

To the Cadets Hall of Fame committee

Re: Supporting letter for Lawrence Ignaczak

The purpose of this letter is to second to the nomination for Lawrence "Iggy" Ignaczak to the Cadets Hall of Fame 2021 Classic category.

A great mentor, leader, and Cadet way of life brings to mind when thanking Lawrence for his service to the Cadets organization. Lawrence is a Cadet through and through. I think of Lawrence as a high ranking official that represents the Cadets organization through our extended drum Corps family.

I can attest to Iggy's all inclusive approach to new members, when I joined just before the first show in 1978. I was chosen to fill an open spot before the season started and Iggy was my saving grace. Not knowing the Cadet history, traditions, and friendships Iggy became my bus partner, and guided me through the season. With Lawrence's leadership, the next season I was able to be a mentor to other new members to keep the tradition going.

As I found my way to the Cadets organization in 1978 "Iggy" was always there to greet everyone and make them feel welcome. His dedication to this organization was inspiring and motivated a new group of members. Suddenly we were all friends spending every day together before, during and after rehearsals. Lawrence approach to leadership was inclusive and created a sense of belonging. This was also extended through our Drum Corp family and friends met along the way. It did not matter if you were in another Drum Corps, Winter Guard, or a Drum Corps ally, Lawrence made everyone feel like they belong which is a great virtue to represent an alumni of the Cadets.

Lawrence's age out year in 1979 was a transitional year with the Cadets, but being a senior member, Lawrence stepped up. With the help of other senior members Lawrence's Cadet attitude and leadership was the glue and held our organization together. There was a lot of new members and traditions had to be carried forward, and Lawrence was there to remind us of our history and the accomplishments our past alumni brought.

As a member of the Cadet Plebes from 1968-1970, Lawrence was a model Plebe. His 4th year Lawrence graduated to the Garfield Cadets in 1971 and was chosen as a lead soprano bugle the next year, a total of 11 years as an active member. This included being part of the accomplished DCI placing horn line in 1977 and 1978. Lawrence also encouraged others to increase their musicianship, whether discussing current artists' works, new trends in music, or attending jazz concerts with the group.

The life lessons learned being a Cadet, Lawrence has extended to a professional career as a faith based life coach that focuses on a healthier mind, body and spirit. In February 2021 along with the ranks of famed life coach Tony Robbins, Lawrence was named in the “Top 10 male coaches transforming lives in 2021” by Yahoo News. <https://in.news.yahoo.com/top-10-male-coaches-transforming-103548194.html>

Lawrence is an active member of the Cadet Alumni association, from his span of service there are memories from every year that are shared with everyone. This is the type of connection that creates traditions carried down from our alumni to current members and spans the Cadets moral values throughout our drum corps community.

Dates of Service

- 1968 – 1970 Garfield Cadet Plebes
- 1971 - 1979 Garfield Cadets
- 1972 – 1979 Garfield Cadets Lead Soprano

Thank you to the Hall of Fame committee members for giving me this opportunity to express how important Lawrence Ignaczak’s presence is to the Cadet organization.

For Holy Name Should Always Be

Charlie Stroppel / Lead Soprano / 1978-1979

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