



Thursday, September 03, 2009

## Northmont to host annual Festival of Bands this Saturday

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On Saturday, Sept. 5, nine marching bands will present their 2009 shows at the Good Samaritan Stadium at Northmont High School in Clayton. The festivities begin at 7 p.m.

Area high school bands performing in this year's band premier include, Carlisle, Carroll, Brookville, Marion Local, Miamisburg, Beavercreek, Bellbrook, Centerville and Northmont. In all, over 1,000 instrumentalists and guard members will take the field in exhibition.

The Northmont Festival of Bands has a long-standing history in this community. In 1966, Band Director, Dick Cool, began this non-competitive event to showcase area bands. Cool's goal was to be the earliest show in the state of Ohio. This tradition continues today. The bands during the 60s were referred to as Drum Corps. Each school would march down the track in front of the stands for a pass and review.

As band competitions have evolved, bands have moved from marching in front of the stands to a full show on the field with different movements, solo selections and color guard features including flags, sabers and props. Even though this event continues to be non-competitive, a panel of five judges will critique each band on several different aspects: visual, music, marching and maneuvering.

Tickets for this event can be purchased at the gate the night of the performance; \$7 general admission, \$8 reserved seating, or in advance by contacting Myra Fincher at 937-248-4843.

(Photo submitted) The Northmont Festival of Bands takes place this Saturday at Good Samaritan Field.

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