



The Colt Cadets are an outstanding performing group made up of members primarily in middle school and high school from Dubuque and the tri-state area. Founded in 1967, the Colt Cadets are one of the few remaining cadet corps in the country!

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



## Program Goals

The Colt Cadets provide a positive, supportive, and educational environment that will:

- Foster character development. Members will be challenged and taught in ways that build confidence, self-discipline, work ethic, and teamwork.
- Develop members' musical, performance, and physical skills to a level they did not know they could reach.
- Support music and performance education in Dubuque.

# 2012

The Cadets require and help develop dedication, discipline, and motivation. Members learn leadership skills and confidence as they achieve goals they once thought were unattainable! We help develop **a strong work ethic and a dedication to excellence** that will stay with members in school and other activities.

School band experience is not required, but a desire to learn is. We teach the rest! Many students learn to play instruments or learn color guard (flag) skills here for the first time. We provide all instruments and uniforms.

**You don't need any experience to be part of the Colt Cadets!**

**The Colt Cadets travel about 20 days during the summer** to parades and competitions in the Midwest, performing for more than 75,000 people. We travel in late June through early August, with time off to allow for family and other activities. In 2012, we'll cap our season at **Lucas Oil Stadium** (home of the NFL Colts) in Indianapolis, IN.

Rehearsals during the school year are held two or three Sunday afternoons each month beginning in February. During the summer we generally rehearse four times a week (typically Tues., Wed., Thurs., and Sat.) from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm. **We can help busy parents find carpools!**

**Experienced?** We will challenge you, as well. We train advanced students to compete at a World Class level. Many members with advanced skills are featured in our summer show.

# Colt Cadets Family

We reach our goals through our unique instructional environment, rehearsal structure, performances, and travel opportunities.

You'll meet many new friends from other schools and from other groups throughout the country. The bonds we develop as we work together are much like a family.

**Some of your best friends are here, you just haven't met them yet!**

## Teaching Staff

Our teaching staff comes from all over the U.S. and are exceptional in their area of expertise. Most work as professional educators during the school year.

The staff is experienced in preparing students for many opportunities. We put student success first. Our goal is to maintain a positive learning environment that challenges individuals to try new things and reach their maximum potential.

## *Parents Make It Work!*

We actively encourage family involvement, so everyone shares the rewards of the drum corps experience.

Most parents volunteer in some way with bingo, travel, miscellaneous projects, sewing, cooking, or driving.

Parents are encouraged to visit rehearsals and share in what is being learned in all aspects of our program.

## SECTIONS IN THE CADETS

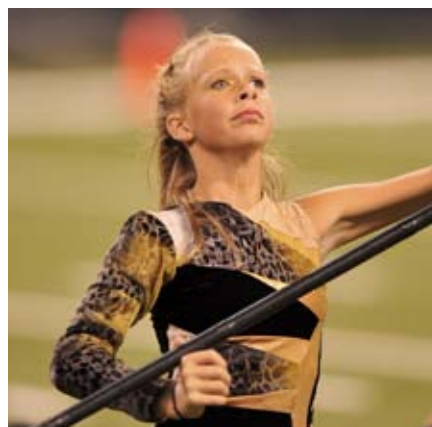


## Brass

Brass members include students who currently play brass, woodwind players who wish to learn a second instrument, and those who have never played an instrument before. We use silver-plated Bb instruments (same keys as band instruments). Players who are band members use their own mouthpiece to compliment embouchure development. We use four brass instruments: TRUMPET (also referred to as soprano), MELLOPHONE (same as trumpet in method, but sound is more like a French horn), BARITONE (same sound and mouthpiece as baritone or trombone) and CONTRA (similar to tuba).

## Percussion

We play and teach all percussion instruments including snares, tenor drums, pitched bass drums, cymbals and mallet instruments such as xylophone, marimba and orchestra bells. Mallet instruments are much like a piano, except we hit the keys! Our percussionists develop advanced technique on several instruments through specialized instruction, training exercises and custom-written music. After becoming a well-rounded percussionist, students may specialize on a specific instrument.



## Color Guard

We use flags, props and lots of dance. This section of the corps visually interprets and enhances the music. Some woodwind players join this section, but again, no previous experience is required.

*All instruments and equipment are provided!*

**When we travel, all transportation, meals and accommodations are included in the cost of membership!**

## Member Attendance

Attendance is very important for success. Each member is an equal and integral part of the whole, and any member missing is a detriment to the group's success. You should plan activities around the Cadets schedule as much as possible, but if you need to miss once in a while, we will work with you. We are very good at coordinating schedules with our members. Please speak with us regarding any questions or conflicts you might have.

## Colts Youth Organization

The Colts Youth Organization was founded in 1963 and offers the Colts, Colt Cadets, Vocal Fusion, PanrhythmiX and Pandemonium Steel Drum Ensembles, and the Colts Summer Band. Over 350 members from 3rd grade through age 21 are members of a Colts program. The Colts Drum & Bugle Corps is the flagship program and has grown to 150 members, ages 16-21. The Colts travel, rehearse and perform full-time all summer, performing 40+ times for over 250,000 people in 20 or more states, covering 14,000 miles.



## Membership Fees

Colt Cadets membership costs \$550 tuition plus \$150 equipment and uniform fee. You receive a \$50 discount for each additional member from the same family.

