

Independent Unit Comparison

The independent units created this document in order to give all prospective members the information necessary when determining what unit to participate with for the upcoming season. It is provided by RMCGA as an equal comparison. We encourage you to pick a unit that fits your style and your goals. If you would like more information on any of these units, please contact the unit directly or you may email Kendra@rmcga.org.

RMCGA encourages all high school students to participate in their respective high school marching band and winter guard programs. The time for high school participation only exists for one moment in life. There is time for independent programs to follow graduation. Independent, or mixed school, units will not recruit from high school programs without express permission from and communication with the band directors.

Ultimately, it lies with the parents, students, and band directors to determine the best place for the student. If any situation arises where a high school student wishes to be involved with an independent unit, the parents, students, and band directors should communicate with each other to ascertain the best option for the student. In the end, it will be the parents and not RMCGA who resolve the situation. RMCGA will act as facilitator as required.

Independent Units						
Unit	Alchemy Winterguard IO 2010 Information	High Point Colorguard Novice Updated for 2010	Malachi Independent Winterguard - IA 2010 Information	Pisteuo Updated for 2007	The Phoenix Updated for 2007	Signature Updated for 2008
How long have you been in existence?	Since 2000	First Year	This is our 4th Season of competition	Since 2005	Nova has been around since 1979. We took 96, 97 and 98 off. We have been active again since the 1999 season.	Signature was founded in 1993. This is our 15th competitive season.
What are your goals for this season?	To be entertaining and competitive	To teach those interested, rebuild and enhance for those returning, and most of all to have fun and establish the bond that you get from being in Guard.	To continue our tradition of excellence, debut in Dayton, grow our organization.	We would like to build on the strengths of our returning members and invite new members to join us.	To be better and more entertaining than any previous season	Signature's goal for 2008 is to be competitive in the Independent World Class.
What day(s) of the week do you practice?	Saturdays and Sundays, with an occasional Friday night	Tuesdays & Thursdays, Once a month will run two 8-hour camps.	Friday nights and Saturdays	Friday and Saturday	2 - Saturdays and one weeknight	Friday nights, Saturday, and Sunday
What part of town do you practice in 50% of the time?	Arvada	Aurora	Centennial, CO	Aurora	Arvada	We practice in Westminster and Arvada.
Where will you travel?	WGI Nationals in Dayton, Ohio	Local Competitions	Dayton	We will compete locally.	To Dayton for WGI Championships and possibly one out of state Regional.	Signature will be traveling to a WGI regional TBA, the WGI Power Regional in San Bernardino, CA, and WGI World Championships in Dayton, OH
How much time commitment do you require of me?	10-12 hrs a weekend	At the moment 4 hours a week, but will have some extra practices when needed. Also, every member is expected to participate in any community volunteering event that we are a part of	11-16 hours a week	9 hrs a week plus contests.	At least 12hrs per week for rehearsal and 5hrs twice a month for bingo.	Members must attend all practices, trips, and shows, and work bingo twice a month on Friday night.
How much are your dues? Are there any other costs that I would be responsible for?	TBA Are there any other costs that I would be responsible for? TBA	Right now there are no dues. Members are responsible for everything needed for our season, i.e. equipment, uniform, RMCGA fees. Some costs would be split amongst the members. We are keeping costs at a minimum, plus we will have fundraising events.	\$1200 - \$1500 (this includes fundraising)	\$60- However, we will accept anyone regardless of their ability to pay.	Dues are \$300 a season (payable monthly) Cost of shoes and gloves (if used) and partial costs for trips.	Dues are \$300. There are no other costs associated with membership. All equipment, uniform, and travel expenses are covered by your dues.
What if I can't pay the dues?	There are fundraisers to help off set your dues	We will work things out.	Whatever you cannot pay you will be responsible for raising the funds.	We will accept anyone regardless of their ability to pay.	Arrangements can be made (talk to the Director)	Arrangements will be made for anyone who can't pay dues.
Do you have any fundraisers that I will need to be involved in?	Yes	We have several over the course of the year.	Yes	We have several fundraisers planned. None of them are very time consuming.	Yes, bingo and a few others.	Members must work our bingo game twice a month.

