

COLTS

YOUTH ORGANIZATION

We use music & excellence to teach each other about success in life.

May 14, 2020

Hello Colts Supporter,

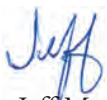
We are all living in an unknown world managing the effects of COVID-19. Every one of us has been impacted in some way. The Colts, and the drum corps activity, certainly are not immune. You are likely aware that the entire 2020 Drum Corps International summer tour has been cancelled. **We are disappointed for our students who've worked so hard**—first to earn a position in the 2020 Colts, and then to prepare the summer show for competition. But their work was not in vain. The Colts design team is putting the finishing touches on what will now be our 2021 show, and the vast majority of our 2020 members are planning to return.

When tour was officially cancelled on March 26, we knew our first task was to develop a summer curriculum to keep our students engaged. On April 2, just a week later, we launched *Colts Homeroom*—a 16-week drum corps workout open to any student interested in improving their skills in performance, movement, and physical fitness. *Colts Homeroom* also allowed us to provide a stipend to some of our instructional staff who have been severely impacted as well.

SO WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US? Essentially we have two years of operations with only one year of income. We will save thousands without going on tour, no doubt, but we will also lose many more thousands by not performing, not hosting events like *Music On The March*, and not selling t-shirts and other merchandise. We put together a two-year budget to help the Colts board better understand the financial ramifications of a summer without tour. Things are changing all the time, but that **budget currently projects we're \$237,000 short of breaking even by the end of Fiscal Year 2021**. We understand that many of you are hurting, and we do not want anyone to give beyond their ability. But if you have the means, we ask that you make a donation to our 2020 ANNUAL APPEAL so the Colts can emerge from this crisis stronger than ever. We have 57 years of history reminding us that *we can do it!*

Now before anyone writes a doomsday story about the Colts, let me assure you we have complete confidence in our people and strategies already underway to help weather the storm. Like many nonprofits, we have gotten some relief from government funding. We have a nice amount of equity in our building, if refinancing becomes a consideration. And **we have folks like you who believe in what we do** to build character and leadership skills in some of the most dedicated young people on the planet. We will be here to continue our mission once the pandemic subsides. And we will continue to provide life-changing opportunities for our members so they can deliver amazing performances that make us all proud to be Colts!

Thank you so much for your support!



Jeff MacFarlane
Executive Director
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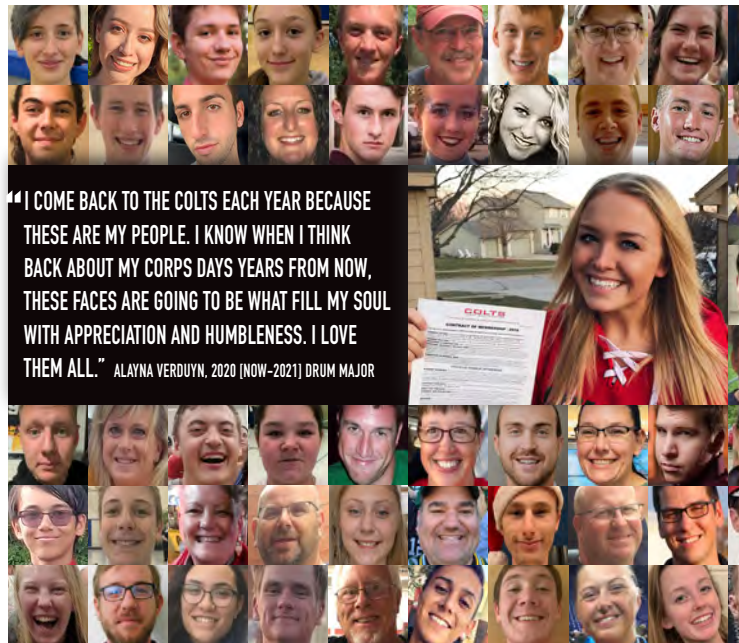
*Colts Alumni