Members can earn most or all of their fees through credits for working at our bingo and participating in our annual car wash. Out-of-town individuals that require summer housing pay an additional fee that is given to their host family for living expenses.

The Colts value, encourage and reward volunteerism and full family involvement. Therefore, with a reasonable and suggested volunteer commitment, there may be little or no cost of membership.

### Members Receive:

- Instrument or equipment, dry-fit member shirt, and uniform
- 300+ hours of professional instruction
- 50–70 well balanced meals, prepared “on the road”
- 3500+ miles of travel in Colts-owned charter buses
- Housing while on the road
- Trips to seven states throughout the Central U.S.
- Admission to DCI Championship events in Indianapolis, IN

Instruments, equipment and uniforms that we provide cost us over \$1,000 per member!

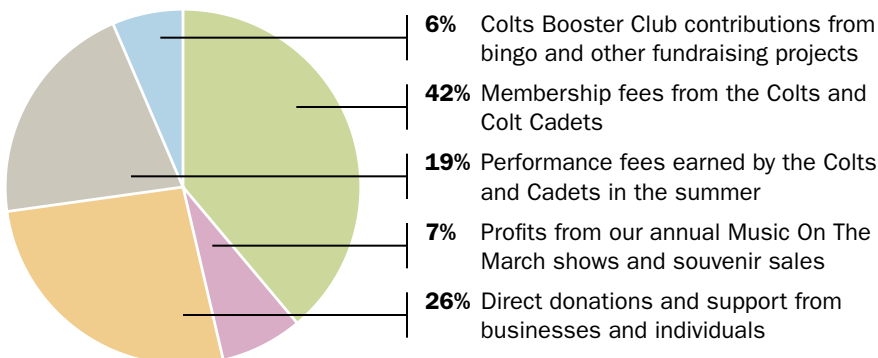
Call at any time with questions about any aspect of the Cadets, including financial and fundraising programs. We work hard to make membership available to everyone. We will work with you to make membership a reality!

**The Colts Summer Band provides an alternative opportunity for young band students entering grades 4-8. The program runs four weeks and includes lessons, concert band rehearsals and performances.**

## Financial Picture

A prominent and successful collaboration of organizations, such as the Colts, is expensive to operate. All of our funds are self-generated. We receive little in the way of federal, state or local funds, and do not receive United Way funding. Our annual operating budget is over \$900,000.

### FUNDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION



Our non-profit organization is governed by the Corporation Board and supported by a second non-profit corporation, the Colts Booster Board. The Corporation Board is responsible for policy and planning, while the Boosters manage local fundraising activities including bingo and our annual car wash. A full-time Executive Director handles the business operations and overall management of the organization. Donations to the Colts are tax-deductible.



## Colt Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps

Vicki Schaffer, Director

1101 Central Ave.

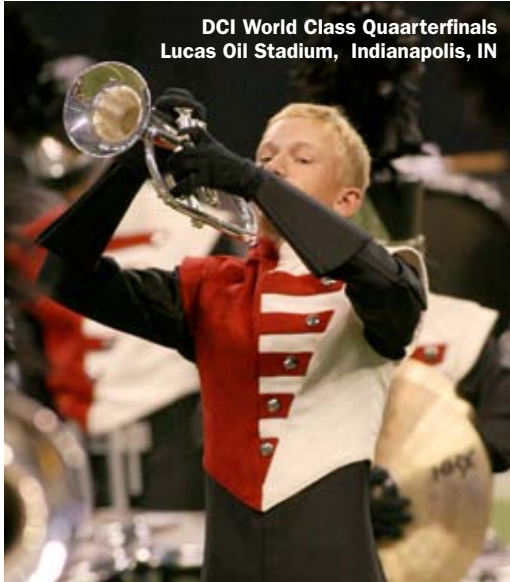
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# Are The Colt Cadets For You?

**Try it!** Your first few practices are a trial period for you. There is no obligation to join and no charge to attend. You'll be amazed at how much you learn in a short amount of time!

Your first standing ovation is something you'll never forget, and what you learn in the process will stay with you for the rest of your life!

### WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING:

*"I love the family, and the trust we develop for not only the Colts organization, but also for each other. I have developed a strong connection for this organization that no one or nothing can ever take away. Always and forever will I be CC."* – JONATHAN, AGE 18

*"Colt Cadets was the ultimate way to spend my summer. Even though I'm not from Dubuque, my new friends will be with me for life."* – MIKE, AGE 17

*"I do not know of another activity that develops character and responsibility in kids within an environment that is so safe and supportive."* – JEFF, CADET DAD

*"The best thing about the Colt Cadets is meeting other people and going on all the trips. You meet new friends and go many places and learn to play music better."* – MEGAN, AGE 12

*"June is a month of hard work. When you finally get the chance to perform, you look up at the crowd and see them giving you a standing ovation, and you realize how truly appreciated you are. You don't experience that really anywhere else."* – EMILY, AGE 16

*"From a parent's standpoint, I met so many adults and kids of all ages, schools, lifestyles, and walks of life. I was so impressed by how everyone comes together for one goal. The camaraderie among the kids was incredible and so much fun to watch!"* – PAT, CADET MOM