



## Top Hats Show – Director’s Contest Information

---

**Saturday, March 7, 2026**

**Facility:** Hempfield Area High School – Field House  
4345 Route 136  
Greensburg, PA 15601

*The Top Hats are excited to be your host for this evening’s contest, and we cannot thank you enough for your participation.*

*For this event to be a rewarding one for all, we encourage you to read all the information provided below, even if you have attended a past show at this venue. We hope you have a wonderful experience.*

<b>Percussion Entrance Opens:</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
<b>Guard Entrance Opens:</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
<b>Field House Concessions:</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>Spectator Entrance Opens:</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>Alternate Concession:</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>Show Starts:</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>

**Vertical Center Line:** To make the flow of this show smooth and as safe as possible for all units, the center line will be vertical. Please see diagram.

**Prop/Tarp Drop Off:** Please drop off your props and tarps at the Field House at the Equipment Entrance. All props and floors will be stored BEHIND the performance gym in the designated holding area. There will be a curtain separating the performance gym from this holding area. Please do not unload your props until one hour prior to show time. Props should be removed following performances.

**Unit Drop Off:** Unit check-in will be across from the tennis courts. Refer to the map.

**Parking:** Vehicles will NOT be able to drive in front of the field house as this road will be blocked off and available for foot traffic only. Please see outside facility maps for route to unit drop-off, equipment drop-off and designated equipment truck and bus parking areas.

*Once you drop off the units, we ask you to move to one of the two lots indicated on the map for bus parking so that the spectators can use the lots closest to the Field House.*

**Unit Entrance:** Only performers and up to 10 designated staff members will be admitted free of charge. All others MUST enter the spectator entrance and pay full admission.

**Hallways:** Please do NOT spray unsustainable amounts of hairspray, body paint, body glitter, etc. in the hallways, restrooms or anywhere inside the building. Unless used in moderation, we ask that you make those drastic changes outdoors or prior to coming to the facility. Please remember the fire alarm system is sensitive.

**Changing Rooms:** Men's and women's restrooms are available for performers' use to change into uniforms. Please be respectful as you will be sharing these facilities with other units.

**Designated Holding Area:** Each unit will be assigned a designated waiting area until it is time to head to warm up. Please remove all belongings within 30 minutes after your performance is done.

**Unattended Items:** The Top Hats, TRWEA and Hempfield Area School District will NOT be held responsible for any lost or stolen property.

**Sound Testing:** One hour prior to the start of the contest and during intermission at the discretion of the sound engineer.

**No Spinning or Twirling in Hallways:** Equipment may only be used in the warm-up area and performance area. For the safety of patrons and performers alike, as well as to preserve school property, this rule will be strictly enforced.

**Show Guides:** Will be provided. However, please be prepared to make sure you are outside the body warm up area at your designated time and that you know the flow to the performance area just in case.

**Shoes or flip flops required:** Performing members are required to wear shoes up until they get to the gymnasium for their performance. Shoes should be readily available once the unit leaves the gym.

**Inspection:** Located outside warm up area. All equipment will be inspected so please make sure everything is properly taped.

**Warm-up Area:** A body only and then an equipment warm-up area will be provided. Soundtrack can only be used in the equipment warm-up area.

**Performance Gym:** A protective tarp may cover the performance surface in the Field House.

**Transit to/from Performance Gym:** Percussion units will need to go outside from warm up to the performance Gym. *Majorette Teams, Dance Teams and Guards must use the catwalk before and after their performance and should remain indoors. There is no need for these units to go outside unless it's a beautiful day and they choose to take that route.*

**Floor Folding Area:** Will be located behind the performance gym. Once you are done performing you will exit into this area. You will have only the time while the unit that is performing after you, to get your floor folded and moved. We ask that you be courteous and keep sound to a minimum.

**Unit Seating:** All seating is on the front side. There will be a reserved section for performers.

**Props/Equipment:** Please remove all props and equipment from premises immediately after performing.

**Award Ceremony:** Immediately following the final performance.

**Commentary:** Available via competition suite after your performance.

**Judging Panel:**

Guard: Equipment Analysis	Drew Klaus
Movement Analysis	Sanya Gross
Design Analysis	Jason Zeh
General Effect 1	Dave Campbell
General Effect 2	Carl Miller
Tabulator	Jill Strangis
Timing & Penalties	Lauren Ortego

Percussion: Effect Music	Carl Miller
Effect Visual	Drew Klaus
Music	Dave Campbell
Visual	Jason Zeh

**Critique:** If you are attending the critique you had to sign up prior to the show through the Director's site. If you sign up and do not attend, a penalty will be assessed.

**Retreat:** Captain's Only retreat.

*A special thank you to the TRWEA Board of Directors for all your hard work and dedication! Also, best wishes to all the performers and staff. Have fun on the floor tonight and best of luck as you push toward these final weeks of the season.*

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 412-389-7981.*

*Kindest Regards, Paula, Lucy & the Top Hats*