



Colt Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps

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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 THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT US:

"I spent four incredible years with the Colt Cadets. They in large part contributed to who I am, not only as a musician, but in life. Even though I'm not from Dubuque, I still consider the Colts organization to be the type of family I will remember for the rest of my life." – AARON, AGE 17

"When people ask me about Colt Cadets, I pause and try to find the right words.... it's more than music....it's more than marching....it's more than traveling six hours to perform 10 minutes...it's more than making food and helping the kids while out on tour! It's about watching kids persevere; watching the most talented staff around empower each child to do better. It's about building lifelong friendships while watching your children do the same! Simply stated...it's an amazing experience for members, parents, staff, and volunteers!" – JENNIFER, CADET MOM

"Colt Cadets taught me how to play other brass instruments. I came into the season only knowing percussion but learned baritone and now I also play tuba and trumpet! I made so many new friends. I can't wait for the next season." – IAN, AGE 12

"From day one, the staff was there supporting and pushing me to be the best that I could possibly be. Without Colt Cadets I wouldn't be where I am today...marching with the Colts! I truly belong here, and I've developed close lifelong friendships with people from all over the country. I now know that if you are passionate about something and dedicate yourself, there is nothing you cannot accomplish. Drum corps isn't easy, but it's the opportunity of a lifetime." – MORGAN, AGE 18



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.



Colts Youth Organization Website www.colts.org
Follow on Facebook www.facebook.com/coltcadets

DRUM & BUGLE CORPS

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.

2017

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 - just a desire to learn and be great! 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 will perform about 25 times this summer in parades and competitions for more than 75,000 people around the Midwest. Summer rehearsals begin in mid-June, with performances from late-June through early August. In 2017, we'll cap our season at Lucas Oil Stadium (home of the NFL Colts) in Indianapolis, IN.

When not on the road competing, our rehearsal schedule is a combination of multi-day "camp-style" events and day-time rehearsals from 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. With several days off during the summer, students can enjoy the drum corps activity while still having time in the summer for friends, family and other activities.

We can even 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.

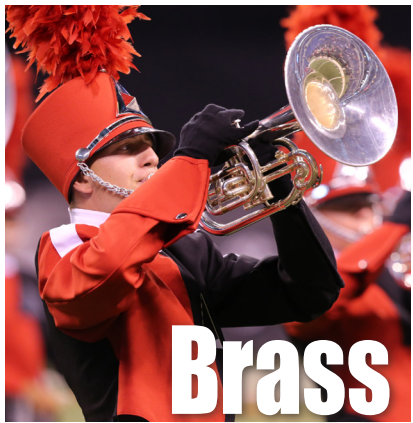
Parents Make It Work!

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

Most parents volunteer in some way with 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 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. The BATTERY section consists of snare drum, tenor drums, bass drums and cymbals. The battery is the marching percussion section you see on the field. The FRONT ENSEMBLE includes mallet instruments such as xylophone, marimba and orchestra bells, as well as a collection of smaller percussion instruments and cymbals. This section remains stationary on the front sideline, as their instruments are too large to carry on the field.



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 and the Colts Summer Band. Over 320 members from 3rd grade through age 21 are members of a Colts program. The Colts Drum & Bugle Corps is our flagship program with 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. The Colts celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 2013 and the Colt Cadets will celebrate their 50th anniversary in 2017.

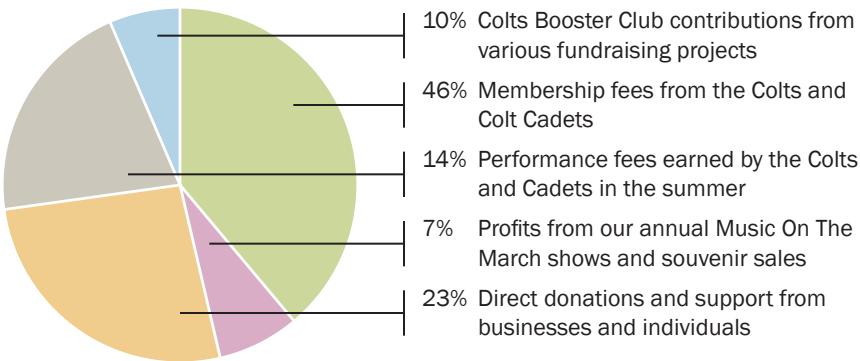


The Colts Summer Band provides an alternative opportunity for young band students entering grades 4-8. The program runs four weeks and includes lessons, concert band rehearsals and performances.

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 \$1 million.

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 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.

Membership Fees

Colt Cadets membership costs \$775 tuition plus \$150 equipment and uniform fee. You receive a \$50 discount for each additional member from the same family.

Out-of-town individuals that require summer housing pay an additional fee that covers food and housing expenses.

Members can earn most or all of their fees with a solid effort made toward the sponsorship program. Given that, we believe no student should be denied membership for financial reasons.

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"
- 3,500+ miles of travel in Colts-owned or chartered buses
- Housing while on the road
- Trips to six states throughout the Central U.S.
- Admission to DCI Championship events in Indianapolis, IN

Instruments, equipment and uniforms that we provide cost an average of \$1,000 per member!

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

HAVlife Foundation's mission to prevent lost potential allows the Colt Cadets to provide an opportunity for all students to develop a positive and confident approach to citizenship regardless of financial means.

