



2021 v-USBands
Participant Guide
Concert Band
Jazz Band
Creative Class

INTRODUCTION TO v-USBANDS

Welcome to the v-USBands Winter 2021 season! Since its first event in 1988, USBands has supported the development of scholastic performing ensembles through exceptional service, adjudication and venues. The USBands organization has been dedicated to serving the music education community no matter the challenges with a willingness and ability to pivot to address the needs of educators and students. In 2020 and once again in 2021, USBands has adapted its model to deliver **v-USBands** to provide meaningful performance opportunities for students and quality assessment to help educators improve their programs.

Our overall guiding principle is to provide ensembles, regardless of style, size, and experience, an opportunity to be successful, thus positively complementing the benefits students experience with their involvement in scholastic music. The regulations that govern USBands' events are minimal by design. USBands prides itself on a user-friendly approach to support and service, in which directors and performers can fully enjoy the performance process without the concern of punitive rules and penalties.

As a director, instructor, or supporter of a participating ensemble, please familiarize yourself with the material in this Guide so you're able to take full advantage of everything USBands has to offer.

Thank you for joining USBands to begin our 33rd year of service in support of music programs across the nation. Best wishes for a great year!

PARTICIPATION GUIDE

This participation guide is designed to address the Chamber Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Combo and Creative classes. If you are interested in Percussion or Marching Band, please see the Participant Guide for those categories. If you are interested in Marching Winds (Indoor) please contact us at info@usbands.org.

HISTORY

The organization now known as USBands was founded in the fall of 1988 by The Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps, with a single competition held in the former Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands of New Jersey. Now in our 33rd season, the USBands calendar includes more than 100 local, state and regional and virtual events across the country, concluding with National Championship events in November. With over 600 ensembles participating in fall events across several states, USBands has grown to become the largest independent scholastic music organization in the nation.

In addition to marching events in the Fall, USBands offers an Indoor Color Guard in partnership with MAIN Color Guard and a Percussion circuit through the winter/spring. Other programs include student leadership workshops, adjudicator training seminars, other educational opportunities for music programs, and presentations to boosters.

PHILOSOPHY

Our focus is centered on the educational development of today's students into tomorrow's leaders, using the performing arts to provide opportunities for hands-on, interactive learning and achievement. By providing support and performance opportunities for students, we serve your educational mission and help raise awareness of the importance of scholastic performing arts programs.

GOALS

- To keep music educators engaged with the reason they originally became educators – the students.
- To create an atmosphere whereby music educators can use music to teach life lessons such as discipline, perseverance, and commitment to excellence.
- To provide high-quality, educational and positive performance opportunities for students.
- To provide instructional support for ensemble directors and staff.
- To provide constructive and consistent evaluation and adjudication.
- To support music education by generating popular interest in scholastic performing arts performance and competition.
- To promote innovation, creativity, and growth for ensembles around the nation.

Any regulations outlined in the following pages are designed not to restrict, but rather to enhance the overall experience for our participating students. The USBands adjudication system places emphasis on music and performance over design and visual components. While every aspect of performance is taken into consideration, this emphasis ensures that the performers are rewarded for their own achievement on the field.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2021

January 20: Registration Opens for the USBands Virtual Performance Winter season

Registration for each week closes 7 days prior to the video submission date.

EVENT	REGISTRATION DEADLINE (By 11:59pm ET)	VIDEO SUBMISSION DEADLINE (By 11:59pm ET)	ADJUDICATION DATES	FLMARCHING DATES
Week 1 Jazz, Concert, Creative	Mon Feb 15	Mon Feb 22	Feb 23-25	Feb 27-28
Week 2 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Feb 22	Mon Mar 1	Mar 2-4	Mar 6-7
Week 3 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative + Individual	Mon Mar 1	Mon Mar 8	Mar 9-11	Mar 13-14
Season Showcase #1 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Mar 8	Mon Mar 15	Mar 16-18	Mar 20-21
Week 5 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Mar 15	Mon Mar 22	Mar 23-25	Mar 27-28
Week 6 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Mar 22	Mon Mar 29	Mar 30-Apr 1	Apr 3-4
Week 7 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative + Individual	Mon Mar 29	Mon Apr 5	Apr 6-8	Apr 10-11

Season Showcase #2 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Apr 5	Mon Apr 12	Apr 13-15	Apr 17-18
Week 9 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Apr 12	Mon Apr 19	Apr 20-22	Apr 24-25
Week 10 Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Apr 19	Mon Apr 26	Apr 27-29	May 1-2
v-USBands Grand Finale Jazz, Concert, Percussion, Creative	Mon Apr 26	Mon May 3	May 4-6	May 8-9

Definitions:

Registration Date: Date by which director confirms participation by individuals, ensembles and groups

Submission Date: Date by which all submissions from schools will need to be confirmed by USBands & FloMarching. 11:59pm Eastern.

