



THE NORMAL MARCHING BAND

Invitational

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026 AT ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY TUCCI STADIUM

We are excited to host a great day of performances! Remember to be friendly, helpful, kind, and encouraging. We want to make a great impression so that bands and fans return in future years!

In addition to the NMB, twenty-three other high school bands will perform today. It will take all hands on deck to make this event a success! We ask that at least one adult from each marching band family volunteer—sign up at normalmb.org. We also ask that all who are affiliated with the NMB park in the Carle BroMenn parking lot A, to the south of the Resale Boutique Thrift Shop. (Cars may not park at the stadium or hospital.)

Invite friends, family, neighbors, and teachers to come to our show! It is a great opportunity for them to see what we have been working on!

At competitions, it is customary for the host band to perform in “exhibition,” meaning that we will not be competing at this event. We will, however, be adjudicated and receive feedback from the panel of outstanding adjudicators. This feedback will help us improve throughout the season.

During Invitational Week, we are fortunate to have color guard choreographer and drill designer, Tim Newburn, visiting from Houston and judging the event. Tim choreographed part of the Lady Gaga Super Bowl Halftime Show! The guard will have a special session with Tim from 7 to 9 PM on Friday at NCWHS, during the football game. West guard members will perform pregame, then join Tim and the NCHS guard members inside.

NMB Students are assigned to shifts and responsibilities. Be sure you know when and where to report! Wear your SUGARPLUM DREAMS show shirt during your shift. Thank you for your efforts and for making this a great day! [TAP HERE FOR STUDENT JOB ASSIGNMENTS.](#)

We encourage you to support the NMB by grabbing lunch or dinner at the concession stand! 😊

NMB Schedule for the Day

before rehearsal

9:30 AM

Eat a healthy breakfast and drink plenty of water on the day of the event.

Rehearsal begins in IWU Tucci Stadium. Let's take advantage of this time in the stadium and get ready to give a great performance tonight!

12:00 PM

Rehearsal ends. After rehearsal, you may leave unless you are assigned to a student shift.

[TAP HERE FOR STUDENT JOB ASSIGNMENTS.](#) You may also watch the performing bands from the curved portion of the bleachers on the front side of Side I. We encourage you to be a supportive audience!

Do you know where/when to report for your shift? Remember to wear your show shirt!

6:00 PM

Drum Majors report, in uniform, to present awards.

~7:15 PM

Change into uniform, prepare for the show. The directors, staff, and parent volunteers will be running the Invitational, so the student leadership team will help make this happen!

Please be quiet while changing—performances are taking place nearby!

If your shift ends at 7:30, please complete the shift, then hustle to change. You'll have enough time.

7:45 PM

In uniform by the truck, ready for inspection and physical warm up.

7:55 PM

Depart for Warm Up Areas.

Physical Warm Up in Area A from 8:00 to 8:30, Music Warm Up in Area A from 8:35 to 9:05

Guard Warm Up in Area A from 8:35 to 9:05, Front Ensemble in Area A from 8:35 to 9:00

9:10 PM

At the stadium gate, ready for the performance.

9:15 PM

NMB Performance at the Normal Marching Band Invitational! Go, Team, Go!

Let's have a great performance for our “home crowd!”

Note: Seniors will be recognized on the track immediately after the NMB performance. Move equipment to the end zone quickly, then return to the 50 yard line.

after performing

The NMB will move equipment to the end zone and watch the awards presentation. (Drum Majors present awards.) Remember to be supportive of all of the groups and their efforts! After awards, change out of uniform, pack equipment, and clean up the invitational. Note: Some NMB members have been assigned to tear down, and all are welcome to help!

A Note from the NMB Directors

We are very proud of all of your work going into the Invitational! It will be great to host these other groups at our event, and we look forward to having the opportunity to see what everyone else has been working on. (We haven't gotten to see many other bands yet this year.) Remember to represent the NMB at your very best, both on and off the field. Encouraging applause or a kind word can make the experience positive for the bands and fans that are our guests today. The NMB parents, staff, and directors are running the show and may not always be able to remind you of what's next – keep an eye on the plan and the clock! Make sure you eat, hydrate, and rest so that you can make it through this long day. Lastly, encourage friends, neighbors, teachers, and family to come out and cheer us on—it always helps to have an audience that loves us! Have a great day, work hard, and perform well!

Schedule of Performances

1:45 PM	Gates Open/Ticket Sales Begin	5:30 PM	Class 4A: Pana
2:05 PM	National Anthem, Adjudicator Introductions	5:45 PM	Class 4A: Prairie Central
2:15 PM	Class 3A: Mt. Carmel	6:00 PM	Class 4A: El Paso
2:30 PM	Class 1A: Dwight	6:15 PM	1A/2A/3A/4A Awards Presentation, Dinner
2:45 PM	Class 1A: Heritage	7:00 PM	Class 5A: U High
3:00 PM	Class 1A: Sullivan	7:15 PM	Class 5A: Pontiac
3:15 PM	Class 1A: Herscher	7:30 PM	Class 5A: Effingham
3:30 PM	Class 2A: Taylorville	7:45 PM	Class 5A: Monticello
3:45 PM	Class 2A: Arcola	8:00 PM	Break
4:00 PM	Class 2A: St. Joseph-Ogden	8:15 PM	Class 6A: Dunlap
4:15 PM	Class 2A: Watseka	8:30 PM	Class 6A: Canton
4:30 PM	Break	8:45 PM	Class 6A: Plainfield South
4:45 PM	Class 3A: LeRoy	9:00 PM	Class 7A: Bloomington
5:00 PM	Class 3A: Centralia	9:15 PM	Exhibition: The Normal Marching Band
5:15 PM	Class 3A: Unity	9:30 PM	5A/6A/7A Awards Presentation

Map of Illinois Wesleyan University

