

# Welcome To The Colts

*Membership in the Colts is an amazing experience for you and your entire family.* It requires tremendous dedication, hard work, and personal responsibility but the rewards can be life-changing.

## **We invite you to attend one of our upcoming audition events.**

Our audition process evaluates your talent and experience, and also takes into consideration your level of commitment, attitude, attendance, responsibility, and parental support and participation.

Plan to attend one of our events in November or December. **You'll find the most current audition information at: [www.colts.org](http://www.colts.org).**

## **THERE IS NO OBLIGATION BY ATTENDING A REHEARSAL.**

Even if you don't become a Colt, you will learn a great deal. You will participate in your section and perform as a member of the Colts. We will assess your skills, answer your questions, and make you familiar with the Colts family.

Following your first audition, you will receive a letter that will be:

1) an offer of membership, 2) a recall for a second audition so we can evaluate your growth, or 3) a suggestion that you come back next year. Most will receive a recall to a second rehearsal, so plan accordingly.

Three-day events begin at 6:00 p.m. Friday and conclude around 4:00 p.m. Sunday. One-day events begin at 8:00 a.m and conclude around 6:00 p.m. **ALWAYS double-check the Colts website ([www.colts.org](http://www.colts.org)) before traveling to a Colts event for any last minute changes or information.**

Your next step is to submit an Info Request and RSVP at the website. Email any other questions you may have. I look forward to meeting you!

Vicki MacFarlane ([colts@colts.org](mailto:colts@colts.org))  
Director, Colts Drum & Bugle Corps

# Drum Corps FAQs

## **What is drum corps? Who or what is Drum Corps International (DCI)?**

Drum corps is like marching band except only brass instruments are used along with marching percussion, a front ensemble (pit), and color guard. Drum Corps International is comprised of groups throughout the U.S. and Canada who compete throughout the summer. In 2019, DCI will host its World Championships at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN (*Home of the NFL Colts*).

## **What do I need to become a member?**

Determination and a desire to be great! You will also need the summer available since we travel together, rehearse, and compete from Memorial Day through August 10.



## **What do I need to know before I attend an audition event?**

Fill out an information request on the Colts website ([www.colts.org](http://www.colts.org)) and audition materials will be emailed to you. You should be familiar with the exercises and come to the rehearsal prepared to play them with the group. There are also specific instructions for each section.

## **How much does it cost to audition? How much for summer membership?**

The first audition you attend is \$175. Pay in advance and SAVE \$25. Each camp that you attend after that is \$60. The cost for summer tour is around \$50 per day, which includes all of your meals, housing, transportation, the use of new Yamaha instruments or color guard equipment, and your uniform for the summer. Many members find sponsors to help fund a portion of their summer dues.



## **How do I get to a rehearsal? Where will I stay?**

Most people drive or fly to our rehearsals. We can help you find others driving from your area, and know that your parents are welcome to attend with you. We can help you find flights, and for our three-day events, provide transportation from the airport to our rehearsals if you reach out to us in advance. For three-day events, you will sleep at the facility where we rehearse for the weekend. Your parents are also welcome to stay with us.

## **How many members are in the Colts? Where do they all come from?**

DCI limits membership to 154. The Colts range in age from 16-21, and while we have a great base of membership throughout the Midwest, many members come from all over the U.S. and as far away as The Netherlands, England, and Japan.

**What if I don't know anyone?** You'll hear when you arrive to an event, "Some of your best friends in life are in this room. You just haven't met them yet." This is so true of Colts members who grow incredibly close as a family throughout the summer.

## **What if I'm not good enough?**

Your job is to come to the Colts with a great attitude, and the determination and drive to be great. Our job is to make the most of your potential as a performer. We always have a place for students with persistence, determination, grit, and a desire to learn and improve.



## **When will I find out if I've made it? Will I get a second chance?**

We send letters a few days after each audition. Most will receive a "recall" so we can assess your growth, communication, and your passion to be a member of the Colts. Students can begin attending recall auditions three weeks after their initial audition. Contracts are offered starting at our first event.

## **OK...I really want to do this. How do I convince my parents?**

Membership in the Colts provides opportunities to develop leadership, responsibility, perseverance, and musical and performance education that cannot be found anywhere else. We teach you what it's like to be highly successful in a team environment...working together to achieve a common goal. You will return from summer tour with more drive and determination than you've ever had. And it will become a part of everything you do in life...*for the rest of your life.*