atlanta CV

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS ATLANTA·GA

2027

Reach for the Star

Conductor
Audition Packet

ALL-AGE CLASS

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Congratulations on taking the first steps towards joining the South's premier All-Age Drum and Bugle corps! We are thrilled you are interested in becoming a part of the CV Family. 2027 marks **CV's 30th season!** Our 2026 membership finished the season with a memorable experience at the DCI All-Age Championships in Lucas Oil Stadium as **Bronze Medalists**! As we move forward, Atlanta CV is continuing to build a foundation to propel the organization into further growth, competitive heights, and the unparalleled education of a new generation of drum corps members. **We want YOU to be a part of this journey!**

At the forefront of the 2027 journey will be Atlanta CV's Mission: *To foster within each member world-class performance and personal skills through a positive and challenging marching arts program emphasizing character, work ethic, and teamwork***.** Atlanta CV's Core Values of **EDUCATION, EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY, RESPECT, SAFETY, and COMMUNITY** are the pillars that will serve as the foundation of our work in order to provide our membership with the best possible experience.

We are excited to be holding multiple rounds of auditions this year in search of the most committed, hardest-working, and most talented group of members we can find. As we embark on the 2027 season, Atlanta CV will only be as successful as the members who are chosen to represent our organization. We are thankful for your commitment to the audition; however, the formal "audition" is just ONE part of the process and just ONE part of the evaluation to seek members who are committed to the opportunity to develop and refine artistic, athletic, performance, and personal skills through a positive, high-quality, and challenging arts education program that emphasizes character building, a strong work ethic, teamwork, and the pursuit of performance excellence. We have an incredibly talented and experienced staff. Most are degreed music educators belonging to GMEA and NAfME, and all are very experienced in the performing arts. Your talent and motivation, combined with their instruction and design, will make 2027 Atlanta CV an exceptional experience you will cherish.

Whether you are looking at building your experience or continuing your love of the marching and performance arts, we are grateful you have chosen to ***Reach for the Star*** in 2027!



Sincerely,

Russ Thompson
Executive Director

Welcome Prospective CV Conductor

Open House Camps are the first steps toward becoming a part of Atlanta CV, and we're glad you've made the decision to join (or continue your journey with) the CV family! This audition packet provides you with important information about audition weekend, the audition process, and what it takes to become a member of Atlanta CV.

Please read everything carefully, complete the information where requested, and make sure you have this entire packet with you during your audition.

I. ABOUT ATLANTA CV

The Atlanta CV Drum & Bugle Corps is an World Class drum and bugle corps competing in the Drum Corps International (DCI) All-Age division from the state of Georgia. Atlanta CV performs under our parent 501(c)(3) not for profit organization, CorpsVets, Inc. The corps is a musical performance organization which consists of members playing brass and percussion instruments and spinning flags, rifles and sabers to superb achievement levels with high energy, excitement, and entertainment. The performance and competitive season take place during the summer months where we will perform at several drum and bugle corps competitions culminating at the DCI Championships held at Lucas Oil Stadium in August. The 2027 season will mark our 30th year of continuous, competitive operation.

The recent demographics of the corps include members from ages 14 to 48. Occupations range from high school and college students to lawyers, band directors, engineers, scientists and medical professionals. Primary membership is from the immediate Atlanta area, but because of the corps' great reputation for excellence we also draw members from all over the country including the states of Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi.

In the past decade, Atlanta CV has excitedly welcomed a new era of highlights with the best competitive and innovative stretch in its history.

