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DrillNATION

Official Publication of the Internationally Recognized JROTC Drill & Ceremony Spectacular, the National High School Drill Team Championships

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Major General Peggy C. Combs, Commanding General, US Army Cadet Command presents c/Major Kimberly Gilson of the Brandeis High School Blue Aces, the Unarmed Division National Championship trophy at the Masters Level Awards Gala. This was the 1st time that the Blue Aces team had captured the highest honor in the land, following 4 years in a row as runner-up finishers. Sports Network remains honored to have the ongoing support of Cadet Command in presenting the finest drill & ceremony competition in the world.

MAGAZINE DEDICATION

With troop deployments that stretch across the globe, the 2015-16 PrillNATION Magazine is dedicated to both the active duty and reserve components of our American Armed Forces, along with the National Guard. These brave and selfless individuals continue to provide the blanket of freedom that Americans enjoy every day. Thousands of cadets and instructors who have attended the Nationals in the past are currently serving around the globe in all branches of the armed forces, helping to protect the interests of the United States of America. SNI is honored by their commitment to duty and wish them all a safe and speedy return home when they complete their mission.

Sports Network International thanks the many exhibitors who help make the Nationals a special home for JROTG drill: A Tag 4 U, Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Bethune-Gookman University, GurlyGirlz, Daisy Outdoor Products, Fine Designs, Flags for Vets, For the Art Clothing, Georgia Military Gollege, Glendale Parade Store, Golf Academy of America, Indiana Wesleyan University, Kaplan University, New Guard America, Norwich University, Post University, Schiller Int'l University, Sports Hub, Texas A&M University, Top's Military Shop, The Drill Master, Troops to Teachers, US. Goast Guard Academy, United States Military Academy, University of North Georgia, U.S. Army Gadet Command 1st BDE, Virginia Tech Corps of Gadets, and WyoTech.

<u>DrillNATION</u> is the official publication of the National High School Drill Team Championships. <u>DrillNATION</u> is produced by Sports Network International, Inc. (SNI), 10 Broadcreek Circle, Ormond Beach, FL, 32174. For information regarding <u>DrillNATION</u> or Sports Network Int'l (SNI), please visit the SNI homepage at: http://drill.thenationals.net or contact SNI via email: drill@thenationals.net or call toll-free at 800/327-9311.











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TEXAS A&M

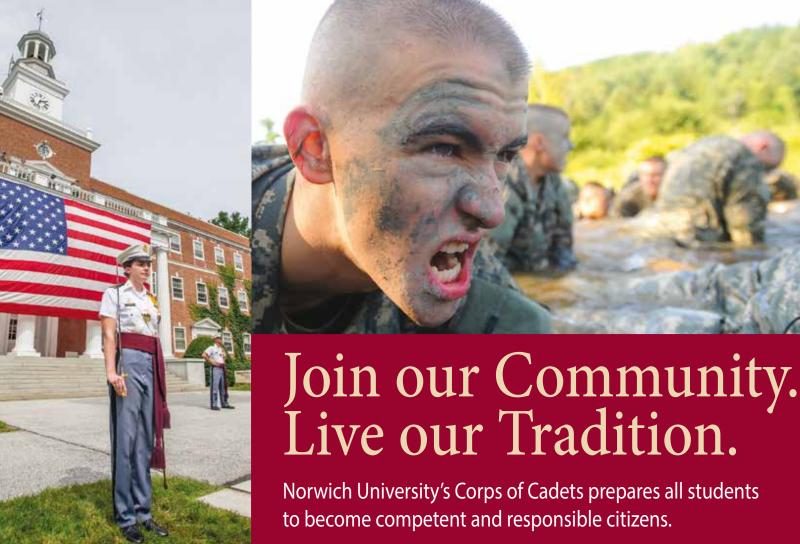
Open to all eligible high school juniors and seniors in JROTC, Civil Air Patrol, Young Marines and Sea Cadets.



For further information on the Nationals Drill Camp, Contact Sports Network International email: drillcamp@thenationals.net ** website: http://drillcamp.thenationals.net ** toll-free: 800/327-9311

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Air Force Nationals Spread Their Wings

The Nationals come to the Schools for 6 different days of AWESOME!

For scoring results, photos & all event info: http://af.thenationals.net

when you have SIX regional events scattered across the entire United States involving well over 3,000 AFJROTC cadets, each trying to gain top spots for both regional bragging rights and the ability to gain a premium competition spot to compete with the best of the best in blue for the overall Air Force Championships, the stakes are high.

NEWS AROUND THE REGIONALS

Lebanon HS from Ohio tore through the competition at the Mid-Valley Championships in very impressive fashion. The Warriors have quickly become the dominant program throughout the Ohio Valley and in 2016, they have set their sights on attending the Nationals in Daytona Beach to compete with the best teams in the country.

The Deep South Championships match-up had Jefferson City HS dominate the Armed event and East Paulding HS take the crown for the Unarmed Division. The event was exceptionally well done and the teams were exciting to watch for the many spectators who came out during the day.

While Jefferson City has not registered as of this writing, East Paulding HS has already registered to attend BOTH the AF Nationals in Macon, Georgia AND the Nationals in Daytona Beach as they love to compete with the biggest of the big in the world of high school drill.

At the South Central Championships, the three headed dragon of excellence came to life as **Tom C. Clark, John Jay** and **Brandeis** high schools battled all day long like the champions they are. When the dust settled, all three were in the hunt until the last scores tallied with **Brandeis HS** Blue Aces grabbing the Unarmed Title and **John Jay HS** Silver Eagles grabbing the Armed Championship.

The 2015 National Capital Championships served as a fantastic sendoff to this venerable event as the

2016 AF National Unarmed Division Champion Brandeis HS Blue Aces

2016 AF National Armed Division Champion John Jay HS Silver Eagles

upcoming competition will be consolidated with the Ohio event in 2016 with so many teams wanting to experience the unparalleled AF National Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB.

In the shadows of FedEx Field, the **Lowell HS** Red Raider Guard dominated the Armed Division and the unarmed Red Raiders team edged out two always tough competitors in **North Point HS** and **E.C. Glass HS** grabbing the Unarmed Division title to sweep the competition. Lowell is always a strong competitor wherever they go and their inclusion into any event makes it a tough win for anyone else.

Scripps Ranch HS from San Diego, California and Hamilton HS from Chandler, Arizona were top finishers at the Far West Championships, with Hamilton actually raising the money and attending the Nationals in Daytona just months later! The unit learned got to compete against the best AFJROTC units in the world for the first time. No doubt their cadets had an experience they will never forget!

The North Central Championships in Omaha, Nebraska was held in a bit of a different format but both **Blue Springs South HS** - Blue Springs, Missouri (top finishing AFJROTC Overall Regulation finisher) and St. **Joseph Central HS** - St. Joseph's, Missouri (top finishing AFJROTC Overall Exhibition finisher) grabbed their honors.

It was amazingly refreshing to get to know and watch so many programs who previously had never attended the Air Force Nationals. The goals of the Region events were exceeded! But the overall champions were determined in Daytona where the best AFJROTC units always end their year. And with completely different judges largely put together from service training headquarters, it was going to be interesting to see how these professionals thought the teams did!

After two grueling days of competition at the all-service Nationals in Daytona Beach, the results were shockingly similar. Proving the superiority of San Antonio, Texas USAF drill, the 2015 Air Force JROTC National Champions came right from the order of finish from the South Central Championships as the **Brandeis HS Blue Aces** nailed down the 2015 Air Force National Championship Unarmed Division and **John Jay HS Silver Eagles** powered their way to the 2015 Air Force National Championship Armed Division.

The future looks bright for the Air Force Nationals. The upcoming 2016 event schedule for all of the Air Force Nationals event cities are posted on the website. Again, all schools who register to attend any of the SNI hosted competitions by 10 December are guaranteed acceptance. With teams registering to attend the event daily, we look forward to seeing YOUR school soon as well. We hope all AFJROTC programs will make their attendance at a regional event near their program a standard part of their drill calendar! Event schedules are posted so make your plans today - your cadets will remember their efforts on the big stage for a lifetime!



2016 Air Force Nationals

Mid-Valley Championships Nutter Center Arena - Dayton, OH Saturday, 19 March 2016

Deep South Championships Macon Centreplex - Macon, GA Saturday, 5 March 2016

South Central Championships Freeman Coliseum - San Antonio, TX Saturday, 12 March 2016

North Central Championships Bellevue East HS - Bellevue, NE Saturday, 12 March 2016 (subject to change) (not hosted by Sports Network International)

Far West Championships Northrup-Grumman - Los Angeles, CA Saturday, TBD 2016

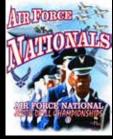
(not hosted by Sports Network International)

The 2016 Air Force Nationals continue a new era in excellence! Same great first-quality venues, judging, trophies and cadet awards BUT the events are now held closer to home to HELP YOU save on transportation & billeting. Top two placements within the Armed & Unarmed Divisions in each event gain automatic priority entry within the National High School Drill Team Championships Masters Level competition in Daytona Beach, Florida.

