

2015 Colts Age-Outs

These members represent the heart and soul of the Colts in many ways, and have contributed outstanding leadership to the entire corps. These members together share 68 years of Colts membership. They will be missed. We thank them for their dedication, commitment, hard work and character. They have perpetuated the momentum of the Red Team!

Justin Ahn

Brass/Euphonium

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Hamden, CT

College: New York University

Major: Politics

Most Significant Lessons...How to persevere under the most stressful situations, and to learn and apply the lessons that are taught to every aspect of my life.

Best Memories...Receiving the email from JBuck that said it was okay to come. Talking to Craig in April camp and receiving a contract. Getting through Cornfield and receiving a chain link.

Thank You...To any friends and family for supporting me as I went on this adventure. Thank you to the corps for supporting and encouraging me to continue when I was down. Thank you to the staff, both visual (especially visual) and sectionals for giving me the tools to succeed.

Closing thoughts...To everyone who supported, encouraged and shared this endeavor with me I sincerely thank you. Marching in a drum corps has been a dream of mine that I honestly thought would never happen. However, in an odd twist of fate and quite a bit of luck I was able to live out that dream. Words fall short of the gratitude that I wish to give to each and everyone of you who have helped me along the way.

James Arita

Brass/Mellophone

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Brownsville, TX

College: Texas Southmost College

Major: Music

Most Significant Lessons...The fact that I can push myself hard, exceed my expectations, and learn to overcome anything that comes my way.

Best Memories...My first year in drum corps I finally made it to DCI prelims, and got to perform in this huge stadium, I only got to see in videos and then got the chance to be in one of the videos as one of those great performers.

Thank You...I have to thank my Mom for funding me and supporting me, and the rest of my family and friends at home, and on the field beside me every day. I love you all so much.

Closing thoughts...Thank you for the support – Mom, family and staff – for everything you have done.

Brittany Bryant

Color Guard

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Oxford State, FL

College: University of Central Florida

Major: Sport & Exercise Science

Most Significant Lessons...Begin anything with purpose and follow that until the end.

Impact on Your Life...Drum corps has changed me as a person in a way no other activity could've done.

Best Memories...When half of the guard got stung by wasps at the 2014 Allentown regional.

Thank You...Friends, family, teammates, instructors.

Words to Supporters...Much appreciative for making these summers phenomenal!

Closing thoughts...WOW Colts!!!

Erwin De Jong

Brass/Baritone
Years (Colts): 6
Hometown: Oudehaske, Friesland
The Netherlands
College: NHL Leeuwarden
Major: Industrial Engineering

Most Significant Lessons...That putting in a lot of energy and passion into something can take you really far. Also how to be very efficient with time management.

Impact on Your Life...Drum corps has made me someone who lives every day to the fullest, and gives all they got every day, so you never regret anything.

Best Memories...All the great times we had on the bus, and just having a great time with my friends.

Thank You...Thanks to my parents, who have supported me from Day 1, and all the volunteers that have helped the corps through the years.

Closing Thoughts...Drum corps has had a great impact on my life. I wouldn't be who I am today without this activity, and this organization The Colts.

Heather Dremel

Color Guard
Years (Colts): 1
Hometown: Milwaukee, WI
College: University of Wisconsin - Whitewater
Major: Marketing

Most Significant Lessons...Time management, self discipline, and accountability. How to wear make up, how to do hair, and how to be a girl. How to do anything in under 30 seconds.

Best Memories...Performing for the first time since 2012.

Thank You...Courtney Kallenberger for pushing me to audition. Thank you to my wife, Ladle.

Jon Fuller

Brass/Trumpet
Years (Colts): 5 / Years (CC): 6
Hometown: Dubuque, IA

Most Significant Lessons...Nothing is impossible, and difficulty is a matter of mindset. You won't succeed if you don't try.

Impact on Your Life...The Colts have taught me how to be great at everything I do.

Best Memories...Realizing as I left Muscatine in 2015 how much I would miss Cornfield, and realizing that I enjoy being challenged.

Thank You...Thank you to every single person that has been a part of this experience. You all deserve more than any words I can put on a page.

Words to Supporters...If you ever second guess the value of your support...don't. You are in the business of changing lives. Thank you.

Closing thoughts...Get some, Colts. Leave no doubt.

Erin Funk

Brass/Mellophone
Years (Colts): 2
Hometown: Topeka, KS
College: University of Kansas
Major: Music Education

Most Significant Lessons...I am stronger than I thought I was, and I can always push myself harder.

