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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE !

The 53rd ISSMA State Finals for High School Marching Bands will be held Saturday, November 7, 2026 in Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis. ISSMA is proud to recognize Paige's Music as the presenting sponsor of this prestigious event. Supporting sponsors include Band Shoppe, Music Travel Consultants, SBN Broadcasting Networks, and Silent Command. 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 four Open Class Enrollment Categories from the Semi-State will compete for ranking order and the title of State Champion in their respective Open Class Category. Open Class B will begin at 10:00am, followed by Class C, D, and A. Performing in exhibition at 9:25am will be the Scholastic Class B Champion followed by the Scholastic Class A Champion. The fifty (50) bands that participated in the Scholastic Class were classified by both band size and school enrollment. The Scholastic Class Finals were held on October 17th at Franklin Central High School in Indianapolis.

Ninety-six (96) Open Class bands classified into Class A, B, C, or D as determined by the previous year's school enrollment size, began performance on October 10th at one of four regional sites. Eighty (80) bands continued to Semi-state performance on October 24th. Now the forty (40) bands, representing the best in the state, will meet at the State Finals to decide the four State Champions. Since 1973, Indiana High School Marching Bands have consistently ranked 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 $30.00 for adults and $25.00 for students and pre-school (children under three admitted at no charge). Only mobile tickets (no paper tickets) will be sold, and a smartphone will be needed to present tickets for entry. Visit https://www.issma.net/downloads/mbstatefinalsticketinfo26.pdf for more ticket information. The time schedule of participating bands is located on our website www.issma.net. NFL's Clear Bag Policy will be in effect for this event.

NEW THIS YEAR: To obtain a Media Pass, your media organization must reserve a pass ***not later than Wednesday, November 4th*** at https://www.issma.net/mediapasses/, where uploading your official press ID will be required. On event day, enter Lucas Oil Stadium at the Northwest corner of the stadium (Missouri & South Streets) at the entrance labeled "Media Will-Call", and present your press ID. ISSMA representatives there will verify your request and provide your pass. 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 "Field Pass" obtained in advance from the school's band director they are covering. The Field Pass will not allow photography at field level.

Please read ISSMA's Media Policy at www.issma.net via the "Information / Media" link, prior to requesting credentials.