The Air Force Nationals are proud to offer both Solo & Dual Armed and Dual Unarmed competitions! Come be a part of the service championships that set the standard for a fully national competition format!

Schools may attend ANY region location. All entry/ event details, rules, score sheets and other event specs are listed clearly on the Air Force Nationals

website. Support your AF Nationals event by making this competition an annual part of your JROTC drill calendar. Your cadets and your spectators will have a time to remember. The event's organization and professionalism will exceed your expectations!



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All who love drill should be inspired by these top finishers!

2015 Middle School Nationals TOP OVERALL FINISHERS

ARMED DIVISION

Champion: Bedichek Middle School - Austin, Texas Runner-Up: McReynolds Middle School - Houston, Texas 3rd Place: Rosemont Middle School - Ft. Worth, Texas 4th Place: Benbrook Middle School - Austin, Texas 5th Place: TC Marsh Middle School - Dallas, Texas

Champion: McReynolds Middle School - Houston, Texas Runner-Up: Rosemont Middle School - Ft. Worth, Texas 3rd Place: Benbrook Middle School - Austin, Texas 4th Place: Pleasant Valley MS - Wichita, Kansas 5th Place: TC Marsh Middle School - Dallas, Texas

ill on this scale is the perfect vehicle to test leadership, confidence, teamwork and critical thinking skills learned by these NCC youngsters. Over 1,000 cadets, instructors and parents were on-hand to make the Middle School Nationals an amazing success! Teams competing within Inspection, Regulation Drill, Color Guard, Exhibition, both Armed & Unarmed, went one after the other on the magnificent Clark Stadium turf. The cadets experienced the roller coaster emotions that make competition drill a unique vehicle to drive the train of cadet growth. These school-based, JROTC-like citizenship programs inspire excellence in the competitors and those who are privileged to watch them!

As the day wore on, it became clear that everyone was enjoying the event tremendously and there were flashes of talent, two schools were rising head & shoulders above the pack. McReynolds Middle School led by USMC SgtMaj. Bill Medina (ret.) laid down the gauntlet powering through the day capturing the Unarmed championships. Bedichek Middle School led by USMC SSqt. Darrick Norton (ret.) nudged McReynolds to gain the Armed title.

It was an amazing honor for Sports Network International to be asked to provide the scoring, judge training and event oversight in combination with drill leader Drill-Team Dynamics. Together with the local support through Chief Marshall, the day was long and very rewarding seeing so many youngsters from differing backgrounds and programs sharing the love and benefits of military drill. Teams are already primed to return to Clark Stadium on a April 2016 for the Middle School Nationals! See all the action on the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/NMSCC



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NAVY NATIONALS

Academic, Athletic & Drill Championship

After hosting the Navy Nationals online for two years, NETC was able to bring the event back to NAS Pensacola in 2015 and all of the cadets were thrilled to be back in head-to-head competition with their counterparts from across the nation. 25 schools from 15 states descended on the naval air station with the hope of taking home the National Championship title.

stringent inspection, grueling athletic events, a mind-bending academic exam and heart-pounding drill & ceremony events. It is the most comprehensive well-rounded test of a team's abilities and is the most sought-after title among all Navy JROTC units. Each Navy Area sends two or three of their best units to compete in Pensacola, Florida during this twoday event hoping their cadets will claim the ultimate prize. This year 25 teams from 15 across states nation competed in early April and every cadet gave his or her all! The competition begins with the Unit Personnel Inspection and Color Guard competition in the AD hangar in Chevalier Hall. Every participating cadet must stand inspection and be auestioned by the Navy Recruit Division Commanders (RDCs). This can be an intimidating experience for young cadets but only the best of the best attend the Navy Nationals and these young men and women rose to the occasion. This year the cadets from **Centennial HS** in Las Vegas, Nevada walked away with first place in UPI as well as first place in Color Guard.

The Navy Nationals is the only service championship that combines a

The cadets then move outside to the athletic events at the NAS Pensacola parade field where members compete in Curl-ups, Push-ups, Oval Relay and Shuttle Relay. Troy HS, from Fullerton, California, dominated the Curl-Up competition while Centennial HS took first in Push-Ups. Taking first place in the 16x100 Shuttle Relay was Richard C. Spoto HS from Riverview, Florida and first in the 8x220 Oval Relay was Norview HS from Norfolk, Virginia. After an exhausting day of athletic events, 15 cadets from each school take the Academic Exam. This extremely tough exam has 90 questions pulled directly from the NJROTC text books and 10 questions from current events. This year the top score was 75 and was achieved by two cadets, Cadet Woods from **Boca** Raton HS, Boca Raton, Florida and Cadet Yang from Troy HS. These cadets and their teammates positioned their teams well with Boca Raton HS taking

first and Troy HS taking second of the Academic Exam trophies. The next day is devoted exclusively to basic and exhibition drill events. With the first place finishers of the four events coming from four different schools, the

overall drill placement was not easy to anticipate. Southeast Guilford HS from Browns Summit, North Carolina took first place in Armed Platoon Basic Drill with Troy HS taking first in Unarmed Platoon Basic. In exhibition events, Westview HS, Diego, San California placed first Armed Platoon Exhibition and Boca Raton HS took first in Unarmed Exhibition. Every team fought hard for two days to gain enough points to be the last one standing,

but after all scores were counted and proportional points were tallied, only five teams made their way to the National Naval Aviation Museum's

stage to receive the overall trophies. With 6000 points possible throughout the competition, the top five were separated by a total of 400 points proving that the competition was fierce! Shawnee Mission North HS from Overland Park, Kansas came in fifth place overall. Westview HS received fourth. Third place went to Centennial HS with Troy HS capturing the Runner-Up trophy. Leaving only the Overall Champion to be named as nervous cadets sat on the edge of their seats. Rear Admiral White, Commander of the Naval Education & Training Command at NAS Pensacola, was poised ready to present the final trophy when the museum erupted in cheers and applause as Boca Raton HS was announced as the National Champion! No one was more proud of the Boca Raton cadets than their SNSI, LCDR Ken Bingham who retired after the 2014-15 school year, soon following the Pensacola competition after 21 years on the job. The Navy Nationals was an amazing event, made even better by the extremely knowledgeable judges from the Navy Recruit Division Commanders (RDCs) and Marine Corps drill instructors from Officer Training Command (OTC), Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island who annually support the event.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS 2015 BOCA RATON NJROTC

2015 **HIGHLIGHTS**

UNIT **PERSONNEL INSPECTION**

1st - Centennial 2nd - Shawnee Mission N. 3rd - Nease 4th - Boca Raton 5th - Troy

ACADEMICS

1st - Boca Raton 2nd - Troy 3rd - Westview 4th - Neshoba Central 5th - Middleburg

DRILL

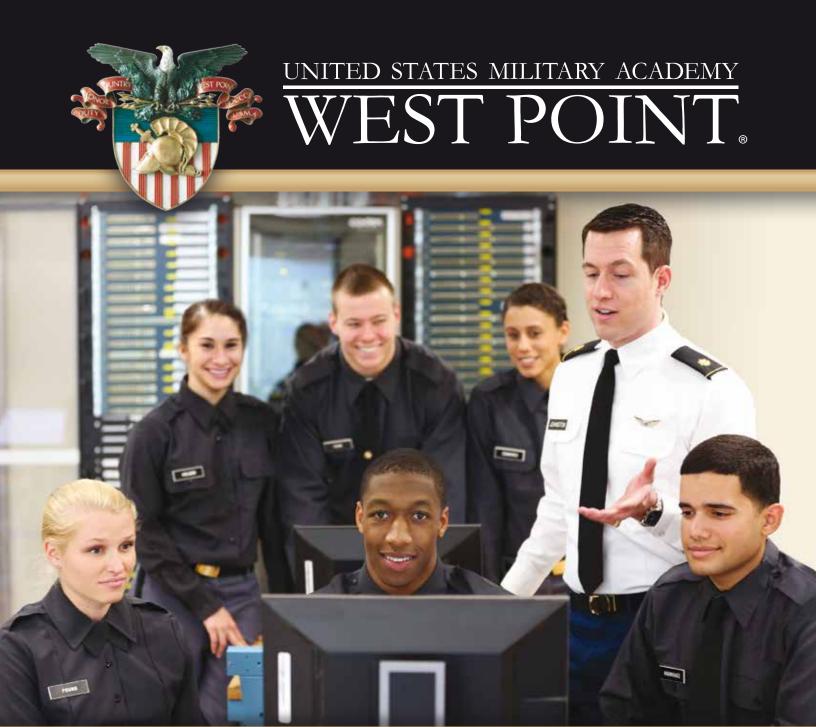
1st - Boca Raton 2nd - Troy 3rd - Centennial

ATHLETICS

1st - Boca Raton 2nd - Richard C. Spoto 3rd - Centennial

OVERALL

Champion: Boca Raton Runner-Up: Troy 3rd Place: Centennial 4th Place: Westview 5th Place: Shawnee **Mission North**



DISCOVER YOUR PATH TO LEADERSHIP

- Attend an academy that consistently ranks among top colleges in the nation.
- Receive a fully funded education leading to a Bachelor of Science degree.
- Develop physically, mentally, and academically.
- Begin a meaningful career serving and leading as a commissioned officer in the United States Army.
- Accomplish so much more than you imagine.