Best Memories...Warming up in the lot before my first show (2013). Seeing all the other corps and really realizing I was competing in a world class drum corps.

Thank You...To my parents for always supporting me, to the staff for always pushing us, and the members for always being there for everyone.

Words to Supporters...Thank you.

Caleb Goodness

Brass/Trumpet

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Wisconsin Rapids, WI

College: University of Wisconsin - Platteville

Major: Political Science

Best Memories...This season at December camp. Up until December, I wasn't going to march my age out. When I arrived at camp, I was immediately overwhelmed by love and support from my Colts family.

Thank You...To all my supporters, especially my parents, siblings, and close friends. A special thank you to my college band director for introducing me to the activity.

Closing thoughts...A special message to all those who know me well: "Wisconsin, Poli Sci, cheese curds."

Cole Hanton

Drum Major

Years (Colts): 5

Hometown: Forest Lake, MN

College: University of Minnesota

Major: Computer Science

Most Significant Lessons...Drum corps has taught me how to handle difficult situations with a positive attitude and smile on my face.

Best Memories...Singing in the showers. Walking into the Alamodome, and sleeping on the bus.

Thank You...Chris Johnston for keeping me in line and teaching me some valuable life lessons. Thank you to all my friends and family who have made this financially possible over the last five years.

Megan Hobbs

Front Ensemble/Xylo/Glock

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Kenosha, WI

College: University of Wisconsin

Major: Music Education, Instrumental Percussion

Most Significant Lessons...Drum corps has shown me how to put my all into everything I do, and that I am capable of achieving my best every single time. It has given me a new definition of what it means to try.

Impact on Your Life...Drum corps has taught me how to be a team player. You never quite understand what that actually means until you spend over 80 days straight with the same 150 people. It has also taught me how to maximize the efficiency of any situation, as well as how to appreciate the little things in life.

Best Memories...I will never forget the family I have found here.

Thank You...To my family and friends for always supporting me and pushing me to follow what I love. Thank you, Mike, without your sponsorship I would not be here this summer. Thank you to the staff for always pushing, and always supporting.

Closing thoughts...The Colts is an exceedingly special place, and has changed my life for the better. This is an experience that I will carry with me my whole life. The Red Team is amazing, and I am proud, humble and grateful to be able to say I have been part of it.

Ashley Holada

Color Guard

Years (Colts): 3

Hometown: Arlington Heights, IL

College: Illinois State University

Major: Accounting

Most Significant Lessons...You are much stronger than you think you are.

Impact on Your Life...I'm leaving drum corps with better time and stress management, and the best friends and memories you could ever ask for.

Best Memories...In 2014, when we were at La Crosse, WI right before we went on, the most beautiful, bright rainbow appeared and only stayed for our show. So many others...just little moments on the field with the people I love.

Thank You...To my parents. Their support means everything.

Dustin Jindracek

Brass/Mellophone

Years (Colts): 4

Hometown: Dunedin, FL

College: Western Iowa Tech

Major: Band Instrument Repair

Most Significant Lessons...There's no way to know how far you can push yourself mentally or physically until you get to the point you don't think you can go any more, and you just have to keep going.

Best Memories...Getting to the end of my first season with the Colts in 2012, and getting to perform in Indianapolis after thinking I wouldn't finish my season.

Thank You...To my mom for doing everything she possibly could to let me participate in the activity year after year. Thank you to the rest of my family for coming to my shows, and to my teachers for introducing me to drum corps in the first place.

Words to Supporters...Thank you to everyone who made it possible for me to march every year of my career. I wouldn't be here without so much help.

Jake Kaplan

Brass/Euphonium

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Lexington, KY

College: Morehead State University

Major: Music Education

Most Significant Lessons...Always work your hardest, and never give up.

Impact on Your Life...Being part of the Colts has given me an opportunity to grow as a musician and a person.

Best Memories...Making new friends, performing for thousands of people, and doing what I love.

Thank You...To my family and friends for all your love and support. Thank you to the staff for all your guidance.

Tiffany Kostuch

Brass/Trumpet

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Menomonie, WI

College: University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

Major: Biology and Psychology

Most Significant Lessons...The Colts have taught me that everything in life is what you make of it. If you believe nothing is impossible then nothing will be. To accomplish anything just keep your chin up, stay calm, and keep pushing. Even when you think you can't...you can.