Adjudication Dates: Dates that adjudicators provide evaluation on submitted videos. Commentary will be provided immediately to the school upon the completion of the evaluation of the Performing Class..

FloMarching Dates: Dates videos will be available for viewing on FloMarching from 9AM Saturday to 11:59PM Sunday each week.

TYPES OF PARTICIPATION

USBands is excited to offer virtual performance opportunities for soloists, ensembles and groups of all sizes and skill levels.

Individual - Evaluated by (1) Adjudicator per instrument or discipline. Please reference the Adjudication Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Percussion

• Performer(s) will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments. Ratings will be given.

Chamber Ensemble (3 to 16 students) - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators. Please reference the Judging Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Brass - May be any combination of brass instruments (i.e. all trumpets or combination of several brass instruments)
- Woodwind - May be any combination of woodwind instruments. (i.e. all saxophones or combination of several woodwind instruments)
- Percussion - May be any combination of percussive instruments. (i.e. all front ensemble, all battery or combination of both)
- Mixed Ensembles - Any combination of instruments.

• Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments. Ratings will be given.

Concert Band - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators

Please reference the Adjudication Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

Divisions:

Synchronous - Defined as those ensembles meeting together and able to record video as a group

Asynchronous - Defined as those ensembles not meeting in person and compiling recordings to create the performance.

• Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments. Ratings will be given.

Jazz Bands - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators

Please reference the Adjudication Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

Synchronous - those ensembles meeting together and able to record video as a group

Asynchronous - those ensembles not meeting in person and compiling recordings to create the performance.

• Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments. Ratings and placements will be given.

Jazz Combo - Evaluated by 2 Adjudicators (3 - 10 members)

Please reference the Adjudication Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

Synchronous - those ensembles meeting together and able to record video as a group

Asynchronous - those ensembles not meeting in person and compiling recordings to create the performance.

- Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments. Ratings and placements will be given.

Creative Class - Evaluated by 2 Artistry Adjudicators

Please reference the Adjudication Criteria portion of the Participant Guide for additional details.

- Open to any mixture of acoustic, digital, cross-genre musical/visual groups including choral and string groups as well as other forms of artistic expression including spoken word, fine arts, theatre etc.
- Enhanced or processed video performances are allowed and encouraged

- Directors will receive recorded feedback through the performance and summary comments.

UNSCORED PARTICIPATION

Adjudicated Exhibition: Bands and Ensembles will have the option to submit a video and receive commentary and feedback and have their video posted on FloMarching without having their results announced. If you do not wish your video to appear on FloMarching, simply let USBands know by emailing Marching@usbands.org.

VIDEO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

	Soloist	Chamber Ensembles and Jazz Combo	Jazz Band	Concert Band	Creative Class
Introduction	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute	1:00 minute
Name of Performer in Introduction	Yes	No	No	No	No
Name of High School in Introduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Ensemble or Group in Introduction	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Performance Program in Introduction	Optional	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Name of Musical Selection(s) in Introduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum Performance Time	No	No	No	No	No
Maximum Performance Time Non-Showcase Events	5:00 minutes	6:00 minutes	8:00 minutes	8:00 minutes	8:00 minutes
Maximum Performance Time Showcase Events*	5:00 minutes	6:00 minutes	20:00 minutes	20:00 minutes	8:00 minutes
Judging begins with first note or movement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Showcase Events are scheduled for March 20, April 17 and May 8*

Note: No timing penalties will be levied in the v-USBands platform

ADJUDICATION

USBands standards are in place to ensure an educational experience for all participating ensembles.

Individual Performance – One adjudicator | Adjudicator sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the final score = 100 pts max.