U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Sational Drill Championships



Roughly 1,500 Army JROTC cadets descend on Louisville to fight for top honors at the Army Drill Classic

The Army Nationals was huge this year with 57 schools bringing 78 teams from 22 states spanning the nation from Hawaii to New Jersey. Broadbent Arena at the Kentucky Fairgrounds in Louisville was filled with almost 2000 cadets, instructors, parents and spectators causing the environment to be electric with excitement.

ARMED DIVISION

With 44 teams competing for the Armed Division overall title, trophies were spread among 14 different teams meaning that only the best and most consistent performances would result in a top finish. Only two teams managed to receive three top-five placements within the four events. Marmion Academy from Aurora, Illinois took first in Exhibition, second in Inspection and third in Color Guard giving them a little over 100 points (out of 4000) higher than their nearest competitor securing the National Championship for the Flannigan Rifles.

Grant HS Maroon Guard from Dry Prong, Louisiana captured the Runner-Up title with a first place in Inspection and Regulation and a fifth place in Color Guard. Only a disappointing performance in Exhibition kept them from overtaking Marmion this year. Following close behind Grant HS was Black Watch from Winston Churchill HS from San Antonio, Texas. Although they only received one trophy (2nd Color Guard), their overall performance level was strong enough to have them finish only 29 proportional points behing Grant proving that overall strength is the key to a competition like Army Nationals.

UNARMED DIVISION

Although the Unarmed Division has 10 less teams, it is still very talent-laden with 12 teams taking home trophies, six walked away with more than one! Turning in consistently strong performances was the only way to get close to the overall title and although the two teams at the top only received two team trophies each, all of their performances placed in the top ten, separating them from the rest of the pack. Albuquerque HS Alpha Dawgs from Albuquerque, New Mexico made their extremely strong Army Nationals debut by taking home first in Regulation and fourth in Color Guard. They placed eighth in both Inspection and Exhibition which was enough for them to claim the Unarmed Division National Championship.

The **Gold Tigers** from **Smith-Cotton HS** from Sedalia, Missouri stayed at the top with a first place in Color Guard and second in Regulation as they took home the Runner-Up title this year. Two other schools received three top-five finishes: **North Miami Beach Sr. HS Lady Chargers** (1st Exhibition, 3rd Inspection, 4th Regulation) and **Forestville HS Silver Knights** (1st Inspection, 4th Exhibition, 5th Regulation) but very low finishes in the fourth event kept them away from finishing higher overall.

These teams and more will be back next year to defend their titles. The Army Nationals will be returning to the Kentucky International Convention Center in downtown Louisville in 2016 and promises to again be full of amazing cadets showing that they put in hundreds of hours of hard work perfecting each performance!





Top Left: Marmion HS Flannigan Rifles, Armed Division Champions. Bottom Left: Grant HS Maroon Knights, Armed Division Runner-Up. Top Right: Albuquerque HS Alpha Dawgs, Unarmed Division Champions. Bottom Right: Smith-Cotton HS Gold Tigers, Unarmed Division Runner-Up. Above: COL Michael B. Hedges, Brigade Commander with 7th Brigade, United States Army Cadet Command (center) presented all of the trophies during the Awards Ceremony. He is pictured here with the cadet commanders of the Champion and Runner-Up teams.





2016 U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND NATIONAL DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPSKENTUCKY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY - SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016
FOR EVENT SCORING, PICTURES, INFORMATION AND REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING 2016 ARMY NATIONALS:





See the exciting SNI Info Video Message found in every DrillNATION Magazine http://www.drillnation.net

APRIL 30th - I Join the over 300,000 cadets, parents and instructors wh

THE NATIONALS - what makes this the greatest event in drill history

- Premier All-Service National Drill Championship Event, in its 34th year.
- Sponsored by U.S. Army Cadet Command and supported by all service headquarters
- Schools can attend with full teams in Masters or Challenge Levels (or both!)
- Schools can attend with stand alone Color Guards and/or individual exhibition cadets
- Produced by SNI, with experience in managing over 200 competitions in the past 33 years
- Nationals Judging Corps brings together professional judges from active duty military training facilities across the nation; with extensive pre-event/on-site training, this gives the event the finest judging available in the world of competition drill
- Schools register online, as well as submit and track all paperwork & payments online
- SNI works with all services to ensure payments and receipts are done in strict accordance with all military requirements
- * Fully open competition draws, select events and awards ceremony on-line streaming all weekend!
- ★ Daytona Beach Ocean Center Arena & Conference Center is a state-of-the-art facility, including elevated fixed seating for over 6,000, complete concessions, ample parking, extensive indoor and outdoor practice areas, and private meeting rooms
- Beachfront location of hotels and venue, nearby theme parks, Kennedy Space Center and college tours make a trip to the Nationals awesome on and off the drill floor

EVENT REGISTRATION - register by 10 December for automatic acceptance

- Masters Level registration-\$300 per school / Challenge Level registration-\$200 per school
- ★ Open Level Color Guard & Stand Alone Solo/Dual registration \$50 per team
- All fees paid are fully refundable prior to 10 December
- All schools who register by the 10 December deadline have a guaranteed entry slot!
- Contact SNI for registration fee details if you are entering both Masters & Challenge teams
- See the custom MySchool website where all schools register at: http://myschool.thenationals.net

PACKAGE PLAN - what will your cadets & instructors receive

- All participants are required to attend through the Package Plan to cover all event costs
- Discounted billeting in standard through luxury oceanfront hotels in the Daytona Beach area
- NHSDTC attendees receive a bronze medallion on a chest ribbon, NHSDTC collared sport shirt for adults and t-shirt for cadets (ordered to size), NHSDTC swiss-embroidered 4" event patch, 8" x 10" color team photograph taken during the event

The price of the three day/ two night Package Plan (based on four people in a room) starts at only \$114 per person for Challenge levels schools and \$129 for the four day/three night package. Three, two & one-to-a-room prices are slightly higher, used primarily for instructors & other adult supporters (all prices shown online). Parents may stay through this package with the school, but this is optional. Schools interested in the Hilton HQ package (located directly across the street) or other upgraded accommodations should check the website for those rates.



IG YOUR CADETS TO THE STATES OF THE STATES O

II-Service National Championship Event

MAY 2nd, 2016

o have made "The Nationals" a part of their unit's history!

CHALLENGE LEVEL EVENTS - Armed & Unarmed Divisions Saturday, April 30th, 2016

- ★ UNIT INSPECTION (12 cadets + Commander)
- ★ PLATOON/FLIGHT REGULATION (12 cadets + Commander)
- COLOR GUARD (2 rifles + 2 flags only)
- ★ TEAM EXHIBITION (9 cadets & over)

Also featured on Saturday is the OPEN LEVEL COLOR GUARD

MASTERS LEVEL EVENTS - Demilitarized, Unarmed & Mixed Divisions Sunday & Monday, May 1st & 2nd, 2016

- UNIT INSPECTION (12 cadets + Commander)
- ★ PLATOON/FLIGHT REGULATION (12 cadets + Commander)
- ★ COLOR GUARD (2 rifles + 2 flags only)
- ★ SQUAD/ELEMENT EXHIBITION (8 cadets + Commander) (Masters only)
- ★ PLATOON/FLIGHT EXHIBITION (13 cadets & over) (Masters only)

Also featured on Sunday & Monday:

- SOLO EXHIBITION (Demilitarized & Mixed Divisions)
- DUAL EXHIBITION (Demilitarized, Mixed & Unarmed Divisions)
- ★ WORLD DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Post High School Drillers see website for details)

AWARDS, TROPHIES & ACCOLADES

- The finest event trophies and cadet competition awards presented anywhere!
- National Championship trophy stands over six-foot and truly means something
- * 1st-5th awarded in all events due to the amazing depth of talent & sheer number of schools
- Schools attending are featured within the DrillNATION Magazine, Service Headquarters websites, as well as many schools included within the Best of the Nationals Video Series

With 34 years of experience and history, "The Nationals" remains without parallel in the 3,500 program JROTC and non-affiliated drill community. The Nationals provide the finest all-service drill & ceremony competition available anywhere! Your program's fundraising dollars and quest for excellence are precious, so make sure to invest in the best and most trusted experience possible for your cadets by attending the only national drill competition with a proven track record for excellence.

