



David Morrison, Guest Conductor

David Morrison received his formal training at the University of Illinois, where he earned both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music Education. From 1977 until 2006, he served as Director of Bands at Prospect High School in Mt. Prospect, Illinois, where he developed and maintained a nationally recognized band program for 29 years.

Under the direction of David Morrison, the Prospect bands were exceptionally successful. The Symphonic Band won numerous honors, including consistent first division awards from the Illinois High School Association State Band Contest, first division awards at the Chicagoland Symphonic Band Festival, and the Honor Band Award at the prestigious Superstate Band Competition. Auditioning among outstanding bands throughout the state of Illinois, the Prospect Symphonic Band was honored as a 15 time selectee to the University of Illinois Superstate Band Festival. In 1985 and 2005, the Band was chosen to perform as the Superstate Honor Band, at the Foehlinger Great Hall in the Krannert Center in Champaign, IL.

Under Mr. Morrison's direction, the Prospect Marching Band also gained recognition for their outstanding performances, winning numerous championships at the local, state, and national levels, including selection to Bands of America Grand Nationals Finals, being honored as Bands of America Regional champions and winning the University of Illinois grand championship 24 times. In addition, the marching band travelled both nationally and internationally to march in Florida, Texas, Hawaii, Arizona, Texas, New York, California and London, England, including performing in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, both on two occasions.

Since his retirement, Mr. Morrison served as conductor of the University of Illinois at Chicago Concert Band for three years, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble at Illinois Wesleyan University for one semester, and most recently as assistant at the nationally recognized Oliver McCracken Middle School program in Skokie, Illinois, for ten years. In this position, Mr. Morrison had the honor of conducting the band at both the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic held in Chicago, Illinois and at the University of Illinois Superstate Band Festival in Champaign, Illinois, where the band was selected as Honor Band on several occasions.

Mr. Morrison has also served on the adjunct faculty of DePaul University (Music education), Northern Illinois University (Student teacher supervision), Vandercook College of Music (Marching methods) and Illinois Wesleyan University (Conducting). In addition to teaching, Mr. Morrison has written articles for the ILMEA magazine, the Instrumentalist Magazine and the Journal of the National Band Association. He has recently completed a book entitled, "The Band Whisperer." Mr. Morrison continues to clinic and adjudicate bands throughout the United States and the world. He has conducted the Illinois All-State Band, numerous ILMEA district high school and middle school bands, the Singapore American School band festival in the Far East and the Moriah College Music Camp in Sydney, Australia

Honors that Mr. Morrison has received include the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association, election to the Phi Beta Mu National Band Director's Honorary Fraternity, winner of Outstanding Contributions to Education Award, winner of the Outstanding Chicagoland Music Educator Award, winner of the Shining Star Award, nomination for the Golden Apple Award, winner of the John Painter Lifetime Achievement Award, winner of the John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor Award and induction into the Phi Beta Mu Bandmaster's Hall of Fame housed at Northwestern University. In 2003, Mr. Morrison was honored as the State of Illinois Teacher of the Year.