- **2026: Bronze Medalist** with a score of **92.650!**
- **2025:** 4th place finish in DCI All-Age World Class with a score of **91.6!** Director of the Year.
- **2024:** 4th place finish in DCI All-Age World Class; 2nd largest corps in its history.
- **2023:** 4th place finish in DCA World Class; Director of the Year.
- **2022:** 2nd place finish in DCA Open Class; 1st Place Percussion; Director of the Year.
- **2020-2021:** Atlanta CV finished as a **Top-3** corps in DCA; DCA 1st Place Color Guard and 1st Place Percussion
- **2019:** Atlanta CV saw continued motion as a new powerhouse in DCA with another ***2nd Place*** finish and DCA 1st Place Color Guard.
- **2018:** was another high achievement year for the corps and its members with a ***3rd place*** finish in the DCA World Championships.
- **2017:** Atlanta CV saw its highest placement in the corps history with a ***2nd place finish***, the highest score, DCA 1st Place Color Guard, Director of the Year Award, largest corps and the largest horn line in the corps' 20-year history.

II. WHAT TO BRING

- A three-ring binder with clear plastic sheets – this will contain sectional information, handouts, schedules and should be kept organized in clear sheet protectors. ANY information you could possibly use, or need should be in this binder.
- Pens, sharpened or mechanical pencils, sharpies, highlighters – Have a pencil with you at all times. Notes will be taken at every rehearsal and at all meetings. Write down everything!
- Gloves – Cotton gloves are required for all corps owned horns, types with grips are okay. Leather or other materials are not permitted.
- WATER JUG
- Equipment – Corps-owned equipment will be available, though we strongly recommend you bring your own for rehearsal and audition, as we are limited in the number of corps-owned equipment.
- While some meals, on certain days during the summer will be provided by CV; rehearsal weekend meals are not provided by CV. Please, always read over the information for each weekend, so you know what to expect.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your section leader/section staff member. Our BandApp, social media, and info@atlantacv.org are great places to have questions answered quickly.

III. REHEARSAL/COMPETITION ATTENDANCE

We do expect everyone to attend all rehearsals and **ALL** competitions. However, we understand that conflicts can arise and pre-arranged events that deal with school. We ask for transparency with your schedule as we are providing the same to you. You can request a "Band Director Conflict Letter" for those in high school or college that will include a copy of our season schedule. This form can be signed by your band director, you and your parent(s) and returned and will be included in your membership folder. This will help keep conflicts at a minimum between the corps and your school.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS!

The full season schedule will be released before the audition weekend, so you will know every date you are expected to be with Atlanta CV. Please look it over completely before signing a contract. It is imperative that you communicate with your section staff and CV administration on any conflicts you may have, ASAP. *The schedule will be updated periodically and posted in BandApp, on the website, and on social media platforms.*

NOTE: If you are in school during the Championship Dates *(**August 11th through August 14th, 2027**)* please start to communicate as soon as possible to any school administration and band directors to get approval for this time with Atlanta CV. Many teachers and band directors are understanding so long as you are a good, responsible student, a plan can be worked out that helps keep your commitment to both Atlanta CV and school/band/work, etc.

If you will miss any or all weekend, you must contact *your caption head, section instructor, section leader and administration* as soon as you know of the conflict.

IV. LOGISTICS

You are responsible for your own travel to and from rehearsal weekends and may be responsible for travel to any local shows. Many of our members carpool together.

RSVPs are DUE by the date listed in the RSVP description. Staff and administration need to know these details for rehearsal facilities, music, administration items, and many more details...all to provide an experience of the highest quality!

We will request each and every member to RSVP for each camp weekend. You will receive communication about the weekend schedule prior to each camp, and *will need to notify the administration, the caption head, section staff member, section leader, as well as to in the event of any conflicts*.

V. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Yes, there is a cost to audition and to be a member of this organization. While we only ask you to pay a small part of what the total cost is to run the organization, your part is vital and a mandatory commitment that you agree to when you accept a spot with Atlanta CV.

We also expect you to follow the payment schedule and communicate with administration. More detailed information on the payment schedule will be provided when you audition. We will have a member and parent meeting after registration to go over all the details.

Fees:

All fees will be clearly communicated in the Member Contract and the Member Tuition and Fees document.

There is a **one-time** audition fee for 2027: **$100.00**

Member Tuition for 2027 is $2,250

Fundraising:
Atlanta CV typically does offer fundraising opportunities during the season.