Become a partner in the history and excellence of the Nationals. See, be seen and become part of the brother and sisterhood that only comes from competing with the best schools & the best instructors. Over a dozen colleges on-site along with many national drill supporters. For full competition details, see the complete NHSDTC invitation online at: http://www.thenationals.net/dt-invite.pdf



Go to the Facebook site for the Nationals for photos, videos and fun for all! https://www.facebook.com/NationalsDrill



ATIONAL MATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING SCHOOL

National High School Drill Team Championships ~ Daytona Beach

UNITS ARE "UP TO THE CHALLENGE"

he 2015 Challenge Level competition of the National High School Drill Team Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida was filled with amazing talent from all across the spectrum. Some teams are brand new while some units are undefeated in their region but have yet to climb to the level necessary to compete on the national stage in the Masters Level. The Challenge Level gives everyone the opportunity to excel!

ARMED DIVISION

The Armed Division contained 29 teams all hoping to rise to the top but when all the scores were tallied, it showed a very close competition among the top three schools. Southwest High School Black Knights from San Antonio,

Texas managed to best their competitors by less than 100 points out of 4800 through overall consistency. placed They first Regulation and in Exhibition. third in Color Guard, and fourth in Inspection giving them just the points they needed to take home the National Championship Title.

Separated by only three points overall, the Jefferson City High School Black Dragons

from Jefferson, Georgia and the **Reading High School Red Knights** from Reading, Pennsylvania both fought hard but came up just short of the title. Both teams placed in Inspection, Color Guard, and Exhibition with the Black Dragons taking second in all three and the Red Knights taking third, first, and fourth respectively. But the Black Dragons were able to pull ahead and take home the runner up trophy this year.

UNARMED DIVISION

The Unarmed Division, with 30 teams, was not nearly as close in scoring as their armed counterparts. The powerhouse **Spartan Valor** from **Tom C. Clark High School** in San Antonio Texas was the only team to trophy in all four events.

They placed first in both Regulation and Exhibition and fourth in both Inspection and Color Guard as they left no doubt that they were the National Champions this year.

A team new to the Nationals this year surprised everyone with their drill prowess and overall consistency. Although Cibola High School Mountain Devils

Albuquerque,



Challenge Level Awards Ceremony Guest Speaker Col Bobby C. Woods, Jr. Director Air Force JROTC presented the overall top trophies to (from left to right): Jefferson City HS Black Dragons Armed Runner-Up; Southwest HS Black Knights Armed Champions; Tom C. Clark HS Spartan Valor Armed Champions and Cibola HS Mountain Devils Armed Runner-Up.

New Mexico only placed in two team events (3rd Color Guard, 5th Exhibition), they placed high enough in the other two events for them to receive the Runner Up trophy.

The Champion and Runner Up in both divisions will be sent to the Masters Level next year, clearing the way for a new champion in 2016. Make your team a part of the challenge!

"Challenge Level teams climb the ladder each year as the talent pool gets deeper and deeper in JROTC drill."

- Justin Gates, SNI Competition Director

Open Level Color Guard Competition Boast Winners from Across the Nation

Units across the nation from Massachusetts to Texas placed in the Open Level Color Guard competition but taking home the gold were the cadets from North Side High School's Blue Thunder Guard from Jackson, Tennessee. They left the competition

in the dust gaining more than 100 points over the second place team. Coming in second were the SeaChicks from annual powerhouse Flour Bluff HS from Corpus Christi, Texas followed very closely by the Knights from North Penn HS out of Lansdate, Pennsylvania. Only three points separated second through fourth place in this race and coming in fourth were the Lady Aces from Brandeis HS in San Antonio, Texas. The team rounding out the top five was the Beverly HS Guard from Beverly, Massachusetts. The competition saw 37 teams vie for the title this year, and we are always looking for great color guards to up the ante in the future - great job cadets!





2015 National High School Drill Team Championships Challenge Level Attendees & Event Standings



Armed	VIC	ınn
AIIIICG		

Inspection

Hendersonville HS *Commando Devil Dogs* 456 Jefferson City HS Black Dragons Reading HS Red Knights 413 Southwest HS Black Knights 407 Forestville HS Black Knights 404

Regulation

Southwest HS Black Knights 783 Dallastown HS Dallastown Armed 771 Lincoln Park HS Railsplitters 770 Forestville HS Black Knights 768 North Point HS Black Guard 755

Color Guard

Reading HS Red Knights 885 Jefferson City HS **Black Dragons** 804 Black Knights 798 Southwest HS Rutland HS Middle GA Leathernecks 779 Lincoln Park HS Railsplitters 752

Team Exhibition

Southwest HS Black Knights 749 Jefferson City HS Black Dragons 670 St. John's NWMA Silver Rifles 655 Reading HS 649 Red Kniahts Cibola HS West Side War Dogs 642

Overall Armed Champion Southwest HS - Black Knights

Overall Armed Runner-up

Jefferson City HS - Silver Rifles

Airport HS

ARMY JROTC W.Columbia, S.Carolina

Bainbridge HS

Air Force JROTC Bainbridge, Georgia

Bloomingdale HS

Air Force JROTC Valrico, Florida

Blythewood HS

ARMY JROTC Blythewood, S. Carolina

> Caddo Parish **MAGNET HS**

ARMY JROTC SHREVEDORT, LOUISIANA

CENTRAL CROSSING HS

Navy JROTC GROVE CITY, OHIO

Cibola HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC Albuquerque, New Mexico

Coffee HS

Navy JROTC Douglas, Georgia

Courtland HS

ARMV JROTC

Culpeper County HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC Culpeper, Virginia

DALLASTOWN HS

MARINE CORPS JROTC Dallastown, Pennsylvania

Delaware County AFJROTC

> Air Force JROTC Delaware, Ohio

Dutchtown HS

Air Force JROTC Hampton, Georgia

Fleming Island HS

Navy JROTC Fleming Island, Florida

Floyd CENTRAL HS

NAVV JROTC Floyds Knobs, Indiana

FOREMAN HS

ARMY JROTC Chicago, Illinois

Forestville HS

ARMY JROTC Forestville, Maryland

Gloucester HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC

Unarmed Division

Inspection

700 UnitedSouthHS South Mighty Panthers 671 Reading HS Lady Red Knights Gloucester HS Scarlet Thunder 657 Tom C. Clark HS Spartan Valor 651 North Point HS Red Guard 649

Regulation

Tom C. Clark HS Spartan Valor 919 Gloucester HS Scarlet Thunder 915 Union City HS 914 **Eaglelets** Providence HS **Team Providence Unarmed** 889 Lady Red Knights Reading HS 887

Color Guard

Blythewood HS **Unarmed Bengals** 836 Central Crossing HS **Unarmed Comets** 814 Cibola HS Mountain Devils 811 Tom C. Clark HS Spartan Valor 789 Culpeper County HS **Devil Dogs** 787

Team Exhibition

Tom C. Clark HS Spartan Valor Golden "War" Eagles Fleming Island HS Southwest HS 720 Sea Angels 708 North Point HS Red Guard Cibola HS Mountain Devils 698

Overall Unarmed Champion Tom C. Clark HS - Spartan Valor

Overall Unarmed Runner-up

Cibola HS - Mountain Devils

Spotsylvania, Virginia Gloucester, Massachusetts

Hendersonsille HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC Hendersonville, Tennessee

Jefferson City HS

Air Force JROTC Jefferson, Georgia

Kenosha MA

ARMY JROTC Kenosha, Wisconsin

LASALLE INSTITUTE

ARMY JROTC Troy, New York

Lincoln Park HS

ARMY JROTC Lincoln Park, Michigan **Mulberry Senior HS**

ARMY JROTC Mulberry, Florida

North Point HS

Air Force JROTC Waldorf, Maryland

North Salem HS

ARMY JROTC SALEM, OREGON

Okkodo HS

MARINE CORPS JROTC Dededo, Guam

Passaic HS

NAVY JROTC Passaic, New Jersey Providence HS

NAVY JROTC CHARLOTTE, N. CAROLINA

Pulaski County HS

ARMY JROTC SOMERSET, KENTUCKY Ridge Community HS

ARMY JROTC DAVENDORT, Florida

MARINE CORDS JROTC MACON, GEORGIA

RAMSAY HS

ARMY JROTC Birmingham, Alabama

REAding HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC Reading, Pennsylvania

Rutland HS

Southwest HS

Navy JROTC SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Southwood HS

ARMY JROTC SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

St. John's Northwestern MA

ARMY JROTC Delafield, Wisconsin

Tom C. Clark HS

Air Force JROTC SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

> **Union City** HS

MARINE CORDS JROTC Union City, New Jersey

> United South HS

Marine Corps JROTC Laredo, Texas

Waukegan HS

ARMV JROTC Waukegan, Illinois

Wilbur D. Mills HS

ARMV JROTC LITTLE Rock, ARKANSAS

William G. Enloe HS

ARMV JROTC Raleigh, N. Carolina

> **Z**ephyrhills HS

ARMV JROTC Zephyrhills, Florida

ngratulations to all of the remarkable schools that annually "S

TEXAS REPOSUPREME

Texas is still a drill Mecca, but two teams are wearing blue and after 15 years, a new sheriff strode into the top of the Mixed Division



Pictured above the John Jay High School Silver Eagles - Demilitarized Arms Division Champions (left), Brandeis High School Blue Aces - Unarmed Division Champions (right) and J.H. Reagan HS Rough Riders - Mixed Division Champions (back row).

