

# **GOLDEN INVITATIONAL 2019**

Stuff you need to know:

The address of Largo High School is:  
410 Missouri Ave. N  
Largo, FL 33770

Contest Coordinator is Robin Benoit – 727-409-2618

Largo High Band Director is Christopher Benoit – 727-409-2619

GATES OPEN: 4:30 pm (THIS STILL MAY CHANGE as more registrations are received)

SHOW STARTS: 5:30 pm (THIS STILL MAY CHANGE as more registrations are received)

TICKETS: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens, children 5 and under are free

## **BUSES**

Enter at the front of the school, at the light on Missouri Ave. They will immediately turn right and go all the way around the parent drop off line to unload between the auditorium and building 1. After you unload, buses will be escorted to off-site parking (at Largo Middle School, about 1 mile away). Bus Drivers will get transported to the contest site if they wish. At the end of the night, we will bring the buses up into the parking lot that is used for Warm-up areas A and B, so you may conveniently load and leave.

## **EQUIPMENT VEHICLES**

Enter the campus from the BACK, at the gate on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Do NOT try to go in the same way the buses do! Equipment vehicle parking is in the bus loop area that is very conveniently located just north of the stadium. Our staff will direct them so that they are parked “nose-out”, so when it’s time to leave they can just pull right on out.

## **STAFF VEHICLE PARKING**

Park in the spectator lot...it’s free. Then go to check in and the folks there will help them locate their band.

## **CHECK-IN**

Will be right by where the buses unload. We’ll have a full packet for you, so if you forget to bring a copy of the schedule or this packet, no worries!

## **PASSES**

No wristbands for your band members...they will enter and exit from the backstage area at all times and really have no reason to ever head up past the spectator gate, which is a good

way from the football stadium (we have one ticket booth for the entire athletic complex). We will provide badges for you and your staff and wristbands for your chaperones, equipment crew, etc. You will get a separate email with the specific numbers for your band.

#### GUIDES

We will have guides that will stay with you from your arrival through your performance. They will walk you to warm-up, to the field, etc.

#### WATER

There will be a central water station in the warm-up area, and we will have water bottles for the performers when they exit the field.

#### FLOW OF SHOW

We'll have guides to take you everywhere, but we've also included some maps with the details of the flow...if you find them helpful, that's great!

#### WARMUP AREAS

We have three warm-up areas and you are welcome to have your entire ensemble warm-up together. You also have the option of a separate warm-up area for front ensembles that means you don't have to move them as far, and you also have the option for your colorguard to warm-up in the courtyard. The choice is yours.

#### FRONT ENSEMBLE EQUIPMENT

Due to the new track surface, we can't pull trailers around the track, so you will need to push front ensemble equipment around. The optional front ensemble warm-up areas are intended to keep them as close as possible without their warm-up interfering with the show.

#### LARGE PROPS

If you have large props that need assembling, etc., the workers in the equipment vehicle parking area will direct you to a suitable spot to assemble and stage as conveniently as possible.

#### POWER

There is power from the front of the stadium; we will have an extension cord run for this, but if you have a complicated set up you will want to be sure to bring what you need.

#### DRUM MAJOR PODIUM

Our podiums will be available; you are welcome to use one of them or you may bring your own (it would have to enter from the back gate with the front ensemble equipment). We have a standard 6' Command Center podium and a newer Melhart podium.

#### SEATING

The visitor side bleachers are available for bands after their performances. Front side seating is for paying spectators.

## BAND-GRAMS

Yes, your supporters will be able to buy special announcements for a very reasonable cost to be read before your band's performance!

## CONCESSIONS AND SOUVENIRS

A variety of concessions and souvenirs will be available for purchase – thank you in advance for your purchases, as this is a big part of our fundraising revenue from the contest! There will be concessions available on the visitor side and bands will be able to easily go across the south end of the stadium to the home side, where there will be more concessions and a variety of souvenirs.

## AWARDS CEREMONY

It has been a long tradition at the Golden Invitational to do a full retreat for the awards. We strive to make this as simple as possible for everyone—it really makes for a nice culmination of the event for the audience and performers alike.

You may have your instruments with you or not, whichever is more convenient. When the Band of Gold comes on for their exhibition performance, all bands will gather on the practice field directly south of the stadium. When Largo finishes, they will set up their block and begin playing a drum cadence to bring everyone on. Come across the front of the stands, get announced with another round of applause, and by the time everyone is lined up and in place we should be ready to start giving out the awards!

As soon as the ceremony is over you can exit up towards the equipment lot and we will have your buses lined up as close to the stadium as we can get them.