



Welcome To The 2019  
Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps!

## **About The Raiders**

The Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps was originally founded in 1990 as a nationally competitive drum corps. In 2013 the organization underwent a restructuring whereby The Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps became a program within the larger and newly created A Plus Education and Performing Arts Inc (“A Plus”).

A Plus is a registered non-profit 501c(3) organization (NJ business ID # 0400598188; Non-Profit Youth Organization #46-3604485, NJ Charitable # 1730300A). Based in Burlington NJ A Plus consists of 4 active programs:

- The Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps
- East Coast Percussion
- WinterStar
- Riverfront Community Players

The Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps was founded with one primary goal - to afford any young adults the opportunity to march in a drum corps.

A drum and bugle corps is a musical marching unit consisting of brass instruments, percussion instruments and color guard. Drum corps are specialized marching bands. Each year, throughout the USA more than 8,000 students audition for the fewer than 3,500 positions available in Drum Corps International (DCI) member corps such as The Raiders. Competitive drum corps take part in a summer tour, visiting various cities around the country and participating in competitions. Competitions occur on football fields. Every year, each drum corps prepares a single show, approximately 8–12 minutes in length, and carefully refines this throughout the entire summer tour. This focus on a single show takes advantage of the large amount of time needed to hone and refine a modern drum corps program, with a momentum that continues to build toward the last performance of the season – championships.

Currently, DCI assigns North American corps to two classes, and corps from Europe and Asia are assigned to the International Class. Corps from all classes often compete together, but are judged and ranked separately.

- i. World Class (formerly Division I) corps are the corps that have chosen to compete at the highest level and that have shown the DCI leadership that they have the ability to survive at this level both competitively and financially. In general, the higher a corps is ranked at the DCI Championships, the higher the performance fees they will earn for the following season's performances.
- ii. Open Class (formerly Divisions II & III) corps are generally smaller or committed to a lesser competitive level. In September 2007, DCI combined the former Divisions II and III into this new division.

The Raiders competes as an Open Class Corp. In 2001 The Raiders were silver medalists season and in 2005 they were gold medalist, winning the championship. Since then they have always finished in the top 10 Open Class Corps.

**DCI has a great article for parents of drum corps members on their website: just Google “drum corp parents”**

## **Membership**

The Raiders accepts members who will be between the ages of 14 and 21 during the competitive seasons. Drum Corps International's age limit is 21 years of age with one exception. Corps members who turn 22 on or after June 1 are eligible to march during that year. An Open Class Corps may march up to a maximum of one hundred fifty (150) members.

Member of The Raiders learn to combine the intellect of artistic and musical virtues with the achievement and excellence of athletic prowess. The benefits of being a Raider transcend competitive success, they build life enhancing skills and self-confidence that will assist them throughout their adult life. They will be better citizens, employees, students, parents, and friends because of all they learn

The Raiders aims to attract members from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. At the beginning of every season every position is available.

Membership is based upon the following factors:

- Dedication
- Willingness and ability to learn
- Talent
- Physical fitness
- Ability to meet all time commitments and financial requirements

While talent is an important factor, we also look for individuals who is willing to learn and work hard to improve. Auditions for The Raiders take place over the course of several camps. Potential members are given material to work on at their first camp and at the next camp staff look to assess their ability to grow and learn. Potential members are encouraged to attend every possible camp so that they can get the best and fairest evaluation from our staff. When offered a place with The Raiders each individual (whether a new member or a returning member) will be offered a contract to sign. The contract clearly lays out all the commitments a member makes to the organization by accepting the offer.

### **The Season:**

The 2019 Raiders season begins with the camp on November 23, 2018 and concludes when the corps returns from DCI World Championships on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## RAIDERS 2019 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**AUDITIONS 2019 OPEN HOUSE/AUDITIONS:** 11/23-25

**DECEMBER CAMP** 12/14-16

### **WEEKEND CAMPS**

**JANUARY CAMP:** 1/18-1/20

**FEBRUARY CAMP:** 2/15-17

**MARCH CAMP:** 3/8-10, 3/15-17

**APRIL CAMP:** 4/5-7, 4/26-28

**MAY:** 3-5, 17-19, 24-26

**JUNE:** May 31-Jun 2, 7-9, 14-16

### **MINI TOUR**

Jun 21-Jul 7

### **TOUR**

Jul 17 - Aug 11

\*Schedule is subject to change with advance notice.