Demilitarized Division

The Masters Level Demilitarized Division is often the most watched division of the entire weekend and for the teams within that division, the championship title is akin to the Holy Grail. The **Silver Eagles** from **John Jay High School** in San Antonio, Texas seized the opportunity by placing first in both Squad and Platoon Exhibition, second in Regulation, third in Inspection, and sixth in Color Guard. This was enough to put them a litte over 100 points ahead of the nearest competitor. **Marmion Academy**

Flannigan Rifles from Aurora, Illinois fought hard to nail down the overall title placing first in Inspection and second in Color Guard, Squad Exhibition and Platoon Exhibition. They had the title in their sights until a very disappointing performance in Regulation bumped them out of the top spot but yielding an impressive National Runner-up title.



Mixed Division

For the first time in 15 years, the **Lady Leathernecks** from **Fern Creek High School** were dethroned. This never to be repeated dynasty has been untouchable in past years, but the **Rough Riders** from **J.H. Reagan High School** from Houston, Texas powered up to capture the crown. The two teams were neck-and-neck the entire competition with Fern Creek Ladies placing higher in Inspection, Regulation, and Color Guard. However, Squad Exhibition and Platoon Exhibition proved to be the turning point with the Rough Riders electrifying first place finish in both events sealing

the title and leaving the Lady Leathernecks at third place in Squad and fifth place in Platoon and a Nationals Runner-up crown. Fighting through MANY issues last year, the Marine Corps JROTC ladies from Fern Creek should be proud of their effort and know that 2016 will be another year to be back with a vengeance to reclaim the title.



JH Reagan HS Rough Riders

Unarmed Division

The fight for the Unarmed Division title was not as close as the other divisions as the **Blue Aces** from **Brandeis High School** in San Antonio. Texas pulled ahead quickly with a first place in Regulation.

second in Color Guard, third in both Squad and Platoon Exhibition and fourth in Inspection. They finished solid as they claimed the championship title. Their cross-town Air Force JROTC rival, **Tom C. Clark High School**, made sure the Blue Aces had to work for the title, besting them in both Inspection (1st place) and Platoon Exhibition (2nd place). But the **Silver Valor** team came in fifth in Regulation and Squad Exhibition and a disappointing ninth in Color Guard to take home the National Runner-up title. Seeing these amazing cadets battle against the best teams in the world and continue to be among the top schools every year is a testament to the cadets, parents and the instructors and makes it an honor to see them perform their magic. Every competitor and spectator should make it a point to see these teams every year!







Demilitarized	<u>Arms</u>
Inspection	

Marmion Academy	Flannigan Rifles	639
Lynn English HS	Bulldogs	631
John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	576
Tom C. Clark HS	Centurion Guard	563
West Creek HS	Coyote Guard	523

Unarmed

Tiispection		
Tom C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	852
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	835
East Paulding HS	White Falcons	826
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	808
North Miami Beach Sr HS	Lady Chargers	780

Mixed Arms Inspection

Seneca Career Magnet Acad Lady Hawks	752
Fern Creek HS Lady Leathernecks	580
Airport HS Golden Talons	556
J.H. Reagan HS Rough Riders	543
Papillion-La Vista South HS <i>Centurions</i>	512

Regulation

Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	955
John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	919
Brandeis HS	Nighthawks	915
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	880
East Paulding HS	Black Hawks	864

Regulation

Brandeis HS	Blue Aces 1074
East Paulding HS	White Falcons 1066
Lynn English HS	Lady Bulldogs 1039
John Jay HS	SNAP 11 1025
Tom C. Clark HS	Silver Valor 1002

Regulation

	9 6116				
Sene	ca Care	er Mag	netAcad	Lady Hawks	889
Fern	CreekH	S	LadyL	eathernecks	872
Airp	ort HS		Go	lden Talons	815
J.H.	Reagan	HS	R	ough Riders	799
Ridg	e Comi	munit	y HS	Lady Bolts	794

Color Guard

Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	821
Marmion Academy	Flannig <mark>an Rifl</mark> es	724
Colts Neck HS	Colts Neck Guard	700
Tom C. Clark HS	Centurion Guard	695
Brandeis HS	Nig <mark>hthawk</mark> s	689

Color Guard

Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	955
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	883
Lynn English HS	Lady Bulldogs	838
Jefferson City HS	Red Dragons	837
East Paulding HS	White Falcons	832

Color Guard

865
810
794
785
783

Squad Exhibition

John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	993
MarmionAcademy	Flannigan Rifles	963
Tom C. Clark HS	Centurion Guard	961
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	948
Brandeis HS	Nighthawks	894

Element Exhibition

Forestville HS	Silver Knights	936
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	920
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	878
Flour Bluff HS	SeaHawks	875
Tom C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	852

Squad Exhibition

Squau Exilibit	,1011	
J.H. Reagan HS	Rough Riders	904
Bedichek Jr Marines	Black Ice	789
Fern Creek HS Lady	Leathernecks	728
Papillion-La Vista South H	S Centurions	706
Airport HS 6	Golden Talons	672

Platoon Exhibition

John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	941
Marmion Academy	Flannigan Rifles	933
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	792
Fern Creek HS	Leathernecks	777
Colts NecksHS	Colts Neck Guard	689

Flight Exhibition

Flour Bluff HS	SeaHawks	956
Tom C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	911
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	862
East Aurora HS	Unarmed Tomcats	845
Papillion-La Vista S	S.HS Guardians	841

Platoon Exhibition

30
370
357
65
'51
֡

Demilitarized Arms Champions

Champion: John Jay HS - Silver Eagles Runner-up: Marmion Academy - Flannigan Rifles

NATIONAL

Champion: Brandeis HS - Blue Aces

Champion: J.H. Reagan HS - Rough Riders Runner-up: Fern Creek HS - Ladv Leathernecks

Solo Exhibition

- Cadet Arroyo John Jay HS
- Cadet Forman Independent Kansas
- Cadet Horner Pulaski County HS
- Cadet Milhem Anchor Bay HS Cadet Garcia - Gurdon S. Hubbard HS

Dual Exhibition

- Holm & Tate Marmion Academy
- Garcia & Almanza Tom C. Clark HS
- Buschbacher & Grisch Marmion Academy
- Jacobs & Dzon Winter Springs HS
- Coolbaugh & Peralez Brandeis HS

CHAMPIONS

Unarmed Champions

Runner-up: Tom C. Clark HS - Silver Valor

Dual Exhibition

- Belisario & Coatl John Jay HS
- Camacho & Barta Tom C. Clark HS
- Escalera & Slack Fleming Island HS
- Pangilinan & Pangilinan Lynn English HS
- Meija & Rendon Lynn English HS

Mixed Arms Champions

Solo Exhibition

- Cadet Kremer Gurdon S. Hubbard HS
- Cadet Ozuna J.H. Reagan HS
- Cadet Matthew Padron J.H. Reagan HS
- Cadet Sanchez Summerlin Academy
- 5thCadet DeSpain - Floyd Central HS

Dual Exhibition

- Cardona & Darland Brandeis HS
- 2nd Mauricio & Munoz - J.H. Reagan HS
- Hickox & Knight Airport HS
- Cruz & Pena Bedichek Jr. Marines
- Holmes & Carpenter Palmetto HS

2015 MASTE



Abraham Lincoln HS

Air Force JROTC Council Bluffs, Iowa

Airline HS

Air Force JROTC Bossier City, Louisiana

Airport HS

Army JROTC West Columbia, S Carolina

Albuquerque HS

Army JROTC Albuquerque, New Mexico

Anchor Bay HS

Air Force JROTC Fair Haven, Michigan

Asheville HS

Marine Corps JROTC Asheville, North Carolina

Bandys HS

Army JROTC Catawba, North Carolina

Bedichek Junior Marines

Marine Corps JROTC Austin, Texas

Brandeis HS

Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Cathedral Prep HS

Air Force JROTC Erie, Pennsylvania

Central Crossing HS

Navy JROTC Grove City, Ohio

Central HS

Army JROTC St. Joseph, Missouri

Chester W. Nimitz HS

Navy JROTC Irving, Texas

Cibola HS

Marine Corps JROTC Albuquerque, New Mexico

Colony HS

Army JROTC Palmer, Alaska

Colts Neck HS

Navy JROTC Colts Neck, New Jersey

Creekview HS

Army JROTC Canton, Georgia

Dixie M. Hollins HS

Army JROTC St. Petersburg, Florida

East Aurora HS

Navy JROTC Aurora, Illinois

2015 ALL-SERVICE JUDGING CORPS



Judges listed from left to right, front row to back row:

Army: 1SG Michael Jones, SSG Toi Jones, SSG Joel Rojas, SSG Zeggory Thompkins Jr., SSG Bernard Johnson, SFC Polly Schmidt, CSM Lamont Christian.