Artistry (100 Points)	Excellence (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Engagement • Communication • Presence • Expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intonation • Accuracy • Technique • Interpretation

Concert Band - Two adjudicators | Each Adjudicator's sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the adjudicator's score = 100 pts max. Then the 2 Adjudicators' scores are added together and divided by 2 for the ensemble's final score. This in turn will determine the rating.

Musicianship (100 Points)	Technique (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expression ● Dynamics ● Style/Idiomatic Interpretation ● Communication ● Ensemble Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intonation ● Tone Quality ● Balance and Blend ● Rhythmic Accuracy/Tempo Control ● Articulation

Chamber Ensemble– Two adjudicators | Each Adjudicator’s sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the adjudicator’s score = 100 pts max. Then the 2 Adjudicators' scores are added together and divided by 2 for the ensemble's final score. This in turn will determine the rating.

Musicianship (100 Points)	Technique (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expression ● Dynamics ● Style/Idiomatic Interpretation ● Communication ● Ensemble Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intonation ● Tone Quality ● Balance and Blend ● Rhythmic Accuracy/Tempo Control ● Articulation

Jazz Band - Two adjudicators | One for Music and One for Effect | Each Adjudicator’s sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the adjudicator’s score = 100 pts max. Then the 2 Adjudicators' scores are added together and divided by 2 for the ensemble's final score.

Musicianship (100 Points)	Technique (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expression ● Dynamics ● Style/ Idiomatic Interpretation ● Communication ● Improvisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intonation ● Balance and Blend ● Rhythmic Accuracy/ Time ● Articulation ● Soloists

Jazz Combo - Two adjudicators | One for Music and One for Effect | Each Adjudicator’s sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the adjudicator’s score = 100 pts max. Then the 2 Adjudicators' scores are added together and divided by 2 for the ensemble's final score.

Musicianship (100 Points)	Technique (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expression ● Dynamics ● Style/ Idiomatic Interpretation ● Communication ● Improvisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intonation ● Balance and Blend ● Rhythmic Accuracy/ Time ● Articulation ● Soloists

Creative Class – Two adjudicators evaluating Program and Performance Effect | Each Adjudicator’s sub-captions are totaled and divided by 2 for the adjudicator’s score = 100 pts max. Then the 2 Adjudicators’ scores are added together and divided by 2 for the ensemble’s final score.

Program Effect - 100 pts total	Performance Effect (100 Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuity/Flow ● Pacing ● Creativity ● Variety of Effects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Achieved Effects ● Communication ● Emotion ● Engagement

TYPES OF EVENTS

v-USBANDS EVENTS

In order to provide opportunities for educators to customize their 2021 **v-USBands** Winter experience, two different levels of events have been created for music programs to participate.

Regular Season Events: For the bulk of the season, weekly performances can be submitted for assessment with a limit of 8 minutes of material to be evaluated by (2) adjudicators.

Showcase Events: Three times in the season (March 20, April 17 and May 8) larger events have been programmed to allow up to 20 minutes of material for Concert Bands and Jazz Bands to submit for evaluation by a world class panel of adjudicators.

Participating programs will be permitted to submit up to 20 minutes of material for evaluation by the esteemed panel of adjudicators and clinicians for these weeks.

Additionally, Jazz Band performers will be evaluated for Best Soloist and Best Section in the categories during the Showcase Events.

Concert Band performers will be acknowledged for superior performances by individual and/or section. A “Best in Show” acknowledgement will be given to the top performing Concert Band submission.

Soloist Events

Virtual competition will be held in each category for two weeks during the v-USBands 2021 season. The dates for Soloist events will be March 13 and April 10.

v-USBands Grand Finale

Virtual competition will be held in Jazz Band categories (Combo and Big Band) between programs in each particular state or region

Participation in the Grand Finale is open to any Individual, Ensemble and Band which has participated in at least one **v-USBands** event prior to May 1, 2021.

Mainly focused on a celebration of participation and performance. More information on the **v-USBands** Grand Finale will be released after April 15.