### **EVENTS:**

**CIP Parade NYC - 6/2/18**

**July 4 Parades - 7/4**

**Trenton Thunder Game - 7/5 or 7/6**

**Preview Show - TBA**

**Raiders Alumni BBQ - TBA**

### **Practices & Camps:**

All members are expected to be at the scheduled rehearsals, camps and both summer tours. Only school and band related activities constitute acceptable conflicts. Valid excuses for absences will be allowed if the caption head and corps management team are notified prior to the conflict.

All personal time (such as vacations, college orientation, etc.) must be scheduled so as not to interfere with either of the summer tours.

### **Rehearsal Etiquette:**

In general rehearsals are closed to spectators. There will however be designated times during the season when friends, family and supporters may be invited to a rehearsal, details are sent out via e-mail close to the date.

### **Performances:**

A schedule of competitions can be found both The Raiders website and the DCI website.

### **Dress for the Occasion:**

Drum Corps is an outdoor activity, be prepared for the weather. For camps early in the year it can be cold

early in the morning and later in the day – bring layers! During the summer sunscreen and water bottles are required.

**Uniforms:**

Uniforms are provided by The Raiders. Members are responsible for the cost of accessories such as gloves, T-Shirts, undergarments and makeup (colorguard only).

**Meals and food preparation**

During camp weekends and tour The Raiders provides its member with all meals. Both rehearsal and performances are very physically demanding and members burn a large number of calories each day. In addition, it is generally hot so it is important that members stay hydrated and replace any salts lost due to perspiration. Meals are planned based on whether the it is a show day or rehearsal day and a variety of options and protein sources are utilized to ensure balanced meals each day.

A. Camp Weekends - Camp weekends typically run from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon.

Friday Evening - snack after the conclusion of the rehearsal.

Saturday - Meals typically consist of:

- A cold breakfast
- Lunch (*hot or cold*)
- Dinner (*hot*)
- Evening Snack – served after the final block of the day similar options to that of Friday night.

Sunday – Meals generally consist of:

- A hot breakfast
- Lunch - final meal for camp weekends

B. Tour - Meal options on tour are the same as those of camp weekends. The only difference to the structure is the addition of a mid-day snack prior to the final ensemble rehearsal of the day and dinner after the conclusion of rehearsal.

- Typical tour day meals are; breakfast, lunch, heavy snack (*pb&j, fruits, sandwich crackers + granola bars*), dinner.
- Every show day on tour has a hot breakfast and rehearsal days rotate between hot and cold breakfasts. Juices, gatorade, and water are available at all meals for both camps and tour days.

## **2019 Financial Commitments**

The total cost of the 2019 season is currently estimated to be \$240,000 these costs are covered by a combination of membership dues, fundraising and donations from supporters and sponsors.

### **1. Membership Dues & Fees**

Dues include all meals and transportation for tour/mini tour, tuition (guard/instrumental), professional membership and competition fees.

The total dues for the 2019 season per member are:

\$1900 for returning members; or

\$2200 for new members

In addition there is a \$50 one-time non-refundable registration fee and a camp fee of \$50 per attended camp. Payment schedules are laid out in the membership contracts.

#### **Note:**

- Dues are not based on attendance.
- Dues do not include camp fees.
- There will be a charge for any payment overdue by 10 days. A fee will be added for NSF checks of declined debit/credit cards.
- Members are responsible for all membership fees & costs, regardless of the date they join.

#### **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT PAYMENTS ARE MET BEFORE TOUR BEGINS!**

The Raiders never turn away any student with the passion to perform at the highest level of marching music. However every student is required to meet the financial commitment of the Raiders. Therefore any student/family in need of financial assistance must meet with the Director to arrange a payment plan and must participate in every fundraiser available.

### **2. Fundraising**

Every member is expected to participate in fundraisers.

Not only does participation in these fundraisers allow members to raise money towards their dues it enables them to contribute to the overall running of the organization. The central Raiders funds are used for equipment purchases, vehicle maintenance, uniforms, professional association fees, staff reimbursement and other general running costs that every professional organizations incurs.