Marine Corps: SSgt Robert Leshinsky, SSgt Demarcus Deboe, SSgt Angela Moreno, Sgt Jared Jefferson, Sgt Samantha Cannon, Sgt Jorge Carrillo, SSgt Bruce Best, SSgt Michael Harmon

Navy: PO2 Theresa Pham, CPO Kevin Nichols, CPO Joseph Obleton II, PO3 lan Bartholomew, PO2 Jason Catalasan, PO1 Santos Colon, PO1 Desiree Black, PO2 Alexander Sacco

Air Force: TSgt Sterling Amos, MSgt lamar Anderson, MSgt Paul Ellis, SMSgt Jeffery Taylor, SrA Michelle Kimberly, MSgt Larry Nicholson, MSgt Noah Bliss, TSgt Steve Miles, MSgt Herman Ybarra

East Paulding HS

Air Force JROTC Dallas, Georgia

Fern Creek HS Marine Corps JROTC Louisville, Kentucky

Fleming Island HS

Navy JROTC Fleming Ísland, Florida

Flour Bluff HS

Navy JROTC Corpus Christi, Texas

Floyd Central HS Navy JROTC Floyds Knobs, Indiana

Forestville HS

Army JROTC Forestville, Maryland

Francis Lewis HS

Army JROTC Fresh Meadows, New York

George Jenkins HS

Army JROTC Lakeland, Florida

Gurdon S. Hubbard HS Army JROTC

Hamilton HS

Chicago, Illinois

Air Force JROTC Chandler, Arizona

Independent Soloists

Corona, California Pinellas Park, Florida Jacksonville, Florida Sunrise, Florida

Evans, Georgia

Council Bluffs, Iowa
Wichita, Kasas

Statesville, North Carolina Bellevue, Nebraska San Antonio, Texas

J.H. Reagan HS

Army JROTC Houston, Texas

Jefferson City HS

Air Force JROTC

Jefferson, Georgia

Joe E. Newsome HS Army JROTC

Lithia, Florida

John Jay HS

Air Force JROTC

San Antonio, Texas

Kenosha MA

Army JROTC Kenoshá, Wisconsin

Leavenworth HS

Army JROTC Leavenworth, Kansas

Lebanon HS

Air Force JROTC Lebanon, Ohio

Lockport Township HS

Air Force JROTC Lockport, Illinois

Lynn English HS Marine Corps JROTC

Lynn, Massachusetts

Marmion Academy Army JROTC

Aurora, Illinois

Mattoon HS

Army JROTC Mattoon, Illinois

McNarv HS

Air Force JROTC Keizer, Oregon

Mount Dora HS Air Force JROTC

Mount Dora, Florida

North Miami Beach Sr. HS

Army JROTC N.Miami Beach, Florida

North Salem HS Army JROTC Salem, Oregon

Oak Ridge MA

Army JROTC Oak Ridge, North Carolina

Ola HS

Air Force JROTC McDonough, Georgia

Palmetto HS

Army JROTC Palmetto, Florida

Papillion-La Vista South HS

Navy JROTC Papillion, Nebraska

Passaic HS

Navy JROTC Passaic, New Jersey

Paul R. Brown

Leadership Academy Non-Affiliated Elizabethtown, North Carolina

Portage HS

Marine Corps JROTC Portage, Indiana

Providence HS

Navy JROTC Charlotte, North Carolina

Pulaski County HS

Army JROTC Somerset, Kentucky

Rahway HS

Marine Corps JROTC Rahway, New Jersey

Ridge Community HS

Army JROTC Davenport, Florida

Ringgold HS

Army JROTC Ringgold, Georgia

Ripon HS

Army JROTC Ripon, California

Romeoville HS

Marine Corps JROTC Romeoville, Illinois

Seneca Career Magnet Academy

Marine Corps JROTC Louisville, Kentucky

Smith Cotton HS

Army JROTC Sedalia, Missouri

Summerlin Academy

Army JROTC Bartow, Florida

Tom C. Clark HS

Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

V Sue Cleveland HS

Army JROTC Rio Rancho, New Mexico

West Creek HS

Army JROTC Clarksville, Tennessee

West Orange HS

Air Force JROTC Winter Garden, Florida

Wiesbaden HS

Army JROTC Wiesbaden, Germany

William G. Enloe HS

Army JROTC Raleigh, North Carolina

Winston Churchill HS

Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Winter Springs HS

Army JROTC Winter Springs, Florida

Woodrow Wilson HS

Marine Corps JROTC Tacoma, Washington

Xavier High School

Army JROTC New York, New York

Sports Network International extends our sincere appreciation to every JROIC instructor who goes the extra mile for their cadets. No other program better prepares young people from all walks of life to become quality citizens. With honor and an unwavering commitment to excellence, these cadets will guide our nation throughout the 21th century.



Drill Hall of Fame

At the National High School Drill Team Championships in May 2015, two more names were added to the list of DHOF inductees. This amazing Hall of Fame was started in 2012 with 13 original inductees. This illustrious, diverse and amazing group of drill icons are celebrated each year as more join their ranks. These individuals and groups have been earmarked as the standard bearers to lead all others. Scores of other individuals and groups were considered and most all brought extremely strong credentials to the table. However, despite the amazingly tough choices, we have added two more to the Drill Hall of Fame. We will always cherish the impact each has made to the drill world and we look forward to expanding this field annually each May at the National H.S. Drill Team Championships.

2015 Drill Hall of Fame Inductees



MSqt. Dick Lebel: Serving in the USAF for 24 years, MSgt. Dick Lebel MSgt. DICK Lebel: Serving in the USAF for 24 years, MSgt. Dick Lebel certainly faced many opportunities and many challenges. With positions that varied between aircraft mechanic, K-9 force, flight engineer and Air Force recruiter, he saw something in JROTC that drew him in from the first time he starting working with the cadets. MSgt. Lebel found a home immediately after retirement at Coventry H.S. in Coventry, Rhode Island. One of the first things he did upon landing in Junior ROTC was start the drill team. "Drill was the best way to give our kids a sense of team work, responsibility and leadership", stated Lebel in recounting his early adoption of the team building tool. But just HAVING a drill team was not going to be good enough for the self-admitted hard charger. He wanted his cadets in all they did and he used drill as the tool that brought them not only the

give their best effort in all they did and he used drill as the tool that brought them not only the resonal growth he expected, but put tiny Rhode Island on the map on the National drill landscape.

SGM Johnny Snodgrass & the Belles of the Blue Knights Drill Team: After a standout active-duty military career that spanned from serving as an infantryma

inspections of local JROTC units, SGM Snodgrass saw his passion played out at the high school level. Beginning his JROTC career in nearby Zephyrhills, FL as an instructor and drill team coach, and after winning first place in squad drill at a meet in Tampa, he was hooked. He knew right on the spot he wanted his cadets to be the best in the nation. At the conclusion of the school year, SGM saw Enterprise High School in Alabama was seeking a new instructor, he was hired and soon the strong



HISTORICAL INFLUENCES

- Baron Friedrich von Steuben John "Black Jack" Pershing &
- the Pershing Rifles

RGANIZATIONS & IEIR GUIDING FORCE

- 3 The U.S. Army Drill Team (The Old Guard)
- 4 Mr. Paul Naki
- & The King's Guard 5 The National High School
- Sports Network International 6 Mr. Constantine H. Wilson & New Guard America

Drill Team Championships &

United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon

SCHOOLS & INSTRUCTORS

- 8 La Salle Military Academy
- 9 CMSgt Frank Killebrew & Oxon Hill High School
- Major Odell Graves
- MGySgt Douglas Dunlapp & Fern Creek High School
- LTC James Rose & Riderettes Theodore Roosevelt H.S.
- Major Greg Mikesell & Black Watch, Winston Churchill H.S.
- MSgt. Ken Madden
- CDR Armando Solis & Flour Bluff H.S.

