

# MARCH IN THE 2013 MACY'S THANKSGIVING PARADE



## Macy's GREAT AMERICAN Marching Band



**New York City, New York**  
**Information Packet:**  
**Winds, Percussion,**  
**Flags & Dancers**  
**November 23-29, 2013**

*Music Festivals*





On November 28, 2013, a musical tradition will continue. In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade™ in 2006, an inaugural "national band" debuted to rave reviews. Once again, Macy's Annual Events has selected MUSIC FESTIVALS as their proud partner in forming the seventh annual Macy's Great American Marching Band.

Honoring America's finest young musicians, this band will be comprised of select students from all over the United States. Under the direction of Auburn University's Dr. Richard Good and Mr. Barry Houser, University of Illinois, the 185 musicians will be complemented by approximately 30 flags and dancers choreographed by DCI and WGI experienced staff.

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade™ is internationally recognized as the official start of the holiday season and world-famous as a uniquely American entertainment extravaganza. Once again, this prestigious band will take an honor position among the gigantic helium balloons, impressive floats carrying celebrities, and the nation's top marching bands. Stepping-off from Central Park, the Band will be cheered by the 2.5 million spectators lining the parade route. Arriving at Macy's Herald Square, the Band will perform for celebrity hosts, a grandstand audience, and more than 50 million TV viewers watching the broadcast live on NBC.

In addition to marching in the parade, all selected participants will enjoy the electric sights and sounds of New York City with included meals, lodging, and sightseeing. Are you ready to be a part of the Macy's Great American Marching Band?

**Mr. Robin Hall**  
Former Macy's Group Vice President of Annual and Special Events; New York, NY



**Dr. Richard Good**  
Director of Bands at Auburn University; Auburn, AL



**Mr. Barry Houser**  
Associate Director of Bands and Director of the Marching Illini at University of Illinois; Champaign, IL



**Dr. Douglas Rosener**  
Clinician for Vic Firth and Sabian; Percussion Instructor; Associate Director of Bands at Auburn University; Auburn, AL

## ELIGIBILITY / APPLICATION

Applicants must be an enrolled freshmen to senior (9th-12th grade) high school student during the 2013-2014 school year. Slots by state and position are limited. **Deadlines for rolling admission are March 30th, May 30th, June 30th, August 15th, and September 30th.** Apply early for the best chance of selection as openings by state and or instrument/position can close at anytime after the first deadline.

All applicants will be notified of acceptance on a rolling basis. A *non-refundable* application processing fee of \$15.00 is required by each participant. Brass and woodwind players must submit an audio recording (cassette or CD). Percussionists, flags and dancers must submit a video audition (DVD or YouTube).

## SCHEDULE REQUIREMENTS

All selected participants are required to be at the hotel in New Jersey (outside of NYC) by 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 23, 2013. The first mandatory group activity will take place at Sunday's breakfast and continue through Thursday evening. Friday, November 29th is the return home travel day (breakfast at hotel is included).

## PACKAGE PLAN

The Macy's Great American Marching Band participant package is \$1,519.00 *per musician* or \$1,579.00 *per flag/dancer* and includes:

- Band membership with performance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
  - Six-nights (6), first-class hotel accommodations in NJ (*Quad Occupancy*)
  - Meals: Six (6) Breakfasts, Three (3) Lunches, and Five (5) Dinners
  - Round-trip chartered motorcoach transportation for all Band rehearsals, including sightseeing/meals and Parade
  - Transfers from Penn Station, JFK, LaGuardia, and Newark Airports
  - NYC Sightseeing: *WTC Visitors Center, Top of the Rock Observation Deck, and NYC Stage Performance\**
  - Thanksgiving Dinner Dance Reception
  - Student Education session with Guest Speaker(s) TBA
  - Instruction with professional staff
  - Official Macy's Commemorative Patch and Participant Button
  - Use of the official Macy's Great American Marching Band Uniform
  - Macy's Great American Marching Band Windbreaker, Lanyard, & T-Shirt (*Warm-Up suit for Auxiliary*)
  - Macy's Week-in-Review DVD
- \*Activities subj. to change