Sponsorships:
Some members do well in finding sponsorships from the community, friends, and family. However, it is up to each member to seek out sponsors and maintain communication with them regarding their contributions.

VI. PAPERWORK

Please complete the Waiver of Liability form provided. You cannot participate in Open House activities/audition without this form. *If you are a minor member under the age of 18, your form must be signed by a parent or guardian.* If selected to be a member of Atlanta CV, there will be a required medical form for all members.

VII. CORPSDATA PROFILE

CorpsData.net is the database system used by the Atlanta CV administrative team. It is the main information source for everyone involved with the corps, including members, staff, volunteers, parents and applicants. Before you travel to the audition camp(s), please complete all information in your CorpsData profile, including mailing address, email address, home and/or cell phone, glove size, T-shirt size (you will receive several T-shirts throughout the season), and visit the site frequently for updates.

- Use this link to create/update your CorpsData profile: http://www.trigonroad.com/cd
- To be included in our information emails, you will want to be sure that your corps history includes “2027 Atlanta CV” and the section/position for which you’ll be auditioning.

- If under 18 years old, a parent must have a CorpsData profile as well. Please set them up with one when you register.
- Update all information in the CorpsData profile, and for those of you who already have accounts, please make sure all information is current, including T-shirt and glove size as well.

VII. PACKING LIST

Most weekends we can sleep at the school where we are rehearsing. If you live close enough to the rehearsal site, you may choose to go home and sleep. Our Open House Camps are **ONE DAY** camps. Rehearsal will end at 9:00 pm.

REHEARSAL CLOTHING

- Athletic Shorts/Pants
- Athletic Socks (required)
- T-shirts (loose and comfortable)
- Tennis Shoes/Sneakers (required)
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VIII. CONDUCTOR EXPECTATIONS:

Conductors at Atlanta CV not only play an integral part in conducting our production, but also serve the membership in a visible leadership role. Members of the Conductor Team must always take care to represent the world class standard and attitude of the entire Atlanta CV organization, serving as a model member, exemplary teammate and guiding force to other members of the drum corps.

Members of the Conductor Team are expected to be at their best in terms of both preparedness and adaptability. Familiarity with scores, meters and tempo (including fundamental exercises performed by the brass and percussion) are a given. However, it is also expected that Conductors play an active role in the rehearsal process, and as such must be as intimate with procedures as the instructional staff.

Like any performing member of Atlanta CV, a conductor's role is also that of a student. In order to serve the drum corps in the best way, as well as continue their own growth, Conductors must be teachable and always willing to adapt and learn. As such, a conductor must be able to accept criticism and apply feedback.

A. Qualifications

-Familiarity with tempos, styles, meters and conducting patterns seen in western music.
-Strong sheet music literacy
-Strong musical experience on a brass, woodwind, string or percussion instrument.
-Previous leadership experience
-Candidates who are pursuing music, or are active musicians/educators will be given additional consideration.

B. Audition Process:

1. Participation in rehearsal

Candidates will be asked to conduct or run the metronome during sectionals/ensemble during the entirety of our audition camps. Their ability to convey instructions, take and apply feedback, preparedness and attitude will all be considered.

Candidates may also be asked to assist admin in logistical matters.

2. Individual Conducting Audition

Candidates will be asked to prepare and conduct 2 pieces/movements of contrasting styles for multiple staff members. The conductor's clarity, expressiveness, and overall technique will be considered. During the same audition, applicants will be asked to conduct three different tempos:

78 bpm, 120 bpm, and 160 bpm without any prompt from a metronome. All candidates will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Conducting Technique
- Tempo Maintenance
- Podium/Conducting Presence
- Cues/Gestures (according to music)

3. Essay

Each candidate will complete a ***brief*** essay (1 page) with the following questions serving as the basis for the essay.

