructors, choreographers, and marching band technicians who are all educators of the highest caliber); and General.



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To learn more about sponsorship opportunities,
contact president@carmelbands.org

carmelbands.org

