



Gail Schultz International Fellowship

Information, Instructions and Application for 2022

Over the course of five-decades, Gail Schultz served as a hard-working friend, enthusiastic supporter and graceful ambassador—not only of The Blue Devils, but for the entire drum corps community. Her deep passion for global stewardship and international participation became renowned and respected worldwide, and her generosity and kindness has had a positive impact on countless lives both near and far.

Gail's involvement with The Blue Devils began in 1971, when her daughter Christine joined the Twirlers and her son Steven joined the Jr. Drum & Bell Corps. Before long, Gail was managing multiple Blue Devil programs and serving on the board of directors—including multiple terms as its president.

Having chaired the Precision West drum corps competition for a decade, she then helped establish the DCI West competition at Stanford Stadium and chaired that event for another decade. Serving as Marketing and Development Director, Gail coordinated special events and recruitment drives, created public relations materials, and represented The Blue Devils to the Concord Chamber of Commerce as well as civic and fraternal organizations throughout the area.

As Promotions Manager, Gail coordinated all aspects of the souvenir sales on tour and in-house and developed our first e-commerce operation. She became an iconic and critical part of the drum corps activity, serving not only as the lead voice for how all drum corps merchandising operations were managed and operated, but also as a mentor and friend to all who worked in the souvenir marketplaces. Because of Gail, the corps' souvenir trailer was not only a successful financial asset but became the social center for all drum corps fans, regardless of affiliation.

Gail had been a part of several international travels with The Blue Devils Twirlers and winter guards from her earliest days, but her real passion for supporting international members can be said to have begun in 1987 when the first Dutch member, Paul Doop, joined the corps. Mr. Doop recalls that upon his arrival to the USA, Gail took a sincere interest in his well-being and made sure his family stayed informed about his life in Concord—not an easy task in the days before the internet! As the years passed, more and more international students came to The Blue Devils and Gail took each of them under her wing. She began visiting Holland as often as she could and helped arrange a Blue Devil guard member exchange to Europe. She then helped arrange for a small-corps version of The Blue Devils to perform in Europe in 1992, setting the stage for the first full-corps international tour in 2000.

In 1992, Gail took the bold step to move to The Netherlands to study marketing and international business at Webster University in Leiden. Although this move took her away from daily work for The Blue Devils for two years, she kept the activity and the corps in her heart—befriending members of the drum corps community across Europe and attending every European drum corps event she could find.

Upon her return to Concord, Gail's connection to, and support of, international members grew even stronger. She continued to open her home to international members and supporters and was involved in numerous international trips for The Blue Devils. This included several Marching in Okayama events in Japan, performances at the Carnival parade in Nice, France, and full-corps European tours in 2000 and 2005. She represented The Blue Devils at the 2013 Field Band Foundation Championships in Johannesburg, South Africa and was part of the 2015 inaugural European tour of the Blue Devils International Corps—culminating in two weeks of performances at the famed Basel Tattoo in Switzerland.

Gail retired from The Blue Devils after the 2016 season and devoted her time to her grandchildren. She passed away in Florida on August 9, 2020 at the age of 78. The Gail Schultz International Fellowship was established to honor her legacy of support for international goodwill through arts and performance.

Terms and Conditions

The Gail Schultz International Fellowship (GSIF) is open to non-US citizens who are age-eligible to perform in a US-based Drum Corps International sanctioned junior drum and bugle corps (including World Class and Open Class but excluding Sound Sport/Drumline Battle) during the 2022 performance season.

The GSIF is open to persons of any gender, race, creed and non-US nationality or citizenship.

The GSIF is administered by BD Performing Arts, a US non-profit 501(c)3 organization based in Concord, California, USA.

The 2022 GSIF will be distributed for the 2022 season. Unused or unclaimed funds will revert back to the GSIF.

The 2022 GSIF will be in the amount of up to \$5,000 US dollars, payable to the corps to which the recipient has been accepted.

The GSIF fellow will be selected based on their potential to make a positive, long-lasting contribution to the drum corps activity.

The GSIF will not be able to assist in securing passports, visas, letters of entry or any other legal materials.

All application materials must be submitted in English.

All application materials will remain confidential.

APPLICATION CHECK-LIST

The APPLICANT must complete the attached Application and submit all documents listed below in pdf format by e-mail to: GSIF@bluedevils.org

Printed applications sent by postal service to our office will not be accepted in lieu of the e-mail submission.

___ Applicant Information and Contact page

___ Three (3) essays, each of 250-500 words: Biographical essay, Goals essay and Gail Schultz Legacy essay

___ Two (2) letters of recommendation submitted on your behalf. Both letters of recommendation should be forwarded to the applicant. Applicant is responsible for including with the application submission.

All documents must be submitted concurrently.

Application

Name _____

Email address _____

Cell phone with country and city code _____

Mailing address _____

Include city, state/province and country

Country of Residence _____

Country of citizenship _____

Date of birth ____/____/____
Day month year

Gender ___ male ___ female ___ non-binary

Primary language spoken _____

Secondary language spoken, if any _____

School currently attending, if any _____

US drum corps you are auditioning for _____

Section you intend to perform in (example: guard, brass, battery, front ensemble, drum major). List instrument if you are a musician.

Section in which you intend to perform _____ Instrument _____

Drum corps experience, if any _____

Other performing experience (include marching band, wind band, winter guard, drum line, and all others)

I affirm that the foregoing statements and attached materials are true and accurate representations of me and my application.

Signature _____

Date _____

Submit three (3) essays, in English

On separate pages, please provide responses to the following essay prompts. Please be sure to include your name at the top of each page.

- Biographical essay - no less than 250 words, no more than 500 words
Tell us about you and your life experiences to this point.
- Statement of goals essay - no less than 250 words, no more than 500 words
Tell us why you are inspired to march in a US junior corps, what your goals are for membership and how you will use this experience in your future.
- Gail Schultz legacy essay - no less than 250 words, no more than 500 words
After reading about Gail Schultz, share with us your thoughts on how you can advance her legacy of support for international goodwill through arts and performance.

Submit two (2) Letters of Recommendation

The APPLICANT must submit all documents in pdf format by e-mail to: GSIF@bluedevils.org

All documents must be submitted concurrently.