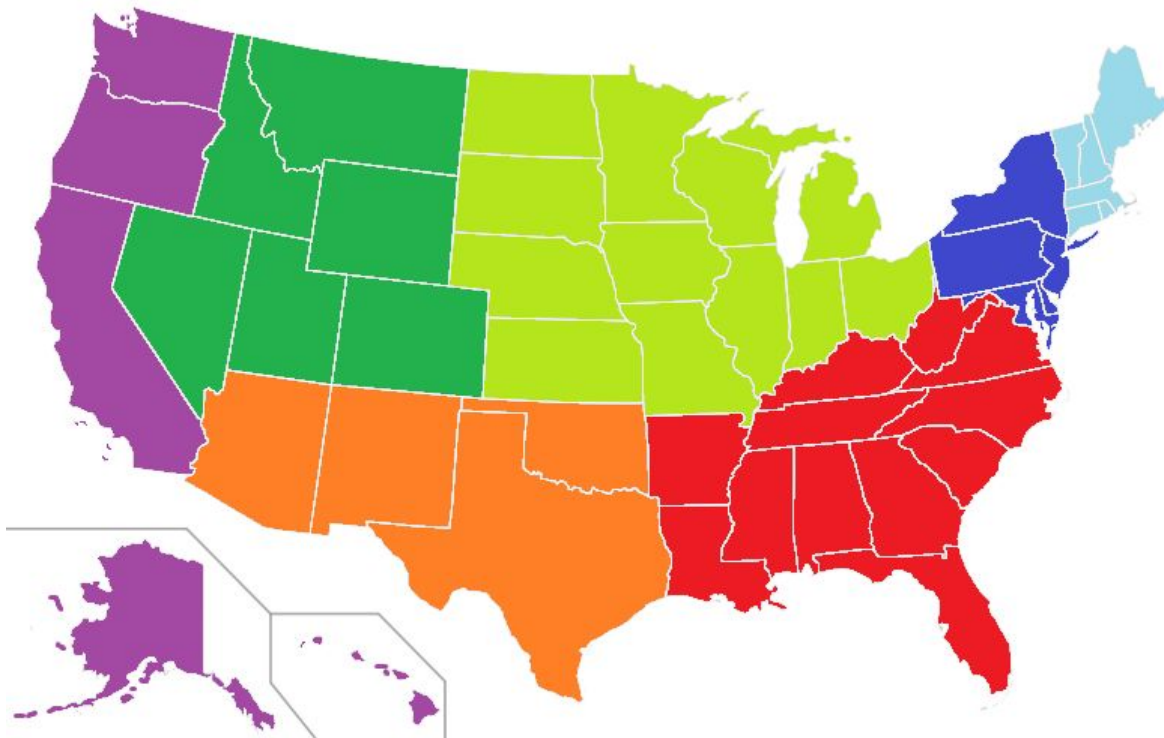
- Competitions by Region or State depending on volume of submissions
- Open Enrollment for all events except **v-USBands** Grand Finale
- Adjudication Categories
 - Individual / Solo
 - Chamber Ensemble
 - Concert Band
 - Jazz Band
 - Jazz Combo
 - Creative Class

All Adjudication is conducted on a national basis up to 20 submissions per Category

- Category Sizing/Groupings

- After 20 submissions per Category, Categories are segmented by Region (New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, Mountain West, West)
- After 20 submissions per Category per Region, Categories are segmented by State in the designated Region (New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, Mountain West, West)

v-USBANDS REGIONAL COMPETITION



- **Projected Regions**
 - New England
 - Mid-Atlantic
 - Southeast
 - Midwest
 - Southwest
 - Mountain West
 - West

v-USBANDS STATE COMPETITIONS



RESULTS • RECAPS • AWARD CEREMONIES

Definitions:

Recaps: Detailed caption scores

Scores: Total scores for Jazz Bands only

Results: Placement for Jazz Bands, Jazz Combos and Creative Class

Ratings for Concert Bands, Chamber Ensembles and Soloists

- USBands will post only select results online

Soloists

- Superior, Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good ratings will be announced based on the corresponding totals.

Jazz Bands and Jazz Combos

- In keeping with USBands standards, results for places 1-5 in each Category (Combo and Big Band) will be posted.
- For Categories with more than 5 participating Combos or Bands, Superior, Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good ratings will be announced based on the corresponding totals.

Concert Band and Chamber Ensembles

- Superior, Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good ratings will be announced based on the corresponding totals.

Creative Class

- In keeping with USBands standards, results for places 1-5 in each Category will be posted.
- For Categories with more than 5 participating Ensembles, Superior, Outstanding, Excellent, Very Good ratings will be announced based on the corresponding totals.

