

LINCOLN-WAY
MARCHING
BAND



OFFICIAL
PARTICIPANT
2025 ROSE
PARADE

October 12, 2023

Dear Parents and Prospective Members of the Lincoln-Way Marching Band,

It is with an immense amount of joy that we announce our congratulations to the current and future students of the Lincoln-Way Marching Band for their selection and invitation to march in the 136th annual Tournament of Roses Parade, in Pasadena, California on January 1, 2025. The invitation to participate in the Rose Parade is one of the most prestigious honors a marching band program can receive, and we want you to join us next year and be a part of what will surely be a tremendous experience!

This will mark the fourth Lincoln-Way appearance in the Tournament of Roses Parade, with previous appearances in 1982, 2000 and 2019. The New Year's Day parade will be broadcast in 217 countries, in over 20 languages to well over 65 million people worldwide. The LWMB was selected by the Rose Parade selection committee as one of nineteen marching bands, of which only nine are high school bands, from throughout the world!

Current 8th grade band students, as potential future Freshman band members, are eligible to join the marching band family next year and be a part of this once in a lifetime opportunity. Preparations for the trip are already in motion, and we would be honored to have the opportunity to begin communicating with you so that you have all of the information necessary to begin taking the first steps towards continuing with music and joining our organization.

As the 2025 Rose Parade ambassadors for the state of Illinois, the LWMB will be offering a weeklong trip to California that will be an all-inclusive experience in which a paid package will include airfare, lodging, all meals as well as several excursions throughout the central and southern California area. Activities may include; tours of Los Angeles, the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and the Warner Brothers Production Studios. We also may take trips to Santa Monica Pier, the Farmer's Market, Universal Studios Citywalk in Hollywood and Griffith Observatory. Special events may include, an exclusive New Year's dinner and dance event, a unique group photo in front of the Rose Bowl Stadium and a day at Disneyland where the LWMB will march down Main Street U.S.A. in Disney's original Disneyland park. The LWMB will also be participating in "BandFest," sponsored by the Rose Parade, which is a band festival at Pasadena City College where the selected Rose Parade bands from all over the world display their field shows.

Our plan is to depart from Chicago on December 27th, 2024 and to return to Chicago on January 2nd, 2025. The details of the trip commitment, along with enrollment deadlines, detailed itinerary, payment schedule, and fundraising opportunities, will be made available in the coming weeks on our website at www.lincolnwaymusic.org/roses. Our travel company will also be planning a "companion trip" for those families and friends interested in traveling with us or meeting us in California. We will be hosting a *2025 Rose Parade Informational meeting* for all new LWMB students on **Wednesday, November 8th at 6:30pm** in the *Little Theatre at Lincoln-Way Central*.

We are extremely excited for the entire LWMB organization for this landmark achievement. We look forward to you joining our family for our 2025 "March to the Roses" and to bringing this life-changing event to our current Lincoln-Way community.

Musically yours,

Justin Barnish, LWW | Dr. Bert Johnson, LWE | Cary Ruklic, LWW & LWE | Chris Mroczek, LWC