## TRANSPORTATION COSTS

The \$1,519.00 / 1,579.00 per participant cost does not include transportation costs. *Travel to/from NYC/NJ is the responsibility of the student.* Motorcoach transportation while in NYC/NJ is provided. In addition, members will be met at Penn Station, LaGuardia, JFK, and Newark Airports by an official Band staff member for included transfers to/from the host hotel.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

The \$1,519.00 / \$1,579.00 per participant fee (*quad occupancy*) is divided into installments based on your acceptance date. Final balance will be due by October 21, 2013. You will receive a payment schedule and coupons in your Acceptance Binder. *All payments are non-refundable.*

## ROOMING INFORMATION

All selected participants will be *housed in quad rooms (four people) with two double beds.* Upgrades to doubles are available at an additional charge; however, single occupancy is not permitted for safety reasons. Assignments will be made by the staff of MUSIC FESTIVALS.



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Subject to Finalization)

## Saturday, November 23, 2013

### **Travel Day**

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Meet a Macy's Great American Marching Band rep. at airport/train station for transfer to hotel or arrive at hotel if driving.  
Uniform Fittings.

8:00 p.m. - All participants must be checked into hotel

## Sunday, November 24, 2013

Morning - Welcome Breakfast at hotel

All Day - Admission to WTC Visitors Center followed by free time in Times Square

Evening - Dinner at Hotel followed by Group Meetings  
- Student Session w/ Guest Speaker

## Monday, November 25, 2013

Morning - Breakfast at hotel

All Day - Rehearsal and Lunch

Evening - Dinner followed by Admission to Top of the Rock Observation Deck for evening views of the city



## Tuesday, November 26, 2013

Morning - Breakfast at Hotel followed by Rehearsal

Afternoon - Head downtown for lunch followed by free time to shop for souvenirs in Times Square area

Evening - Group Dinner at Bubba Gump's Shrimp Company



## Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Morning - Breakfast at Hotel / Rehearsal

Afternoon - Boxed Lunch and Matinee  
Performance of NYC Show TBA

Evening - Dinner at Restaurant TBA

- Group Band Photo in Times Square

- Return to hotel for uniform pick up and to rest for the evening



## Thursday, November 28, 2013

### **PARADE DAY**

2:30 a.m. - Depart hotel dressed in performance attire

4:10 a.m. - Street Rehearsal on parade route

5:30 a.m. - Breakfast at Hard Rock Cafe

TBA - Step-off to march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade through NYC

TBA - Herald Square Performance

12:00 p.m. - Return to hotel to change, eat lunch, and turn in uniform

Evening- Closing Ceremony with Thanksgiving Dinner, Dance, and Reception



## Friday, November 29, 2013

### **Travel Day**

Morning - Breakfast-To-Go at the hotel

Morning - Transfer to airport/train station  
- Hotel check out by 10:00 a.m.

\*All meal and sightseeing locations subject to finalization



### **CODE OF CONDUCT/ STUDENT SAFETY**

MUSIC FESTIVALS will provide chaperones and supervisory staff at the hotel and during the official schedule of events to ensure students' well being. Chaperones will conduct bed checks, nightly meetings, and wake-up checks. Chaperones and medical staff will stay at the hotel and accompany students to all scheduled events and sightseeing. In addition, the host hotel is located outside of NYC and offers interior corridors for safety. Chaperones will not be parents but staff affiliated with schools.

All selected students will be required by MUSIC FESTIVALS to sign and abide by a Code of Conduct Agreement. Students' guardians will also be required to sign the Code of Conduct Agreement.



### **FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Since the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is an American institution, your family and friends are welcome to watch you march down Broadway. Opportunities for family and friends will be available with information included in student's acceptance packet.



### **DON'T HESITATE TO APPLY**

Being selected to participate in the Band is a prestigious opportunity that many in your neighborhood will be glad to support. You and your parents don't have to fund the trip all by yourself. Contact local businesses, music organizations, newspapers, churches, Lions and Women's organizations, travel agencies, etc., to help sponsor your trip.

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