The National Cherry Blossom Festival is seeking marching bands to participate in the 2023 Parade. The Parade is a complex mix of entertainment including gigantic balloons, magnificent floats, specialty units, celebrity talent, and special production numbers. Marching bands are an integral part of the mix; the pageantry, musical selection, colors, marching style, and auxiliary contributions help create a stunning presentation.

The Festival receives a wide variety of applications every year. Selected bands represent the best that local, regional, and national music programs have to offer. Local bands (from the Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia area) as well as nationally recognized bands will be included.

**BAND REQUIREMENTS:**
Marching bands must have a membership of 100+ students to be considered for the parade. Bands smaller than 100 students are encouraged to apply once membership has increased.

The Festival welcomes applications from all types of bands, including middle school, high school, college, community, specialty bands, and others. There are no age requirements for band members.

Bands from all over the world and of every style are encouraged to apply. The Festival is happy to consider Dance, Military, Drum Corps High Step, Traditional, Scottish, and more. Variety in marching band styles is an important ingredient to the overall parade presentation.

Accepted bands will be required to submit a copy of their general liability insurance, from the school, district, or organization that the band represents.

Band selection is based exclusively upon merit and overall addition to the parade. Use of a travel/tour operator will not aid a band in gaining acceptance in the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade®.

**PARADE DATE:**
2023  April 15  Applications will be reviewed beginning May 18, 2022; Applications must be received by September 3, 2022

Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis, so bands are encouraged to submit their applications early in the application period. Applications will be evaluated from May 18 – September 3, 2022.

Applicants must submit a DVD of the band in a recent parade appearance in order for their application to be considered. Field shows may also be included, but the performance sample must include a parade appearance. Please see below for the complete list of request materials.

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:**
All accepted marching bands will be required to pay a fee of $6.00 per participant to cover administrative costs. This fee includes a commemorative Parade patch. Accepted marching bands should also plan financially if interested in any of the following: commemorative t-shirt ($17.00 per person), Parade Grandstand Group Seating for chaperones and fans not marching with the band ($25.00 - $40.00, depending on location), and boxed lunches delivered to the bus on Parade day ($10.00 per person).

Thank you for applying to the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade®. The Festival looks forward to receiving your application!
Band Name: ________________________________

School Name: ________________________________

Contact Person & Title: ________________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______ Zip Code: ________________________________

Telephone #: ___________________________ Fax #: ________________________________

E-mail: ___________________________ Cell Phone#: ________________________________

**General categorized description of unit:** (Please circle all that apply)
- Marching Band
- High School Band
- College Band
- Junior Drum Corps
- Sr. Drum Corps
- Alumni Corps
- String Band
- Pipe Band
- Fife/Drum Corps
- Specialty Band
- Other

**Unit membership information:** (Please use accurate information here (i.e. if your band is 200 members this year, and you project having 150 members next year, please use the actual numbers projected for spring 2023).

Total Number in Unit ____________

Breakdown: Flags ______ Rifles _____________ Pom Pons _______
          Brass ______ Woodwinds _______ Drum Line _______
          Other ______
Description of Uniforms/Costumes:

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Unit Awards/Recognition’s Notable History or Performances:

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

The following must be included in your application:

- **A DVD of your band in at least one parade appearance.**
- **A color photograph of the organization & color photographs of your uniforms.**
- **Your band’s biography.**
- **ANY other information that will help the parade producers evaluate your application.**
Acknowledgement
Check the box to acknowledge reading and accepting the following term if your band is selected to appear in the Parade.

All **accepted** marching bands will be required to pay a fee of $6.00 per participant to cover administrative costs. This fee must be paid within 30 days of receipt of the Acceptance Letter. The per person fee includes a commemorative patch.

Additional Considerations
If your marching band is **accepted**, check which of the following you will be pursuing so the correct Festival staff member may follow-up:

- [ ] Commemorative t-shirt ($17.00)
- [ ] Grandstand Group Seating ($25.00 - $40.00, depending on location)
- [ ] Boxed lunches ($10.00)

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing application has been read and understood and that any statements made in connection with the application and agreements are true and accurate. The applicant agrees to comply with all rules and regulations established by the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

Please submit this completed application with all requested material to:
Parade Band Application
2023 National Cherry Blossom Festival
C/O Todd Marcocci - Under the Sun Productions, Inc.
423 College Avenue
West Chester, PA 19382

___________________________   ____________________________
Director Signature     School Principal Signature

___________________________   ____________________________
Print Name      Print Name

___________________________   ____________________________
Date       Date

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THIS APPLICATION AND INCLUDE ALL MATERIALS
**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**
(Completion of this application does not guarantee participation.)