USBands will review the Results and Recaps protocol after Week 3 based on levels of participation to determine a fair and transparent policy regarding the announcement of results moving forward.

- All results will be sent to Band Directors via email at the time of the Award Ceremony
- Pre-produced Award Ceremony video event on FloMarching to be hosted Sunday evening at 7:00PM ET each week
- Separate plans for Awards Ceremonies and Results will be determined for the Showcase and Grand Finale events.

PERFORMANCE PARTICIPATION

Registration fees for v-USBands are as follows:

- Video Submissions
 - Non-Showcase Events Band Registration - \$50 per submission
 - Showcase Events Band Registration - \$100 per submission
 - Chamber Ensemble, Jazz Band, Jazz Combo, Creative Class – \$50 per submission
- Individual – \$25 per submission

WITHDRAWAL FROM 2021 V-USBANDS EVENTS

Any soloist, ensemble or group may withdraw from a 2021 **v-USBands** event up to the video submission deadline.

GRAND FINALE ELIGIBILITY

Individuals, Ensembles and Bands will need to participate in at least (1) **v-USBands** event prior to My 1 to become eligible to participate in the Grand Finale.

REGISTRATION & VIDEO SUBMISSION

Step 1: Create your profile and add your Unit

(This section only needs to be completed once. After you create your profile, should you wish to register for additional events, you can skip to Step 2. If you already have a profile and need to create a new ensemble proceed to #5 and create a new ensemble)

1. Go to the USBands.org website
2. In the upper right corner of the home page you will see a place to “Sign In”
3. This will take you to a page where you can sign in or if this is your first time, you will see the option to “Create a New Account” at the bottom of the page in red.
4. You will be asked to enter your name, email and a password. You are creating a personal account, your ensembles will be added to your account. You will add your ensemble in the next step.
5. The page you will now see will look like this:

The screenshot shows a user dashboard with a dark blue header containing 'Dashboard' and 'Test Test'. Below the header is a navigation menu with three items: 'My Profile', 'Email and Password', and 'Add a Band'. To the right of the navigation menu is a yellow box with the text 'TO DO for Test Test:' and a red triangle icon followed by 'Add a Band'.

Under **Profile** you can add information such as your address, phone number, picture. The Email and Password section is there if you need to change this Information.

Add a Band is where you will add your ensemble. Complete the information requested.

- When you save you will be taken to your groups profile page. It will look something like this:

Band Information	Billing Information
Band Name * <input type="text" value="Test Colorguard"/>	Billing Name <input type="text"/>
School Name * <input type="text" value="N/A"/>	Billing Address <input type="text"/>
School Address * <input type="text" value="Test address"/>	Billing City <input type="text"/>
City * <input type="text" value="Test city"/>	Billing State <input type="text"/>
State * <input type="text" value="PA"/>	Zip * <input type="text" value="18977"/>
Description <input type="text"/>	Billing Zip <input type="text"/>
	<input type="button" value="Save"/>

On the side will be a dashboard.

Dashboard
Test Test
My Profile
Email and Password
Test Colorguard
General Info
Productions
Events
Invoices
Managers
Add a Band

You will be able to check information for your group here.

Click on the **Productions tab**. It will take you to a place to enter your 2021 Show information. Click on the red Missing Information link.

You will now be able to fill out the name of your production, a short description, name the musical selections you will be using, any acknowledgements you have (Staff, etc.) and any special notes that you would like to share. There will be a place at the bottom to confirm number of performers and type of ensemble.

You will choose **your ensemble type** from the drop down list. A second drop down list will appear where you will be able to select the division in which you will be competing.

- If you wish to add other staff to be able to access your ensemble information, you can do this under the **Managers Tab**
- Once you have created your ensemble you can register for events. You only need to create the profile the first time you register.

Step 2: Registration

- Click on the link at the top of the page that says **EVENTS**.
- You will see a list of all of the virtual events for the season. Click on the event you wish to register for.
- You will be taken to that event's registration page where you will fill out specific

information. (Please be certain you have completed the **Production Information Tab** above.) Click SUBMIT.