Impact on Your Life...To be efficient, to work hard, to persevere, and to connect to people on a deep, personal level.

Best Memories...Watching the Blue Angels during block. Also, TBD.

Thank You...To my friends and family that encouraged me to finally go for marching in DCI with the Colts. Without

you I would've never had such a life changing experience.

Words to Supporters...Thank you!!! You make all of the hardships worthwhile.

Matthew Kurecki

Brass/Trumpet

Years (Colts): 3

Hometown: Plainfield, IL

Most Significant Lessons...Never give up. Relax, everything isn't as bad as it may seem.

Best Memories...Getting my first triangle. The standing ovation at the Minnesota regional in 2012.

Thank You...To my parents. Both of them have sacrificed so much for me and my brother to march during the summer, and for that I'm forever grateful.

Words to Supporters...Thank you so much for everything you do for us.

Aaron Martin

Percussion/Bass

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Eagan, MN

Impact on Your Life...Colts have changed me forever because of the people have helped me grow. I'm proud of the person the Colts have shaped me into. I feel like this is my perfect fit. The people are the reason I come back. They truly have become like a family to me, especially the bass line.

Best Memories...So far is when we went to Dixon, IL and after the show Cory and I went to the fair and got funnel cakes and deep fried Oreos and munched hard core.

Carl Mathwig

Brass/Baritone

Years (Colts): 3

Hometown: Waconia, MN

College: Northern State University

Major: Music Education

Most Significant Lessons...You are always stronger than you think you are. Always go for it.

Best Memories...Playing REALLY loud. Killing it rep after rep in the middle of a beat down block. Also rehearsals that really vibe. Craig getting us pumped up and ready for a show.

Thank You...To my parents for all their support, and Peter Inglett for being the best teacher ever. He never gave up on me when I was not good. He rocks!

Amber McCausland

Percussion/Cymbals

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Harrison Township, MI

Most Significant Lessons...Drum corps has taught me to push myself past all boundaries and limits I ever set for myself. It has shown me that my limits are endless, and I can set the bar as high as I want because I am much stronger than I ever thought I could be.

Best Memories...When the cymbals made "art" at the armory. Our first performance when the whole corps sang "Lay Me Down" to Craig after we learned through "Moanin." New member induction.

Thank You...To everyone who helped fund my tour fees. I WOULD NOT be here without you! My family for letting me be so obsessed with band.

Words to Supporters...Again, thanks for your help. We would not be here without you!

Shane McFall

Color Guard

Years (Colts): 1

Kara Metzger

Drum Major

Years (Colts): 5

Hometown: Waukesha, WI

College: University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

Major: Music Education

Most Significant Lessons...How to push yourself to new limits, and not overreact in stressful situations.

Impact on Your Life...This activity and organization have taught many, many life lessons like efficiency, leadership and teamwork. It has also taught me to be strong no matter what.

Best Memories...Performing in front of so many amazing audiences and meeting some of the best friends of my life. In rehearsal, the best memory was, "Go sit on the throne and think about what you just did" -Sully 2014

Thank You...To everyone that has been involved in the organization in any way. Most importantly, to my parents who have supported throughout every adventure I have ever taken.

Words to Supporters...Thanks for all your help because this experience is so special and any and all help we get is greatly appreciated.

Kelsey Murphy

Brass/Trumpet

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Orlando, FL

College: University of Central Florida

Major: Forensic Psychology

Most Significant Lessons...When you think you can't anymore, and are at your limit, you can actually push further than you thought was possible. Also, how to be mentally focused on every rep and perform no matter who is or isn't watching.

Best Memories...Playing in Lucas Oil Stadium. Playing "Morning" on Finals day. Parking lot donuts with Mike.

Thank You...To everyone who has taught me and helped me make it this far. Thank you to the visual staff for continuing to find inventive and fun ways to teach. You have inspired and conformed my way of thinking; and the brass staff for never taking less than the best. Thank you to my parents.

Closing thoughts...Thank you to all the members I have met those two years, and a special shout out to those who supported me in crisis mode.

Liz Naprstek

Percussion/Cymbals

Years (Colts): 6 / Years (CC): 2

Hometown: Plainfield, IL

College: University of St. Francis

Major: Nursing

Most Significant Lessons...Time management, adapting to change, and learning from mistakes.

Impact on Your Life...I am the person I am today because of this organization.

Best Memories...Too many to count.

Thank You...I would like to thank my parents for always supporting me in achieving my dreams.