### **3. Volunteers**

The Raiders has always needed a dedicated group of volunteers to keep it running.

Volunteer activities include making props, cooking, sewing, measuring for uniforms, manning fundraising events, acting as a chaperone on tour etc. If you are interested in volunteering at a camp or one of our summer tours, please contact DeLano Bonner at [delano@raidersdbc.org](mailto:delano@raidersdbc.org).

## The Raiders Drum & Bugle Corps – 2019 Staff

Name		Position		Name		Position	
<b>Administration</b>				<b>Brass Staff</b>			
DeLano Bonner	Executive Director	Cameron Baker	Brass Caption Head				
Harlan Landes	Assistant Director	David Enloe	Asst. Caption Head				
Bryan Jenner	Operations Manager		Brass Tech				
Jessica Allen	Member & Alumni Relations Mgr.		Brass Tech				
Laura Beasley	Finance Manager		Brass Tech				
TBA	Food Manager		Brass Tech				
<b>Design Staff</b>				<b>Percussion Staff</b>			
	Brass Arranger	Alejandro Gallo	Percussion Caption Head				
Travis Peterman	Battery Arranger		Front Ensemble Coordinator				
TBA	Front Ensemble Arranger	Chris Cossuto	Snare Tech				
TBA	Drill/Visual Designer	Jason Phillips	Tenor Tech				
John Burns	Program Coordinator	Kathleen Ballard	Cymbal Tech				
Lauren Burns	Program Coordinator	Tom Heider	Snare Tech				
	<b>Visual Staff</b>	Joey Scanlon	Tenor Tech				
Jess Heintz	Visual Caption Head	<b>Color Guard Staff</b>					
Matt Norse	Visual Tech	Lindell Palmer	Color Guard Caption Head				
		Tykeem Rainey					
		Catherine Velkoff					
		Terry Hurley					
		Edgard Santos					

### Contacts:

Delano Bonner (Executive Director): [Delano@Raidersdbc.org](mailto:Delano@Raidersdbc.org)

Harlan Landes (Assistant Director): [Harlan@raidersdbc.org](mailto:Harlan@raidersdbc.org)

Bryan Jenner (Operations Manager): [Bryan@raidersdbc.org](mailto:Bryan@raidersdbc.org)

Laura Beasley (Finance Manager): [Laura@aplusarts.org](mailto:Laura@aplusarts.org)

Jessica Allen (Member and Alumni Relations Manager): [Jessica@Raidersdbc.org](mailto:Jessica@Raidersdbc.org)

*Drum Corps is a great sport and art to join. It's one of the few activities that doesn't require a certain gender or height. Plus, you'll make friends, memories, and muscles!*

*Join The Raiders...it's worth it!!*

### **For members:**

- ***Be on time!*** We have limited amounts of time for rehearsals so we like to make sure we utilize every minute. If you are traveling long distances or get stuck in traffic please ensure that the caption heads are aware of when you will arrive or leave.
- ***Be Prepared!*** Our instructors have provided a rigorous program to make sure that we are competitive. In doing so they ask that you practice and turn in video assignments. This will allow the staff to gauge your understanding of the show as well as any corrections they need to do.
- ***Keep up with your payment schedule!*** A+ Education & Performing Arts and The Raiders can only operate through the tuition as well as any fundraising the board provides. Paying late or not paying at all puts a hardship on the staff and members. If your child is paying by him or herself make sure that you still are involved and that no payments are missed.
- ***Participate in Fundraising!*** The administrative staff has put together a great fundraising program that will assist with payment of the tuition. This is to help you and only works if you really participate.

### **For Parents & Volunteers:**

- ***Be Supportive!*** A lot of changes will happen during the season. All members will be encouraged to push themselves further than they have before. Just remember, no staff member will make a member do anything they don't think they are capable of. Make sure you come to the shows and see their amazing progress.
- ***Be Active!*** The Raiders has its own Mobile Food Kitchen with no staff. To ensure the members are provided with healthy meals we need parents and volunteers come together to donate food and/or provide their cooking expertise. We also need assistance in maintaining uniforms, our trailers and other miscellaneous items