

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Sacramento Mandarins  
Drum and Bugle Corps**

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*"Transforming Lives Through Musical Performance"*

**"Historic" Design and Caption Head Team  
Returning to the Mandarins for the 2019 Season  
2019 Season Auditions Begin in California and Texas(Brass)**

**Sacramento, Calif. (10/15/2018)** – For the first time in their 55-year history the Mandarins achieved a Drum Corps International Finalist position, earning 10<sup>th</sup> place in the nation. Coming off this historic season, the Mandarins are excited to announce that ***the entire design and caption head team will return for the 2019 season.***

Ike Jackson returning as the Mandarins Program Director stated, "I decided to have our full team return as I believe we all have the same vision and drive for the organization in its efforts to move forward. I feel the artistic ability that we possess is fun, innovative and absolutely entertaining for our performers and fans."

The Design Team will again be composed of Ike Jackson, Program Director; Mario Ramirez, Creative Director, Choreographer and Designer; Key Poulan, Brass Arranger; Darren VanDerpoel, Battery Arranger; Bryan Nungaray, Front Ensemble Arranger; Peter Beckhart, Drill Writer, and new to the team, Edward "Beno" Morris, Sound Consultant.

"In an era of frequent churn in sports and the arts, it is amazing to be able to maintain a continuous leadership team" commented JW Koester, Mandarins Corps Director. "Continuity, trust and camaraderie are some of the most important things you can have in developing a strong team," noted Jackson.

The Caption Management Team will again be led by Darren VanDerpoel Percussion Caption Manager, Tim Snyder Brass Caption Manager, Mario Ramirez Color Guard Caption Manager and Joseph Hayes Visual Caption Manager.

Jim Tabuchi, Mandarins Executive Director said, "In 2018, my objective for our leadership team was to maintain our Mandarins Values AND excel on the competitive field. Our team has done just that and I am looking forward to seeing what kind of magic they can create this season!"

The first 2019 audition camps will begin in November and December in California and Texas (Brass Only). For a full 2019 audition schedule and a list of all staff bios, visit [www.mandarins.org](http://www.mandarins.org).

**The Sacramento Mandarins** for the first time in the corps 55 year history achieved its highest ranking, finishing 10<sup>th</sup> in Drum Corps International Finals Competition. The Mandarins are proud to have impacted the lives of thousands of youth, teaching them the values of respect, leadership, discipline, and good citizenship with a true sense of purpose. Learn more at [www.mandarins.org](http://www.mandarins.org).