atlanta CV

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS ATLANTA·GA

2027

Reach for the Star

Guard
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 to the 2027 Atlanta CV Color Guard Auditions!

Hello and thank you for taking the first step towards joining the Atlanta CV Color Guard for the 2027 season. My name is Jose L. Morales, and I am honored to be back as the Color Guard Caption Head and Designer for the 2027 season! I am excited to return in this leadership role and contribute to the continued growth and success of the organization.

The vision for the 2027 Atlanta CV Color Guard is to reconnect with the program's roots while establishing the guard as a strong, integral component of Atlanta CV. The primary goal is to create a safe learning environment within the ensemble and a memorable experience for both new and returning members.

I firmly believe that Atlanta CV Color Guard has the potential to become a premier performance ensemble within the drum corps activity, and I am excited about what we can accomplish together this summer. Through dedication, collaboration, and a shared commitment to excellence, I look forward to building something special within the ensemble.

Enclosed in this audition packet, you will find information designed to help you prepare for the audition process. In advance of auditions, interested candidates will receive a YouTube link featuring exercises and technique materials to support their preparation. During auditions, we will evaluate candidates on their proficiency with specific equipment, movement ability, and capacity to work collaboratively as part of a team.

We recognize that the audition process can be both challenging and demanding. However, we are not looking for perfection. We value a strong work ethic, determination, coachability, and a genuine willingness to learn and grow. Approach each challenge with an open mind, embrace every opportunity to improve, be in a place of "Yes", and be willing to learn from those around you. Most importantly, remember to enjoy the process and the opportunity to perform and create through color guard.

Thank you again for your interest in becoming part of the Atlanta CV Color Guard. I look forward to meeting each of you at auditions, learning more about what you bring to the program, and beginning this exciting journey together. I cannot wait to see what we will accomplish as a team this summer!

Welcome to Atlanta CV. Let's make 2027 a season to remember!

Sincerely,

Jose L. Morales

Color Guard Caption and Designer

Atlanta CV Color Guard Auditions

LIVE COLOR GUARD AUDITION:

The live audition will be held with members of our color guard staff. The audition will include movement/ equipment technique as well as short choreographed phrases for you to demonstrate performance qualities. While the skills may be challenging for you at first, we encourage you to come to an audition camp ready to learn and grow.

Auditioness will be asked to perform in small groups for the staff and other prospective members. Make sure you demonstrate performance qualities, technique, and control in everything you do.

I. WHAT TO WEAR

A. Make sure that you feel comfortable! Auditionees should wear ALL BLACK form-fitting attire. Make sure you are also able to move!
B. Hair should be pulled back and out of the face.
C. Light and natural makeup should be worn for the audition process.

II. WHAT TO BRING

A. Flags will be provided for the audition but bringing your own is suggested just in case we run out.
B. If you are interested in auditioning for weapon, please bring your own weapons. Atlanta CV will not provide weapons during auditions.
C. Knee pads!

III. WHAT TO KNOW/PREPARE

A. You should come with a basic knowledge of color guard and the attributes that it requires. Atlanta CV is a World Class DCI All Age Corps and the demands/responsibilities required fit those ideals and skills
B. All audition choreo will be taught at camp so you do not have to come with anything prepared other than a world class work ethic and willingness to learn.
C. Some things that would help you to know in advance are the following:
    1. Dance/Movement Basics(Across the floors, medium skills such as turns, leaps, etc)
    2. Flag Basics(Drop Spins, Cones, Thumb Flips, Pull Hits, etc)
    3. Flag Tosses(Vertical tosses, Parallel tosses, 45's, just to name a few)
D. We will be sending out links to any reference videos before auditions when they come available.

IV. Audition Dates

A. There will be an Audition Clinic December 12, 2026 and the weekend of April. If you can not make the December 12th date because of winter obligations, that is fine. April camp will be the main audition weekend
    1. *IF FOR SOME REASON YOU CAN NOT MAKE EITHER AUDITION CAMP WE WILL ALLOW VIDEO AUDITIONS ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. PLEASE EMAIL GUARD@ATLANTACV.ORG WITH ANY CONFLICTS*
B. After each audition camp, we will be offering contracts, call-backs, or cuts.
    1. Cuts- This means that at this time you will not be offered a spot on the 2027 Atlanta CV Color Guard
    2. Call Backs- This means that we have seen potential but would like to see you again before making a final decision.
    3. Contract- This means you will be offered a spot on the 2027 Atlanta CV Color Guard. By accepting the contract, you will be agreeing to understand the responsibilities, both financial and schedule, and are able to meet those requirements.

Regardless of your outcome, ALL auditionees will receive feedback on their audition.

Other Considerations: Attitude and Presentation of Self

How you spin, how you dance, how you learn work, how well you execute is one thing; WHO you are is often a bigger consideration (in terms of attitude and presentation).

- Staff members evaluate personality and skill equally. We think through these things:
  - "Is this someone I want to work with?"
  - "Is this someone who brings personal qualities to the team?"
  - "Is this person going to be a great Team member?"
  - Be an asset, not an issue
- How you carry yourself at auditions
  - Are you respectful and listening and absorbing the teachings of the staff in front of you?
  - When you make a mistake, or don't get something right away, how do you handle it? (hint: we are looking for those who calmly try it again or work to have a strong recovery out of the error)
  - Are you supportive of other auditionees?
  - Are you helpful?
  - Are you skeptical and questioning everything that is asked of you? Or embracing the requests?
  - How a prospective member carries themselves through the process can be a deciding factor.

Welcome Prospective CV Guard Member

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. 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 on 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.

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

we are the star.

Participation Waiver

In signing this waiver, I, _____, agree and understand all information presented below. **This waiver must be turned in to 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:** _____