1. Identify the characteristics and actions of an effective conductor/drum major
2. List your musical accomplishments or qualifications; List your other volunteer/leadership experiences or qualifications.
3. Identify the personal strengths which you believe will contribute to you being an effective conductor/drum major
4. Identify any personal obstacles or areas of improvement you would need to overcome to be an effective conductor/drum major candidate.
5. Concerning the drum corps as a whole, identify non-rehearsal aspects a conductor/drum major should show initiative.
6. Identify your personal goals for being a conductor/drum major for Atlanta CV.
7. Name three leaders that you look up to and the traits of their leadership style that you hope to emulate. (*could be teachers, coaches, church/community members, or anyone you admire*)

4. Interview

Candidates will participate in an individual leadership interview for instructional staff and the corps director.

C. Roles

1. Head Drum Major (1)

- Serves as lead conductor during ensemble and performances
- Spends sectional time with the Percussion section and plays an active role in Percussion Ensemble rehearsals

2. Assistant Drum Majors (3)

- Serve as additional conductors during ensemble and performance, following tempo and cues from the Head Drum Major
- During sectional time, all three will alternate roles between conducting and running metronomes/drones for the brass and percussion, as well as assisting admin when applicable. This is to ensure members of the conducting team receive a well-rounded education and are exposed to a variety of experiences and opportunities.

IX. ADMIN CONTACTS

Executive Director
Russ Thompson
director@atlantacv.org
Assistant Director
Shelby Cauthen
assistantdirector@atlantacv.org
Membership Coordinator
Lisa Stevenson
memberservices@atlantacv.org

Treasurer
Sue Nedvidek
treasurer@atlantacv.org
Fundraising
fundraising@atlantacv.org
Whistleblowing
whistleblower@atlantacv.org

X. STAFF LEADERSHIP CONTACTS

Brass Caption Leadership:	brass@atlantacv.org
Guard Caption Leadership:	guard@atlantacv.org
Percussion Caption Leadership:	percussion@atlantacv.org
Visual Caption Leadership:	visual@atlantacv.org

XI. RESOURCES

ATLANTA CV DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS
www.atlantacv.org
BANDAPP
https://band.us/n/a5aeb6F4S3V9O
CORPSDATA
www.trigonroad.com/cd
DRUM CORPS International
https://dci.org

Audition Sites:

November 14th, 2026:

Decatur High School

310 North McDonough Street

Decatur, GA 30030

December 12th, 2026:

Woodland High School

800 Old Alabama Rd, SE

Cartersville, GA 30120

Participation Waiver

In signing this waiver, I, _____, agree and understand all information presented below. **This waiver must be turned into administration of Atlanta CV before members can participate in activities with Atlanta CV, including open house or auditions.**

MEDICAL:

Atlanta CV is **NOT** responsible or to be held liable for any unforeseen injuries or any past medical issues the member or auditionee might have. This includes but is not limited to, broken bones or any fractures, heart conditions, asthma or any other breathing issues, concussions or any other brain related issues, diabetes, use of over medication (prescription or non-prescription), etc.

Atlanta CV is **NOT** responsible for any injuries caused by the member to his/herself or by other membership or auditionees, staff members in the organization. Some examples include but not limited to, playing basketball, walking up or down stairs, running or walking recklessly, crossing the street, boxing, wrestling, play fighting, horsing around or reckless behavior, walking with or pushing equipment, the cause of death to oneself or the cause of death by another member or staff member. If legal options are to be pursued, I will pursue legal options against the person(s) who caused the act(s) and not against the Atlanta CV/Corpsvets, Inc. organization, Staff or volunteers of Atlanta CV, the Board Members of Corpsvets, Inc., Decatur High School, Woodland High School, or any other facility Atlanta CV rehearses in, houses in, or performs in.

_____ I have read and understand Atlanta CV's policy on medical requirements
(Initial)

I have read all the above sections and will comply fully:

Member _____

Parent/Guardian (If under 18) _____

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EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:

Emergency Contact Person and Relationship:

_____ **Phone:** _____

Secondary Contact Person and Relationship: *(Optional)*

_____ **Phone:** _____