- INDIVIDUALS

 Abdul Al-Romaizan
- **D**onovan White
- 1 stSgt. Christopher Borghese







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2015 Solo Exhibition Winners

First Place: Andres Ryan
Second Place: Samuel Gozo
Third Place: Angel Solis

2015 Dual/Special Exhibition Winners

First Place: Haley & VanKeuren
Second Place: Solis & Valenzuela
Third Place: Robbins & Wilson

Reduce your WDC Solo Entry Fee 25% by earning a QUALIFIED BERTH in the event. Simply enter one of several official WDC qualifier competitions either on-site or on-line throughout the year. Go to the WDC website for more details on this brave new world of professional drill for all!



Drillers from across America and the world make the World Drill Championships their annual home each & every May. The "Worlds" remain the finest collection of post high school exhibition drillers ever assembled in a single location each & every year. Founded by Drill Hall of Fame member and former nationally-ranked driller, Mr. Abdul Al-Romaizan, the WDC welcomes all drillers who feel they are ready to be a part of the best drill weekend ever presented. Be surrounded by the legends in drill every year and see over 200 of the newest superstars, graduating cadets from the championship ranks of the NHSDTC. Drillers who gain a top finish in on-line and on-site competitions during the year enter for a discount!

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This premier event is the world's leading competition for those post-high school SOLO & SPECIAL (2-4 person) routines that become legendary overnight! This international event is operated for independent, college, military reserve or active-duty drillers. With the motto, "Dare Mighty Things", the WDC serves to take drill to the next level beyond the high school arena. Winners are crowned on the biggest stage in drill during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony of the National High School Drill Team Championships. The WDC is simply without parallel - ask anyone who has been there! Drillers of all skill levels are urged to be a part of the brother and sisterhood that is the trademark of the WDC. There is simply nothing like it!

You'll come for the competition... but the fellowship and camaraderie will have you back year after year!

"The World Drill Championships, through the work of drill guru and entrepreneur Andrea Bryant, continue to march to new heights of excellence. It was never meant to be the biggest professional drill meet, just the best!"



- Justin GatesCompetition DirectorWorld Drill Championships

www.facebook.com/worlddrillchampionships



A Look Around the Nationals and JROTC Universe



LCDR Kenneth Bingham Retires from Boca Raton H.S.

His is a name that is synonymous with excellence in the world of Navy JROTC. LCDR Kenneth Bingham (ret.) of powerhouse Boca Raton HS in Boca Raton, Florida. Year after year, the

team powered their way to Overall championship contention and National excellence in cadet activities across the country. And after flying F-4 and F-14 jets for over 20 years, and then 21 years of serving as the SNSI at this south Florida landmark, LCDR Bingham is retiring again due to state mandated retirement.

"I had 39 cadets that first year," said Bingham. "Now I have 350 cadets each year and they are students who want to be there to learn self-discipline and goals."

While many only know about the high visibility national drill prominence of the program, Bingham said over the years he has also stressed well-rounded cadets who learn about oceanography and meteorology and compete in academic competitions like the Brain Bowl. SNI wishes this amazing man fair winds and following seas!

North Miami Beach Sr. H.S. Earns Nationals Spirit Banner Award

Every year, SNI selects one school that best embodies the hard work, excellence in the face of adversity, and overall champion spirit of the Nationals to reign as the Spirit Award winner for the following school year. For the 2015-2016 School Year, this prestigious school is the Army JROTC program of North Miami Beach Sr. H.S. in North Miami Beach, Florida.



Shown above, **Major Michael Rountree**, **SAI** and founder of the program in 2001, is shown receiving the award from Jean K.

Weil Scholarship Board Member and former Nationals competitor, Mr. Keith Warren, during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony of the National High School Drill Team Championships.

North Miami Beach has been a constant in the world of drill excellence, annually powering their way to top finishes in their Army Brigade events, as well as Army National Championships and of course in their long standing attendance at the Nationals in Daytona Beach. Their upbeat and positive work within the drill world, their innovative performances, the glorification of both Army JROTC and the NHSDTC made their selection over many worthy competitors happen. Please join Sports Network International in congratulating this fantastic program which continues to set a fantastic example in the world of drill.



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- Citizen Leader Track

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The Nationals Helps to Raise Thousands for Veterans Needs Through our Partner Flags4Vets

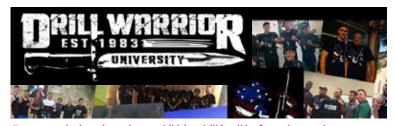
SNI is quite selective regarding who we allow to be a part of our competitions as some people have more honor than others. However many years ago, we



were approached by **Mr. Fred Moore**, former Marine and the Director of a group entitled **Flags4Vets** about having their group set-up a both at our military events. This certified 501-c-3 non-profit group serves many valuable functions. They provide a clearinghouse of information for veterans as navigating the government bureaucracy that is veterans affairs can be somewhat daunting for the uninitiated. They also have a high visibility function approved by the Department of Defense of raising funds for flag placement on the graves of U.S. veterans across the USA and 10 other countries.

Established in 2007, Flags4Vets remains the go-to people in this arena and we are honored they choose to attend our events and be a part of the SNI family of excellence each year. In 2015, Flag4Vets raised over \$6,000 from attendance at the Army Nationals and the National High School Drill Team Championships.

The company also has a program where JROTC units can involve themselves in the cause and also raise funds for their program. Flags4Vets partners with individuals and groups to expand into your community. If you believe your unit would like to learn more and become a part of this worthy effort, visit their website (www.theUSflag.com). Contact Fred Moore at (502) 931-0374 or email: moore@theUSflag.com and become part of the difference!



Everyone who is serious about exhibition drill in all its forms knows there are many people who share their love. However, there is one person who has an unyielding passion, deep love and personal background from decades of experience that has been used to better the drill world. This betterment has come through the brand of Drill Warrior University.

MSgt. Herman "Yogi" Ybarra, USAF (ret.) is the Commandant of Drill Warrior University. As a well-known Ceremonial Guardsman, MSgt. Ybarra has over thirty years of complex weapons handling experience. His love began in high school on the Moody HS NJROTC drill team in Corpus Christi, Texas in 1983 and continued throughout his 24 years of active duty service, being selected to five extensive special duty assignments to four honor guard programs and works as a trainer at the Nationals Drill Camp annually. DWU was established in August 2013 to grow the drill world!

DWU is focused on providing the foremost outlet for scholars of complex weapons handling to commune together. This has taken the primary form of hosting exceptional solo & dual drill events. These intimate and well presented affairs first begun inTexas, but now are expanding and in the 2015-2016 school year, are being held in numerous locations across the country and growing each year! All of these meets feature both high school and post-high school competitions, with many of his meets supplying Qualified Status for top finishers to be a part of the World Drill Championships held in Daytona Beach, Florida each year!

Drill Warrior University is currently best found on Facebook. Do a search, make them a favorite and become part of the excellence!

TEAM TRAINING IS SMART TRAINING!

Every athletic coach at a high school attends clinics to keep their knowledge fresh. In the past few years, this has been true in the competition drill world as well. Many of these top drill teams have instructors that have FORGOTTEN more about military drill regs than most will ever KNOW, yet even they attend clinics for continuing education to "stay sharp" in the sport they love. They understand there is a big different between "basic training drill and competition drill. And even these learned men and women admit they pick up tips and other items now and again that continue to pay dividends.

To this end, SNI has learned that **Drill-Team Dynamics**, a national leader in onsite training and helping programs with all things involving drill education and safety, have developed a fantastic Winter clinic for those who are devotees of the sport of competition drill. This **2015 TX Instructor Seminar** is to be held on **21-22 December** on the campus of Theodore Roosevelt HS in San Antonio, Texas. The collection of instructors on-hand is amazingly accomplished and attendees will benefit immeasurably. Go to the on-line home of the company to learn more.

MAKING LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL COME ALIVETHROUGH JROTC

Actually seeing the options available after high school can be an invaluable life lesson. To that end, fifty-six JROTC cadets from six schools in Jackson, Mississippi attended the Institute of Health Careers camp at the



Hattiesburg campus of William Carey University this Summer from June 1-5. The camp, now in its second year, is designed to help open doors for students interested in careers in health care, said Dr. Jessica Taylor, camp director and an assistant professor of physiology at Carey.

"Our goal was for the cadets to come away with a better understanding of possibilities in health care professions," said Dr. Jessica Taylor, camp director and an assistant professor of physiology at Carey.