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When are your auditions? What is the process? Is there a fee?	Contact us if you want to march We are currently looking for new members for the 2010 season	We do not hold auditions.	October 30-31st. If you cannot make auditions, we will consider new members through November. We evaluate skill sets on equipment and in body movement. We interview as well. We will put you where we feel your skill sets will allow you to grow. Fee is \$40	We will not hold formal auditions.	Nova does not hold auditions. We will teach you all you need. You must only provide the commitment.	It's not too late to join Signature! Signature (IW) will be accepting additional members through October 5 and Signature (IA) through October 26. Please call Steve Takata at 303-324-3944 or email SignatureCG@aol.com to set up a time to audition or just come to one of our next practices. We will be at Arvada Middle School, 5751 Balsam Street in Arvada, CO on Saturdays from 12:00pm until 10:00pm and on Sundays from 12:00pm until 7:00pm.
How many new members are you expecting to take?	As many that want to commit to the team		Between 5-10	We are not limiting the number of performers.	As many as interested.	We will take all new members who meet our requirements.
What are you looking for in a new member?	A good attitude	Willingness and discipline to work hard and learn, respect for everyone, having fun.	Hard worker, self motivated, drama free, attitude of excellence, young adults who can self manage. Catty and gossipy people need not apply.	We are looking for individuals that are willing to commit themselves to the activity. Any level of experience is welcome.	Commitment and willingness to work hard.	Commitment, good attitude, good physical condition, and at least a basic knowledge of dance and equipment principles.
What colleges do some of your kids attend?	CU, UCCS, CSU, Metro, DU	We consist primarily of grade school and high school students.	Various local and national schools, as well as home school kids and students from schools that do not floor teams.	Our members currently attend local elementary, middle, and high schools.	CU, Metro and CSU	CU-Boulder, UNC, CSU, Metro State, Front Range CC, Red Rocks CC.
What is the teaching style of the organization? Firm, friendly,	We let the individual discipline themselves	Our organization is a firm believer in "There is a time and place for everything" Every member is expected to work hard, show respect, and discipline themselves to practice outside of our regular scheduled practices. The instructors/staff are expected to know when it is time to let loose and have fun and not let fun be a rarity.	Relaxed, assertive not abusive when needed. We do not believe in yelling but will tell you when things aren't at a level of excellence we expect. We expect that as young adults you will take all feedback and do what you need to do with that information without causing drama or being catty.	Our instructors are committed to helping every member grow. We take commitment seriously, but above all, we like to have fun.	Flexible, but firm. We try to maintain a light atmosphere at rehearsals as long as we are still working and learning.	We stress teamwork and choosing to have a good attitude as members and staff.
Anything else you feel a prospective member would need to know about your unit?	Alchemy has been a unique colorguard that has been Nationally known for the last 10 years. We provide quality instruction and challenge the individual. Please contact us if you are interested or find us online.		We believe life is a journey and that we are here to experience that journey through relationships and through the Sport of The Arts, Winter Guard. We believe fun is achieved through being excellent and nailing our equipment work, solos, and catches. We work hard together, we hurt together, we bleed together, we cry together, and we laugh together. We love, we live, we mature, we grow, we excel. We fight the good fight!		We are as committed to the individual as to the group.	The staff of Signature includes Tracy Wooton, JC Caceres, Angie Haugejorden and Joe Sowders. We are committed to educating members in all aspects of equipment, dance, and performance.
Contact information	Kenny Bailey, director/designer Email: alchemywg@yahoo.com Audition and other info on our website: http://alchemyspins.com	Kathy Frazier 303-257-3277 Email: highpointcolorguard@hotmail.com	Todd Carrasco - Director Email: malachi_independentWG@inspirecreative.org Audition and other info on our website: look for us on Facebook	Email: meexlpiersiaeanncne@yahoo.com Audition and other info on our website: www.freewebs.com/pisteuo/	Email: aemctague@yahoo.com Audition and other info on our website: www.novacg.org	Email: signaturecg@aol.com Audition and other info on our website: www.signaturecg.com