

Important Moments in Pioneer History

- 1961:** The corps is founded at St. Patrick's Parish in Milwaukee as *The Imperials of St. Patrick*
- 1973:** The *Imperials* merge with the *Thunderbolts* of Cedarburg, adopting the name, *The Thing*
- 1974:** With the addition of the generous corporate sponsorship of the Pioneer Container Corporation, the corps adopts the name *Pioneer*
- 1989:** Pioneer becomes finalists at the Drum Corps Midwest, U.S. Open and Drum Corps International Championships with new Irish-inspired military uniforms
- 1990:** The corps wins their first Drum Corps Midwest A-60 Championship title and places third at the Drum Corps International Championships in the A-60 Division
- 1991:** Pioneer once again captures the Drum Corps Midwest A-60 title and takes home the A-60 Division gold medal at both the Drum Corps International and U.S. Open Championships
- 1992:** Drum Corps Midwest awards Pioneer the gold medal in Division III and the corps captures the U.S. Open and Canadian Open titles
- 1993:** After moving up to Division II, the corps takes its fourth Drum Corps Midwest title
- 1994:** An undefeated season brings Pioneer both the Drum Corps Midwest and Drum Corps International Division II Champion titles
- 1995:** The corps takes its first full Drum Corps International tour, defending both of their titles from the previous season and is awarded its first Spirit of Disney Award
- 1996:** Pioneer wins its seventh straight Drum Corps Midwest Championship and places second in Division II at the Drum Corps International Championships in addition to winning the Canadian Open
- 1997:** The corps makes the jump to Division I and places 19th at the Drum Corps International World Championships

PIONEER
 Drum * Bugle Corps * Color Guard
 4601 West Holt Avenue
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53219

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Greetings from the Pioneer!

The student who has given you this letter is a proud member in good standing of the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corps.

Founded in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1961, the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corps is a nonprofit 501c3 youth organization that exists solely for the benefit of its members. The Pioneer organization has enjoyed a long and proud history of excellence in performance throughout North America. Over the years, the Pioneer has focused on the pursuit of excellence in every aspect of their educational and musical programs. Since the corps adopted the philosophy of "Better Every Day!", its members have managed to capture seven Drum Corps Midwest titles and three Drum Corps International World Championship titles, gaining World Class Semi-finalist status in Drum Corps International and proving the Pioneer to be one of the most successful drum and bugle corps in the midwest.

The purpose of the Pioneer corps is to provide for its members the very best in musical and visual education as well as the opportunity to perform in front of thousands of fans throughout the United States and Canada. In our corps, the members have the opportunity to learn from our professional staff of educators as they develop and make use of their musical and visual skills through performance. The members also grow through the development of their social skills and self-discipline. In the Pioneer, we treat each and every member as an important person and not just a number to fill out the ranks. The corps has the reputation of being very friendly and like a big family. When we perform, the reaction of the audience is just as important as the competitive placing. We definitely perform for the enjoyment of our fans!

The cost of equipping our members with instruments and uniforms, providing transportation, food and housing from June through August, as you can imagine, is quite a financial undertaking! The average cost of providing each student with these great experiences is \$4,000 per student. We are fortunate that the fundraising efforts of our local parents and friends of the Pioneer contribute a substantial share of the cost of providing these services. The corps members pay the remainder themselves in the form of dues. The total cost to the members is approximately \$2,900. To insure that all of our members will be able to participate in Pioneer, we offer them a program called Sponsors of Pioneer Youth (S.O.P.Y.). The S.O.P.Y. program was developed to help members recruit sponsors in order to help offset the costs of participating. Through your participation in this program, you are helping to make someone's dreams to achieve his or her performing goals a reality!

You can mail your nonrefundable, tax-deductible donations made to the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corps on behalf of this person to the address on the right. We, in turn, will send you a letter of receipt for your records.

For more information about our organization, please feel free to visit our website: www.Pioneer-Corps.org. Thank you very much for helping to support our young people. They are America's future!

Better Every Day,
Roman R. Blenski II
Executive Director

www.Pioneer-Corps.org



Sponsors of Pioneer Youth Donation Information

Please fill out the information below. You can mail your check or credit card information to the address below. Thank you for supporting a member of the Pioneer!

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