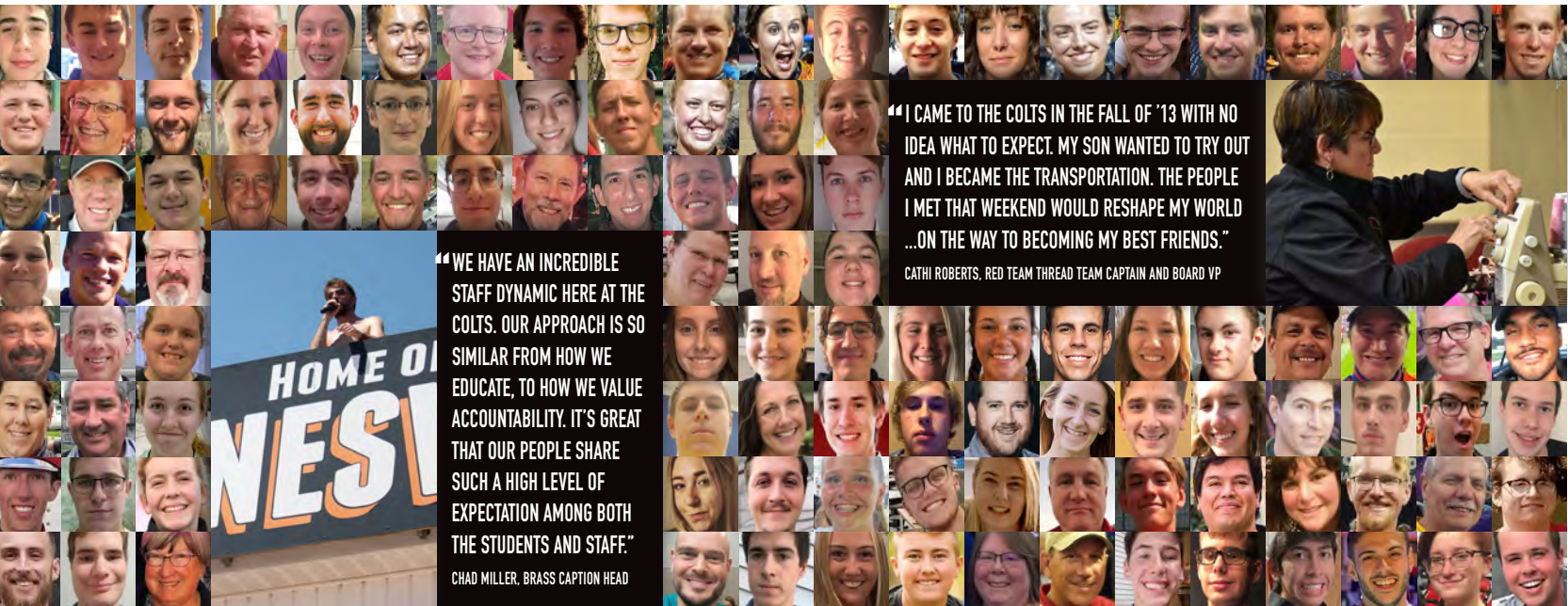
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2020 WHO WOULD'VE GUESSED...A SUMMER WITHOUT DRUM CORPS? CANCELLATION OF THE DCI TOUR HAS CERTAINLY BEEN A SHOCK TO OUR SYSTEM, AND IT'S MADE US LOOK AT EVERYTHING WE DO A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY. BUT **WHAT WE WERE QUICKLY REMINDED OF ARE THE INCREDIBLE PEOPLE THAT MAKE UP THE COLTS. NOT JUST THE MEMBERS—WHO ARE AMONG THE BEST IN THE ACTIVITY—BUT ALSO OUR AMAZING INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF, DEDICATED BOARD MEMBERS WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES, AND OUR UNBEATABLE LEGION OF ALUMNI & VOLUNTEERS. HELP US EMERGE FROM COVID-19 STRONGER THAN EVER WITH A GIFT TO OUR ANNUAL APPEAL.**



"I COME BACK TO THE COLTS EACH YEAR BECAUSE THESE ARE MY PEOPLE. I KNOW WHEN I THINK BACK ABOUT MY CORPS DAYS YEARS FROM NOW, THESE FACES ARE GOING TO BE WHAT FILL MY SOUL WITH APPRECIATION AND HUMBLENESS. I LOVE THEM ALL." ALAYNA VERDUYN, 2020 (NOW-2021) DRUM MAJOR



"I CAME TO THE COLTS IN THE FALL OF '13 WITH NO IDEA WHAT TO EXPECT. MY SON WANTED TO TRY OUT AND I BECAME THE TRANSPORTATION. THE PEOPLE I MET THAT WEEKEND WOULD RESHAPE MY WORLD ...ON THE WAY TO BECOMING MY BEST FRIENDS."

CATHI ROBERTS, RED TEAM THREAD TEAM CAPTAIN AND BOARD VP



"WE HAVE AN INCREDIBLE STAFF DYNAMIC HERE AT THE COLTS. OUR APPROACH IS SO SIMILAR FROM HOW WE EDUCATE, TO HOW WE VALUE ACCOUNTABILITY. IT'S GREAT THAT OUR PEOPLE SHARE SUCH A HIGH LEVEL OF EXPECTATION AMONG BOTH THE STUDENTS AND STAFF."

CHAD MILLER, BRASS CAPTION HEAD



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TODAY!**



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a community of musicians & artists learning to
deliver the performance of a lifetime.



Your investment in OUR PEOPLE will pay dividends for years to come.