4. You will now be taken to the Billing page. **If paying by credit card**, please complete the information and click submit. If paying by purchase order or check, see the information at the bottom of the page for sending the check or P.O.
5. You can always find your billing statements and payments under the **INVOICES** tab on your profile page.

STEP 3: Step-by-Step video upload

After registering for an event, you will receive a **FloMarching Uploader Link** from USBands

Cut and paste that link into your browser. (See below for Video Tips)

It will take you to a login page. Log in with your account.

*(If you do not have a FloMarching Account, go to **FloMarching.com** and in the upper right hand corner of the page click on **Join Now**. You will be asked for an email address and a password. Click Join Now and you are done. You do not need to purchase a subscription.)*

Once you have logged in with your account you will be taken to **2021 Virtual Uploader** page

There are directions at the top of the page.

You will see directions to **upload your video**. Please title your video: Group Name – Show Title. The area to upload the video is at the bottom of the page. You may drag and drop or upload the file. **Be sure to use either an MP4 or .mov**. If you are using Adobe Premier or Final Cut Pro to edit, be sure to set your video encoder to H.264 before exporting. **DO NOT USE** anything entitled APPLE PRORES.

Your video will take a few moments to upload. Below the area you uploaded the video there will be a few areas to fill in. Several are drop down menus.

Please enter: (The information may be slightly different depending on what type of event you are entering)

Title - "Group Name – Show Title"

Please Enter your Unit Name then a dash and then the Show Title.

Doing this will make it easier for your parents and fans to find the video on FloMarching

Please be certain to use this as the title of your video as well.

Description –

Here you can include hometown (City, State, Country) and any description you wish to provide. This will appear with your published video.

Division -

You will choose the Division of performance you are entering from the dropdown menu.

Age division (solo and ensemble only)

You may see Age Division, if so, please indicate the correct Age division.

Competition Status (not applicable to all Divisions)

You may see an area to choose Competitive or Exhibition. If so, please choose one.

Level –

Select the correct class for your group

Once the video uploads you will see a thumbnail of it appear in this area.

Once the upload is done, you will click **COMPLETE**

You will see an **UPLOAD CONFIRMED** over your Thumbnail. (Please note – the **Preview** button will not work.)

Go to the email account with which you registered for FloMarching. You should **receive a confirmation email**. This email will have a preview link which will be functional.

Video Tutorials to Uploading to FloMarching

[Generic Upload Help Video](#)

[Account Setup Video](#)

[Video Encoding Setting](#)

[iPhone Camera Settings](#)

TIPS:

Video Submission Tips: To help you ensure your video is ready for submission through the FloSports video uploader, please use the following guidelines prior to recording/uploading:

iPhone Users: Watch this quick video to ensure your phone camera settings are set up correctly BEFORE recording your video. [WATCH HERE](#)

iPhone 12 Users: iPhone 12 videos are currently not supported. You will need to either record your video using a different camera OR run your file through a video editing software, like Adobe Premiere, Media Encoder, or Final Cut, using the export setting mentioned below.

If you do not have access to video editing software try using [Handbrake](#) to re-export the video file using the specifications below.

Video Editing Software Users:

