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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE !

The 45th Annual ISSMA State Finals for High School Marching Bands will be held Saturday, November 4, 2017 in Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis. ISSMA is proud to announce that this prestigious event is being sponsored by Music Travel Consultants, with Supporting Sponsorships by Band Shoppe, Paige's Music, and the U.S. Marine Corps. In addition, American Dairy Association Indiana and Prairie Farms Dairy will award a \$1,000 "Winners Drink Milk" Scholarship to a music student at each of the four state champion schools.

The top ten (10) scoring bands in each of the four Open Class Enrollment Categories from the Semi-State will compete for ranking order and the title of State Champion for their respective Open Class Category, beginning with Open Class D at 10:00am. Performing in exhibition at 9:25am will be the Scholastic Class B Champion followed by the Scholastic Class A Champion. The forty-six (46) bands that participated in the Scholastic Class were limited by both band size and school enrollment.

One hundred and three (103) Open Class bands began performance on October 14 at one of four regional sites. Eighty (80) bands, twenty (20) in each enrollment category, determined by size of school, continued to Semi-State performance on October 28, and now the forty (40) bands, representing the best in the state will meet at the State Finals to decide the four State Champions. Indiana High School Marching Bands consistently rank among the nation's finest and this is widely known as one of the very best State High School Marching Band events in the country.

Admission is \$20.00 for adults and \$18.00 for students and pre-school. The time schedule of participating bands is located on our web site www.issma.net.

If you desire Media Credentials, please call the ISSMA Office *not later than Noon, Thursday, November 2*, for arrangements, and passes to be reserved in your name. Please bring some kind of journalist's I.D. or a letter from the editor. To pick up your credential packet, enter at the Northwest corner of the stadium (Missouri & South Streets) at the entrance labeled "Media Will-Call." ISSMA representatives will be there to give you your packet. The Media Pass will admit you to the stands and field level via the aisle between Section 143 & 144. Photographers are to remain behind the yellow dotted lines on the field. **Due to security restrictions, your bag may be searched upon entering the gate.**

Entry into the warm-up area is restricted. To be admitted to warm-up, reporters and photographers must carry a "Personnel Pass" provided by the school's band director they are covering. If early approval was obtained/granted, the "Personnel Pass" for each band approved will be included with the general Field Level pass.

ISSMA's Media Policy is available for review at www.issma.net via the "Media" link.