



COLTS YOUTH ORGANIZATION

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

JOB DESCRIPTION

Colt Cadets Percussion Caption Head

Overview

The Colt Cadets percussion caption head position is an opportunity for an established educator to work alongside other like-minded professionals in creating an incredible learning experience for students in the Colt Cadets percussion section. The percussion caption head is responsible for establishing the pedagogy for CC percussion students as well as working with the corps director on rehearsal plans and schedules. The CC percussion caption head also works with the brass and color guard captions to plan visual rehearsals during the summer. The Colt Cadets do not have a dedicated visual team and instead rely on all technicians to teach both music and movement during ensemble rehearsals.

The ideal candidate would be located within the greater Midwest region. But we can also bring in a staff member from a further distance, if necessary, for Colt Cadets preseason events in Dubuque, Iowa, beginning in February. If a candidate is within a reasonable driving distance to a Colts camp location, we would encourage you to attend these events as many Colt Cadets members begin their journey with us by attending a Colts camp.

With that said, the percussion caption head at Colt Cadets must be comfortable working with students who possess a wide range of skills and experience. Some Colt Cadets members are on the cusp of receiving a World Class membership contract, while others are learning how to play a percussion instrument and/or march for the very first time. This juxtaposition of talent is a rewarding opportunity as it allows the CC staff to witness more growth in one season than virtually any other group in the drum corps activity.

Join us as we take this ride together each summer!

Responsibilities

▲ Recruiting

The CC percussion caption head should be eager to recruit students for all sections of the corps — but most specifically for the battery and front ensemble. Recruiting is the primary responsibility of the corps director but we are benefitted when all staff are supportive in these efforts.

▲ Design

Participate in design and planning meetings during the winter and spring ahead of the summer season. Work with the percussion arranger (if not the caption head) to coordinate the roll out of the music to the members and how the musical score fits within the percussion pedagogy.

▲ Hiring & Staffing

In coordination with the corps director, the percussion caption head will be involved in the hiring of instructional staff for the caption. The caption head will be responsible for scheduling percussion staff for all preseason events and for the summer season.

▲ Caption Supervision — On & Off The Road

The ability to tour with the drum corps for a majority of the summer season is critical to this role. The ideal candidate will be on the road with the corps for a majority of the summer — planning, communicating, and overseeing the rehearsals and objectives for the percussion section. The percussion caption head will also meet with the program coordinator and the other caption heads regularly to discuss ensemble goals. While on the road, the caption head is expected to attend judges' critique following each show.

▲ Equipment Management

Manage percussion instruments and equipment, address maintenance issues, communicate needs and/or issues to the corps director, and ensure that students understand the fundamentals of care and maintenance.

▲ Cultivate Positive Student Experience

Colt Cadets is designed to be an access point to the marching arts for students while also helping prepare them to march with a World Class corps, if that is a desired goal. We value moving students directly into the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps, but we are also supportive of each student's path in the activity. Colt Cadets is not strictly a feeder corps as for some members, a few years in CC is the entirety of their participation in DCI.

Other Opportunities Available

Writing music for the battery and/or front ensemble can be paired with this opportunity for the right candidate, but percussion arranger(s) can be a separate role, if desired.

Relevant experience is not limited to but might include:

- ▲ Marched at least one season with a World Class DCI or WGI ensemble
- ▲ An undergraduate degree or higher in music education
- ▲ At least two years as a music educator in a K-12 school
- ▲ At least one season overseeing an instructional caption for a scholastic or independent marching program

Requirements

- ▲ Work effectively in a team environment
- ▲ Have an understanding of DCI Open Class and how CC fits in the drum corps ecosystem
- ▲ Ability to meet via Zoom video conferencing
- ▲ Pass a background check and complete all trainings mandated by the Colts and DCI
- ▲ Have a valid driver's license and be able to drive a corps vehicle after being added to the Colts insurance policy

All interested applicants are encouraged to apply. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Questions can be directed to Colt Cadets Director Harlan Pfohl at harlan@colts.org.

CLICK HERE TO APPLY