Closing thoughts...Back of the bus reads books, rules 1-4: Don't use the bathroom on the bus, bathroom crew is meeting at the bathroom.

Spencer Potts

Percussion/Snare

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Round Rock, TX

Major: Music Education

Most Significant Lessons...Drum corps has taught me to manage my time. It has taught me that the largest struggles in life become easy with the help from your brothers and sisters.

Thank You...To my family, and my good friends Clark Gardner and Eric Lunde for supporting me.

Kristine Pye

Color Guard

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Carbondale, IL

College: Southern Illinois University

Major: Chemistry

Most Significant Lessons...That it's never too late to follow your passion. With enough effort and perseverance you can become the person and performer you always wanted to be.

Impact on Your Life...Being with the Colts has taught me to look at every aspect of my life, and to appreciate all of the incredible opportunities that surround me as well as embracing those I meet along the way. How fragile is the time that we share.

Best Memories...Performing with the drum corps during our first full ensemble rehearsal at Loras. The show at La Crosse in 2014 where a double rainbow appeared as our backdrop. And listening to and singing "Morning" with the drum corps.

Thank You...To my family and supporters for encouraging me to follow my passion, to the staff for inspiring me to a level of excellence beyond what I ever imagined being capable of, and lastly to the outstanding musicians and performers that surround me. All of you made drum corps the best experience of my life.

Closing thoughts...Thank you to all of those who support this organization, and share the love for drum corps. I will spend the rest of my life actively involved with this activity, and will cherish every moment of it.

TJ Salsberg

Percussion/Bass

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Biloxi, MS

College: Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Major: Education

Most Significant Lessons...I am capable of anything I work myself towards. I am my own person, a warrior. Excellence is a habit.

Best Memories...Driving 15 hours to camp, seeing beautiful places all over the country. Lucas Oil Stadium. Swimming in Pittsburg. Making tons of friends. Car rides from the airport with Andy Eaton.

Thank You...My mother, my grandparents – I would not be who I am today without them. Vicki MacFarlane for giving me an opportunity to be great. AJ Pace, Lane Summerlin, Travis Opocensky and the rest of the percussion staff, thanks for teaching me more than just drums. I appreciate your guidance.

Sara Shields

Color Guard

Years (Colts): 2

Hometown: Wichita, KS

College: Wichita State University

Major: Mathematics

Most Significant Lessons...No matter where you come from, with a lot of hard work and a good attitude you can accomplish anything.

Best Memories...My best memories on tour are some of the smallest things. For example, getting to eat popsicles on a hot day, finally getting a toss you have been struggling with for the very first time, or getting to watch the fireworks on the 4th of July.

Thank You...To my parents who have supported me and allowed me to grow and succeed in life. Also, thank you to my sister for always being there for me. Finally, thank you to my boyfriend, Joey, for being by my side with his love and support.

Words to Supporters...Thank you for everything you do. This drum corps would not be the same without you.

Alex Taylor

Brass/Contra

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Carterville, IL

College: Southern Illinois University

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Most Significant Lessons...Although I am a rook out, the Colts have taught me that I can do anything I put my mind to.

Best Memories...Getting to know so many good people, and finishing the first run through.

Thank You...To everyone that supported me, all my friends and family. Everyone has been so kind and helpful here at the Colts; a huge thank you goes out to them too.

Jonathan (Jon) White

Percussion/Snare

Years (Colts): 1

Hometown: Delray Beach, FL

College: Florida Atlantic University

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Most Significant Lessons...In the summer of 2013, my snare tech told me something that will stick with me forever. He told me, "Drum corps is

life." It took me a while to understand, but now I've realized what it means. Drum corps is a miniature version of your life. It's a quick 80-day crash course on how to take on the rest of your existence. Every obstacle you encounter, every hardship you endure, and all the adversity that comes, you are trained to tackle head on with the right attitude. With that knowledge, you can transfer these skills and experiences into "the real world" and become the person you're meant to be.

Best Memories...My favorite memory was during my first summer. My tech yelled at us that because we weren't rehearsing well, we had to run. After five minutes, our tech stopped us and we went to a diner to get a good breakfast. On the way back, he threw water on us to make it look like we had been running.

Closing thoughts...Drum corps has changed my life. It's hard to sum it all up, and I've enjoyed every minute. I can't wait for what the future holds. To my mom and dad, thank you, because of all your support I've had the opportunity to experience drum corps. Nothing can match your love and support.

