

Vice President Candidate:

Matt Kozacek, Director of Bands, Basha High School

WGAZ Vice President for the 2009 season

I am running for reelection for Vice President of WGAZ this year and am once again not able to make this meeting. May 16th is the day of my graduation ceremonies from Boston University, and I will be traveling to Boston to receive my Masters in Music Education! I would like everyone to know my reasons for running again for Vice President. I feel very strongly for the art of indoor guard and percussion activities. I have been very involved in the activity since I taught at Cactus Middle School and we helped start the idea of having junior high performers involved in WGAZ. Since moving to Basha HS, I have continued with involvement and love the fact that students have a positive place to perform. I feel that during my tenure at Basha HS, I have learned a lot about the activity and what it takes to run a successful program and can bring my knowledge to the circuit.

I feel that my input would be greatly needed on the board. There are no other band directors that are currently serving on the board, and sometimes decisions that need to be made could use the help of a band director's view. Sometimes the logistics of using district facilities or scheduling around other band events becomes a bit of an issue with WGAZ and I would be happy to help with these situations. I also feel that I have gained some great experience being a part of the previous board and also through going to national level WGI events.

Thanks for your consideration!

Percussion Director Candidate:

Karl Hermann

As having received a nomination for the position of "Percussion Director" for WGAZ, I hope to use this opportunity to continue to move WGAZ indoor percussion new heights. I want to continue to focus on local growth of our circuit, to make Arizona THE place to be for Indoor Percussion! I will focus on Arizona's national presence as well. I will work towards making decisions that allow upward growth of the Percussion and Colorguard circuits simultaneously. I have been involved in WGAZ percussion in some way from it's very inception, and have seen the tremendous impact that has made on our state. I understand and believe that, at the end of the day, the WGAZ Board Members are servicing the kids who are performing on the floor.

Following is a brief bio of myself:

I have been involved with marching percussion for over 20 years. I earned my bachelor's in Music Education from Arizona State University, where I studied percussion with Dr. Mark Sunkett. I am an active judge for the WGAZ percussion circuit. I played with the ASU drumline for three years and also marched three years of drum and bugle corps. I have taught various high school drumlines in the Phoenix area for over 10 years, working with pit and battery. As part of that, I have arranged music for both pit and battery. I am an accomplished snare soloist, having competed in local and international PAS and DCI. I am part of the Vic Firth Education Team, and endorse Vic Firth products. I have made contributions to Vic Firth's "In The Lot" video series.

Colorguard Director Candidates:

Peter Gomez

Hello,

My name is Peter Gomez and I am running for Color Guard Director for the 2010 season. I have been involved with WGAZ for over 10 years as an instructor and designer for programs which have included, The Academy, Corona del Sol HS, Desert Vista HS and currently the the Executive Director for Milagro WG.

My home is in West Hollywood , Ca, but do reside part time in Tempe, Az. My list of accomplishments include: Owner and President for ColorguardUSA.com which provide educational services through out Arizona and California. Currently, the Guard Director and designer for Chino HS World Guard and Upland HS in So Cal. As an educator of over 30 years, I have found much success in creating a positive and safe environment to my students and staff. I see over 300 students and instructors a month on a normal basis, I guess you could say that I want this activity to keep growing more and more each year.

My goals as Color Guard Director is to be an advocate for all instructors and designers with concerns they may have through out the season, or preparing for a new one. I will make myself available to those who have the desire to further themselves as teachers and creators.

Brandy Dubois

Brandy DuBose attended Texas State University-San Marcos as a Dance Performance major and also taught the Bobcat Marching Band Colorguard and Millennia Independent Open Winterguard for 11 years. In Texas, she taught Seguin HS color guard for 10 years from 1995-1998 and 2000-2006. After moving to Arizona in May 2006, Brandy began working with Arizona State University Sun Devil Colorguard, where she is the Director and choreographer. Brandy is the Instructional Specialist for the Director of Bands at Arizona State University.

In addition to the many high school and college color guard programs Ms. DuBose has been involved with, she has served as the Vice President of the Texas Color Guard Circuit from 2003 – 2006. In 1998-1999 Brandy was the Colorguard Caption Head for Tarheel Sun Drum and Bugle Corps, 2001-2002 Santa Clara Vanguard Color Guard as an equipment technician. In addition to her involvement with ASU, Brandy is the Colorguard Caption Head for The Academy Drum & Bugle Corps and the Academy World Class Winterguard. Brandy has been a huge part in the growth for students for 19 years in the colorguard activity and continues to help promote the Sport of the Arts. She has taught several clinics in all aspects of the sport and continues to help others with the growth of their own teams as a consultant for high schools in the Phoenix Area.

As the Colorguard Director I would like to continue to share knowledge that I have learned through performing at WGI, taking a group to compete at WGI, and as a spectator through the years. I have been active in the WGI arena for 17 years and want to share my experiences and my knowledge of the activity to ensure the growth of the activity in Arizona. Through helping plan and organize the Clinic last fall I want to continue to support the circuit and its members through the position of Colorguard Director.

Rodney Bailey

Hello. My name is Rodney Bailey and it is with great pleasure that I accept the nomination for Colorguard Director for WGAZ. I am from Jacksonville, Alabama, but also reside in Mesa, AZ. I have been involved in this activity for nineteen years in various capacities, which include: performer, instructor, director, administrator and adjudicator. These titles were held in circuits throughout the Southeast as well as within WGAZ. One of the reasons why I accepted these positions was to insure that the members of each circuit had every resource needed to succeed and to also serve as a liaison between the membership, judges and administration. I am currently the designer for the Highland High School Winterguard as well as the Mesquite High School Winterguard and an adjudicator for WGAZ and the Gulfcoast Judges Association. Those of you who know me know that I truly care about the young people in this activity.

I have been involved with The Spirit of JSU Drum and Bugle Corps, as well as the Southwind Drum and Bugle Corps based out of Lexington, KY. I have directed several winter programs throughout the Southeast, which include the JSU Center Stage Winterguard (3 time WGI Independent A finalist, 2006 WGI Independent Open Bronze Medalist and 2007 WGI Independent World Finalist).

I was the 2004 SCGC Service Award Recipient, the 2005 SCGC Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, the former president of the Southeastern Colorguard Circuit and The Southern Association for Performing Arts. I currently hold a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters in Education degree from Jacksonville State University and am currently an instructor of English.

If elected to the position of Colorguard Director I will strive to make the concerns of the membership known and to promote a positive education environment for our directors, performers and spectators.

Thank you for your consideration.

Secretary Candidate:

Amy Kochsis

Show Host Coordinator Candidate

Rebekah Wilson

My name is Rebekah Wilson and I am originally from Tucson, Arizona. I have been involved with colorguard in Arizona for fifteen years. I marched in Mirage Independent A Winterguard in Tucson in 1999, 2000 and 2001, the University of Arizona Winterguard in 2001, and aged out with Exaltation Independent A Winterguard in 2002. I have previously taught colorguard at Canyon Del Oro, Sabino, and Ironwood Ridge High Schools in Tucson, at Mesquite HS in Gilbert, and Westwood HS in Mesa. I have been living in the Chandler/Gilbert area since 2004, and have been judging equipment for WGAZ since 2005. I have been involved with WGAZ for the last 10 years and I would love to have this opportunity to help the circuit.

I currently work as a Project Geologist for GEC, an environmental consulting firm in Phoenix and I have a Bachelor of Science in Geosciences from the University of Arizona.