During the camp, cadets learned about multiple health care professions, including osteopathic medicine, exercise physiology, emergency medicine, nursing, pathology, social work, U.S. Army medical opportunities, Canadian Armed Forces medical opportunities, family medicine, pediatrics, pharmacy and veterinary medicine.

Cadets participated in communications, empathy, leadership and team-building exercises. They also received hands-on experience through the Carey College of Osteopathic Medicine working in the simulation lab and had practical exercises in osteopathic manipulative treatment. Carey medical students served as counselors for the camp and worked with the cadets in mentoring roles.

Jean K. Weil Scholarships are Top Honors for Amazing Seniors

Selecting only TWO graduating seniors at the NHSDTC as the most outstanding overall cadets is a brutal choice. The finalists are reviewed involving their academic, writing, personal recommendations and overall unit contribution. This arduous process is a true labor of love by the Scholarship Review



Committee who bring this number to just five finalists. These five then handle on-site interviews with JKW Scholarship Board Member, Mr. Keith Warren, who alone selects the top two cadets for this prestigious \$1,000 merit based award.

Fabiola Contreras from Ciobola HS in Albuquerque, New Mexico



(shown left) and **Kimberly Gilson** from drill powerhouse **Brandeis HS** in **San Antonio, Texas** (shown above) both simply overwhelmed JKW Board Member and former NHSDTC and WDC competitor, Mr. Keith Warren (also shown above) during the on-site interviews. Poised, thoughtful and intelligent, these two young people are destined to greatness in all they do in their life after high school, just as they have done in their JROTC career. The

five people who earned on-site nominations were among the most impressive overall group we have ever maintained.

Along with the notoriety of earning the title as one of the two BEST graduating cadets at the Nationals, the \$1,000 scholarship each has earned can be used toward any future scholastic expenses. To see more on this prestigious award, the history of the award, as well as how to ensure your top two graduating senior cadets apply for the award at the 2016 Nationals, go to the on-line home of the scholarship at: http://jkw.thenationals.net.

EDITORIAL

Is the Standard of Excellence Creeping Away from JROTC?

The answer is still a resounding NO, but it is certainly everywhere else in the world

Long ago, my children went to an elementary school with fantastic teachers, but I learned starting with my youngest that "Student of the Week" in her 1st grade class was handed out so "everybody gets the award, and there are no favorites". It made me sick to hear this. America's "everyone gets a trophy" syndrome has become an ingrained national joke. "A" grades, which once meant excellence, are now given to over 43 percent of all college students. This is an increase of a staggering 28 percentage points since 1960 and 12 percentage points since 1988. High school grades have followed a similar pattern. No wonder parents hate standardized tests – nothing like a mirror to bring down a false narrative.

I looked further and almost fell over dead when I read that two neighboring Kansas school districts who don't allow any child to receive a grade lower than a "C" favored this policy because (are you sitting down) "it's like the Army, where no one can be left behind on the battlefield." Yes, of course – I SEE it now. Finger painting, learning to read and write and elementary school are just like a battlefield. I think I need a trash can.

Follow me on this. Grade inflation promotes artificially produced ego inflation, which promotes a sense of entitlement, and a lack of willingness to work hard for true excellence. Lack of attention to detail soon follows. Few care to do the BEST JOB possible. This makes excuses easier to come by. Even laziness is a more prevalent quality. **Does this sound like a large group of society today?** The sad truth is, WE HAVE CREATED THIS MONSTER in the name of caring and having people feel better about themselves.

JROTC helps to combat this on so many fronts. It demands accountability. It holds a standard. It makes cadets know what is acceptable and what is not. That said, some are starting to undertake more and more items as co-curricular activities that are easy to set-up, easy to accomplish and the cadets are lead to believe they have actually done something to be deeply proud of. "Feeling good" about a soft accomplishment is becoming more important than striving for excellence yet failing to reach the top of an arduous one. And by doing this, are we setting our JROTC kids up for the same type of false personal development we now see throughout other parts of their life experiences in this feel good world?

I have had instructors tell me not too many years ago when I asked why they would not be attending a certain competition, "Oh, our teams would not win anything – we don't want to go". The first time I heard that, I was sure I misunderstood. And that same taste in my mouth I recognized from my daughter's class came back. That statement speaks volumes - what exactly are we teaching kids when the message is, "we only like to go places and do things when we can be "successful"? And is the success really something to be triumphed?

JROTC and related community-based programs have extra-curricular programs that are best used to reward EXCEPTIONALISM. If you wish to ONLY reward effort and hard work, there is no reason to actually compete because winning and losing is irrelevant - the really hard work (or lack thereof) comes in practice. But exceptionalism can only be had by climbing the mountain; by putting hard work, effort, sweat and dedication to a task and competing against others who have done the same. Without losers there cannot be winners. And without scores of those who have lost, how can you really say you have won anything?

Teams who attend events with scores of fantastic teams do so knowing they may not win as many trophies as they likely often do back home. But these teams know when they win something at these events, they have EARNED something to be proud of! And the cadets know that. And filling cadets with thoughts of grandeur made of paper difficulties seems to be the very thing we should all be working to avoid if we really want these youngsters to be better Americans, better citizens, and better able to deal with life after high school.

Everyone should want to encourage and reward effort; it is essential for positive development and growth, especially in young people. But even children understand the 'everybody gets a trophy' mentality basically says that you're going to get rewarded just for showing up. That won't build true, long lasting self-esteem or a hard work ethic; instead, it builds an empty sense of just taking up space, being present but not engaged or involved. And with this sand foundation built, what happens in decades future? When these young people grow into adults who are not prepared for life's stresses, failures, pain or any serious speed bumps along the highway of life, can we say that their Junior ROTC experience truly gave them everything it could?

Hearing an instructor who wants the easy path for their cadets means to me that even JROTC instructors can be just as seduced by the narcissistic con as their kids. Fortunately, this is still relatively rare in the JROTC world. The vast majority of instructors want to challenge their kids and reward success because they inherently know it is the right way to go. It makes individuals better able to deal with adversity and to expect that the most desired things in life often come with initial failure that builds to success. And this is why JROTC continues to churn out some of the finest, most well-prepared young adults leaving the doors of high school. But be ever vigilant not to allow this failing strategy that is easy to see in many parts of society into the exceptional world-wide program that is Junior ROTC.

- Justin Gates, Competition Director Sports Network International / Sports Network Int'l Youth Foundation

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Sports Network International is constantly soliciting feedback from the
teams & judges, and makes changes to the drill events we host every year. Here are
many of the changes coming to the SNI hosted National drill events in 2016 and beyond.

1. Inspection competition will still maintain a pressurized atmosphere, but more controls to reduce judges variability and to ensure the event maintains a focus on academic and thinking questions and not a majority of "gotcha" questions will be put in place in 2016 and beyond.

- 2. Many "events" will now have a specific "Event Director" attached. This person will have no connection to the teams but will have a detailed knowledge of the event rules and JROTC performance experience and will assist the judges in correctly discharging their duties.
- 3. Top-rated schools will be bunched together using the blind draw technique and the staggered start in a more concentrated fashion. All teams will still maintain a spread of start times to include some early, some middle and some late start times.
- 4. A weapon WILL be taken by each scoring judge in all exhibition events from team members waiting in the entry to perform in all armed competition divisions. Each judge will thereby get a "feel" for the weapon and gain a better understanding of the difficulty of what they are about to review.
- 5. The complete briefing notes used for the judges briefing will be posted on-line several months prior to the competition date. Schools with any questions or wish to provide input should feel free to do so at that point before the briefing is conducted.
- 6. Additional opportunities will be made available for both instructors and cadets to have meaningful interaction with judges. For too long, the judges have spoken highly of the cadets and teams post-event and the judges have been too busy to actually get the chance to see and speak with the cadets.
- 7. SNI will expand the opportunity for inclusion into the Best of the Nationals Series DVDs to include select schools performing at the Army, Navy and Air Force National Championships as well.
- 8. Awards Ceremonies for all of the National Championship drill events will be carried live on the news & information channel for SNI, www.drillnation.net. Select performances during the day of the competition will also be broadcast.
- 9. The starting matrix for every SNI drill event will be posted in the hour prior to the official event drawing for competition times. Then, the entire blind draw process will be televised on drillnation.net so teams who choose to, can watch this entire exercise live.
- 10. Scoresheet review immediately after the judges have scored will take place just outside the exit areas of each drill area. Teams should review the regs on this carefully within the event SOP. While SNI will continue to have eyes on every scoresheet looking for anomalies, there is nobody that will care more about the scoresheet than the competing teams

Specifics on these changes can be found within the SOPs for the various competitions.

Sports Network International wishes to thank all of the 20,000 cadets, parents & instructors that will be a part of these fantastic competitions in the 2015-2016 school year.

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