

July 7, 2021

Donnie VanDoren
2905 Tempe Drive
Cedar Park, TX 78641
812-322-2345

Person Nominated:
MARC WHITLOCK

Dear Cadets HOF Selection Committee,

I write this letter with great respect for the Cadets, and with immense confidence, I nominate Marc Whitlock for induction into the Cadets Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.

I have known Marc for 35 years and have watched him grow from a marching member of the Cadets (1987) ... to staff member of the Cadets (1988, 1994-1999, 2017-present) ... to band director ... to DCI/WGI/BOA judge ... to a mentor in the activity. Back in 1988 when I was the brass caption head at the Star of Indiana, I first began to notice Marc during his time as a brass staff member for the Cadets. Since that time, I have watched Marc develop over the years into one of the leading consultants in our activity who not only cares about brass but, more importantly, about the people and kids within that organization. Marc has been an active participant in numerous organizations in our activity, in a wide variety of roles, and has specifically served the Star of Indiana, Dutch Boy, SCV, Phantom, Blue Stars, Madison, Troopers, and most importantly the Cadets. In addition, Marc has served a myriad of national champion caliber marching bands across the country.

Marc has a collaborative spirit and the desire to mentor those around him. He is and always has been a gifted teacher and coach, mixing humor with high expectations. He is a passionate and dedicated educator who is committed to the young staff members and the students that he serves. Marc has touched the lives of literally thousands of people as both a drum corps music educator and a high school band director.

I've been around the activity for a long time and I know a good man when I see one. Marc is a teacher and mentor who cares. He has the ability to empathize and relate to all, and gives his heart and soul to those around him. His impact can be seen through the countless lives of the students and young staff members who have gone on to follow in his footsteps and teach at other corps at all levels of the activity.

I am proud of Marc ... not only for his accomplishments in drum corps or band, but for the qualities he acquired early on as a Cadet. Yes, he is educator and mentor, but he is also a loyal father, husband, and son ... and is a loyal soldier to many ... a guy that cares about everything and everybody ... a guy who demonstrates to his students and peers that a busy life filled with career obligations and family responsibilities can be balanced with drum corps.

Like all of us who got our start at the Cadets (some of us at the Garfield Cadets), there is maroon and gold running through our veins ... no matter where we are, no matter how many groups we devote our time to, NO MATTER WHAT, the Cadets remain closest to our heart. I strongly believe that Marc is one of us in this regard. Almost every conversation I have had with Marc over the past 35 years regarding drum corps always includes the Cadets, without fail.

In closing, I am hopeful that you will give this nomination your full consideration and support. We have an opportunity to recognize and induct someone special to our Cadets HOF who has given a decade of service to the Cadets and 30+ years of commitment and dedication to our beloved activity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information or would like to discuss Marc in more detail.

Respectfully,

Donnie VanDoren
Cadets HOF Class of 2002