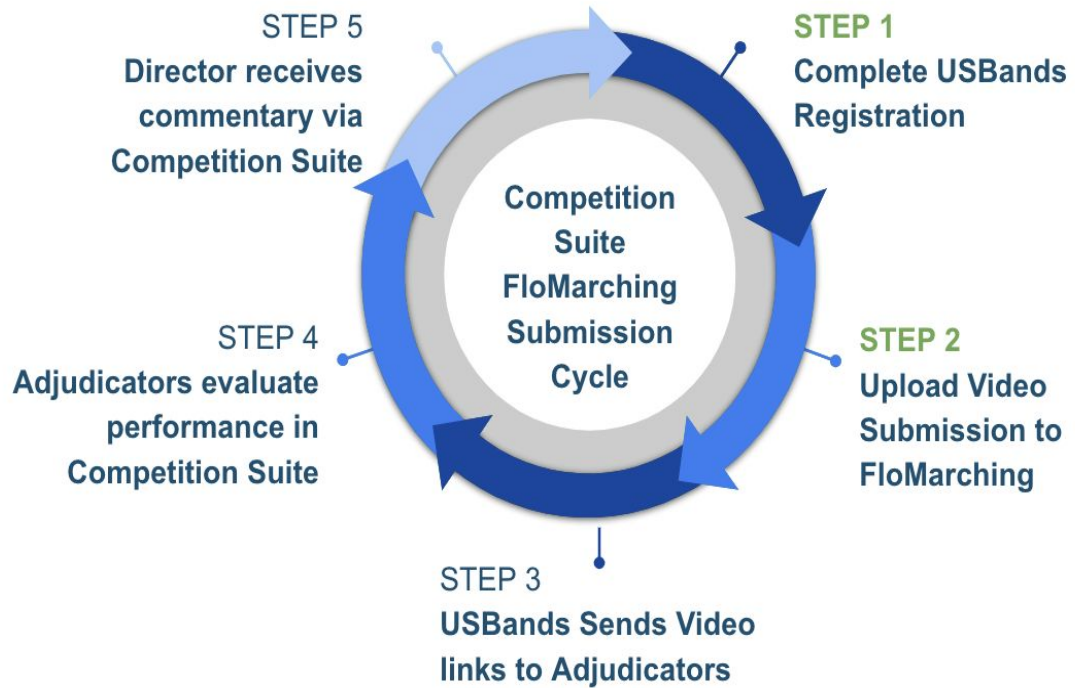
If you are using a video editing software such as Adobe Premiere or Final Cut to edit/export your video please export using the following settings:

- *Video Format:* Please make sure your video format is either .mp4 or .mov
- *Audio:* Each video must have an audio track to upload properly. If your video is without an audio track it will not upload properly.
- *Encoder Settings:* If you're exporting your video using a video editing software, make sure the file is encoded in H.264. If you used anything that is Apple ProRes, the uploader will not accept the file. Here's a quick [help video](#) for reference.

Step 4: Upload Student Leadership Acknowledgement File

- The link to upload your band's "Salute Video" file is:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1O4Z3fcKoNmRzNAtuo_xLSQbD3wr_g4gCj?usp=sharing
- Please make sure to include the name of your school/group in this file.
- File should be uploaded by the Monday of your week of competition.
- Groups can upload separate files each week. Please include the date of the event in the file title.

VIDEO SUBMISSION CYCLE OVERVIEW



REGULATIONS

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

USBands encourages participation by any student within their music program, as long as the student is in good standing as determined by each school's extracurricular activity policy. Participants must be full-time 6-12 grade student and enrolled in their area's school district.

RULES OF PERFORMANCE

VIDEO SUBMISSION

Performance for all non-E-Showcase submissions including soloists, ensembles and groups will be a single unedited video, shot focused on the performer(s) – simply recorded and not enhanced.

E-Showcase individuals, ensembles and groups can utilize a full range of editing and video effects.

CREATIVE CLASS EQUIPMENT – USE

There are no restrictions on the number or types of electronic music, instruments or amplification systems that may be used. This includes any use of voicing/singing, sampling, or other uses related to the performance of pre-recorded digital media. If there is a concern regarding the integrity of live performance, the USBands office will communicate the concern to the director.

CREATIVE CLASS EQUIPMENT - PROHIBITED

In accordance with the traditional USBands guidelines, the use of motorized vehicles during the performance is prohibited and motorized vehicles may not drive onto the performance area. The use of drones in and around the performance area and venue is prohibited. However, the use of such devices as part of the Creative Class (such as drones to video the performance) would be permitted with prior written approval from the participating school's administration and ensuring that all safety protocols and local laws are observed.

The use of fire extinguishers, water that comes in contact with the field surface when used as a prop, animals, and/or pyrotechnics (including fire batons) are prohibited at all USBands events. This also includes the release or use of all materials that may result in debris on the field. However, the use of such devices as part of the Creative Class would be permitted with prior written approval from the participating school's administration and ensuring that all safety protocols and local laws are observed.

Failure to comply with these standards would result in the submitted video being rejected and appropriate fees returned.

CAPTION AWARDS

v-USBands Showcase and Grand Finale Events:

The following awards will be presented to a Band in each Category:

- Jazz: Best Soloist and Best Section in Woodwind, Brass, Rhythm
- Concert: "Best in Show" performance ranking at the Showcase events. Possible acknowledgement for superior individual or section performance

CONTACT USBands

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FloMarching Customer Service
<https://support.floports.tv/>