

March 7, 2022

It is an honor to submit this letter supporting the nomination of Megh Healy Toth to the Cadets Hall of Fame. Through Megh's many years of membership and service to the Cadets, she has been instrumental in ensuring the values and principles establishing the excellence of this organization are forever honored and improved upon, no matter the personal sacrifice to herself along the way.

When Megh came to the Cadets in 1996 – the organization and countless people involved were to be forever changed for the better and I count myself lucky to have been among them. From the moment I became a Cadet in 2000 until today, Megh has exemplified the actual values and commitment to this community that initially drew me to DCI and the Cadets. The Cadets I saw and respected as a fan prior to joining the Corps, and while watching from afar as a member of the 1999 Magic of Orlando, were simply a reflection of members like Megh's devotion to the Cadets and activity as a whole.

And yet, Megh's presence and dedication to the Cadets community and family has been clearly, and almost indescribably, more.

As a new member of the Corps and one of few (then) female identified hornline members, I was incredibly lucky to have the good fortune of Megh being not only a fellow hornline member and friend, but our steadfast leader as the 2000 hornline captain. As with everything within and for the Cadets, Megh executed her duties as hornline captain with a steady strength that few people are ever able to achieve in life. Megh's ability to lead by example and lift others up shines through every moment of the 2000 Cadets hornline and it's a testament to her ability to foster unwavering dedication to excellence in all roles.

Beyond serving the entire Corps through her leadership, Megh has also been a critical support system for all women in the Corps, especially for those in the hornline. This support stemmed from Megh's selfless availability to take on the added role of helping fellow young women through the high demands of being a female member of a majority male drum and bugle corps. Forever balancing the heightened demands of excellence with the realities of being a leader within the Corps, Megh led by example for all, while ensuring that the small group of female hornline members always had constant support and recognition of the extra demands young women in a demanding environment, such as a Cadets hornline, can bring. In an activity that could be compared to one of the world's most demanding sports taking place 24/7 amidst a full blown military boot camp, Megh never turned up the chance to make sure that the toughest days were viewed as massive personal accomplishments and that the morale and dedication of all members, especially us ladies, never waned.

Megh respects, embodies and perpetuates the proud traditions held closely by all Cadets, building decades of excellence fostered by the traditions that we hold dear to this day. One of the areas Megh demonstrated her deeply held responsibility to tradition and excellence – and also fostered it in all Corps members – was through her meticulous work to ensure every member wore their uniform with pride through intense attention to detail. Megh helped all Corps members learn more than just how to pin a uniform with perfection, but the deeper lesson of committing to, and investing time (and sometimes a little blood) in striving for that perfection. To this day, I regularly

smile to myself when getting ready to appear in court, as I am now a trial attorney, when I remember the pride and work that went into donning the Cadet uniform and that is thanks to Megh's commitment to making sure the Corps looked as outstanding as we performed. Megh and her mother, who I will also never forget and who also ensured many years of perfectly tailored uniforms, are forever a part of my memories of strength to draw upon throughout life. Megh never told me, but showed me in some very hard moments that being a Cadet is about more than excellence on the field and I'm forever grateful for her leadership and friendship.

Each and every one of us who has had the honor of being a Cadet knows the commitment and sacrifice needed to succeed within the Corps and for the Corps to reach its full potential as a whole. Megh, however, knows all that it takes for an organization like ours to survive and thrive and she has given decades of her life to the betterment of the Cadets. It is in no way an exaggeration to say that without Megh's leadership and love of the Cadets, we would not have the Corps we all so deeply value and cherish. Megh's roles with the Cadets grew and expanded as the years went on and the life she has poured into this organization is more than worthy of Hall of Fame recognition. I proudly and wholly nominate, and support all nominations for, Megh Toth's induction into the Cadets Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

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