



For further information:

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Office of the Superintendent
of Schools
262/653-6320

Public Information Office
262/653-6266

Or contact:

2004 Band-O-Rama To Feature Over 1600 Student-Musicians

The forty-seventh annual Kenosha Unified School District Band-O-Rama will be presented on Saturday, February 7th at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday, February 8th at 2:00 P.M. It will showcase 24 school bands and over 1,600 student-musicians. The guest conductor for this year's festival is Dr. Rob McWilliams, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Bands and Instrumental Music Education at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

This year, for the first time, both programs will be broadcast live on Kenosha Unified's Channel 20 through Time Warner Cable. Overflow audience members can also view the program live in the Bradford cafeteria. Tickets are not necessary for viewing in the cafeteria.

General admission is \$4.00 and tickets may be purchased in advance from the Fine Arts Department Office of the Kenosha Unified School District at 3600-52nd Street weekdays between 7:45 A.A. and 4:15 P.M. The two programs are identical, so the general public is asked to please purchase tickets for only one performance. Due to the high demand for tickets, patrons purchasing tickets in advance must be seated by 7:20 P.M. on Saturday evening and 1:50 P.M. on Sunday afternoon. Unoccupied seats will be released at that time. Tickets will not be sold at the door until 10 minutes before concert time and then only if seating is available.

Guest conductor, Dr. Rob McWilliams conducts the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band and teaches courses in instrumental music education, conducting and jazz at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. An internationally accomplished musician, conductor and educator, Dr. McWilliams was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia. A United States resident since 1991, Dr. McWilliams holds a Ph.D. in Music from the University of Minnesota, a Master's degree in Instrumental Conducting from Florida State University, and a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Melbourne.

Participating directors and their schools are Louis Covelli and Kenneth Wiele, Tremper High School; Alex Sabo and Brad Feigles, Bradford High School; John Nepper, Bullen Middle School; Paul Taylor, Lance Middle School; Eric Smedley, Lincoln Middle School; Kristie Weyrauch, Mahone Middle School; Karl Mueller, McKinley Middle School; Michael Monk, Washington Middle School; and Elementary Directors, Leslie Blitstein, Kathryn Thorson, Kathryn Ripley, John Whyte and Brad Feigles. Dr. Timothy Yontz, Coordinator of Fine Arts for the Kenosha Unified School District, will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Band-O-Rama/2

The Kenosha Band Boosters will assist with the program. In a special presentation during the performances, the Band Boosters will recognize several individuals, businesses and community organizations for their exceptional service in support of the school music program.

The Band-O-Rama program will open with the combined middle and high school bands, under the direction of Dr. McWilliams, performing Bedrich Smetana's "March of Freedom." This opening selection will be followed by the massed bands performing "The Star Spangled Banner," with presentation of the national colors by the Color Guard of the BlackWatch.

The program continues with selections by the combined elementary Beginners' Band, Sixth Grade Cadet Band and combined Middle School Concert Bands, all under the direction of the District's band staff. Dr. McWilliams will then conduct the combined Middle School Symphonic Bands and combined High School Bands. The concert will conclude with John Philip Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever," which will feature the full massed band of over 1600 elementary, middle school and high school students and will also include special flag pageantry provided by the color guards of the Continental and Rambler Bands and the Band of the BlackWatch.

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For additional information contact:
Timothy Yontz, Ph.D.
Coordinator of Fine Arts
Kenosha Unified School District No. 1
3600-52nd Street
Kenosha, WI 53144
Phone: 653-6388