

2021 DCI/DCA Summer Experience Survey Results Report

49 responses (September 2021-December 2021)

General Information

What section were you part of?

- Brass Line - 24 (48.9%)
- Colorguard - 13 (26.7%)
- Battery - 6 (12.2%)
- Front Ensemble - 6 (12.2%)

Which division of DCI/DCA did you participate in?

- World Class - 34 (69.3%)
- Open Class - 11 (22.5%)
- DCA - 4 (8.2%)

Were you a minor during your time as a performer?

- No - 47 (96%)
- Yes - 2 (4%)

Food

Did you feel like you were provided enough food in relation to amount of physical activity called for in rehearsals?

- Yes - 44 (90%)
- No - 5 (10%)

Did you have dietary restrictions?

- None - 33 (67%)
- Allergy - 8: chocolate, dairy, peanuts, watermelon (16%)
- Vegetarian - 4 (8%)
- Vegan - 1 (2%)
- Gluten-free - 1 (2%)

Did you have to create a menu to fit your dietary needs, or was it already established by the team?

- Menu for your dietary needs already established - 35 (71%)
- Menu for your dietary needs not already established - 6 (12%). 2 indicated they had allergies in the previous question
- No answer - 8 (16%)

Could you confidently say that your nutritional needs would be met most of the time?

- Yes - 44 (90%)
- No - 5 (10%)

Were there instances where there was no food for you, and/or did you have to spend money out of pocket?

- No - 34 (70%)
- Yes - 15 (30%)

Did you have enough time to eat during meal breaks?

- Yes - 43 (87%)
- No - 6 (13%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with food as a performer?

- Food choices and amount were amazing!
- Food was great. College dining hall buffet at move in and then catered food on tour.

- Food was the best!
- Front ensemble having around 10 minutes to eat compared to the hour provided for the rest of the corps kind of sucked and wasn't the greatest for morale.
- Good this summer was handled by the University we stayed at, which I believe is the case for many corps for 2021
- I felt that we weren't given enough food, especially protein, towards the beginning of the season but after several people brought it to the director's attention we started being given bigger portions. Eventually a nutritionist joined the kitchen staff (I believe towards the end of spring training/beginning of tour - maybe 3-4 weeks in) and we noticed an immediate difference in not just better portion sizes but nutritional content (and taste, tbh).
- I had great food, and lots of it, usually had time for seconds
- It was scary sometimes to feel that maybe I made the wrong decision sticking to the diet I follow for so many reasons because I would feel so weak or exhausted because not having enough protein, volume of food, or nutrients wasn't enough on top of drum corps already being difficult.
- lots of eggs
- Not having enough time during meal breaks and not a long enough break to eat during rehearsal block caused nutritional needs to not always be met
- Sometimes they would give us snacks for the bus and only have protein bars with peanuts in them
- The food staff was amazing with their dietary choices and had options for every dietary restriction
- There was never enough protein that didn't rely on beef and nasty beans
- There were always multiple options to eat from including vegetarian, and gluten free options
- There were times where we were generally expected to buy our own food for specific meals on free/laundry days but that was exceedingly rare due to the nature of free and laundry days
- They were very upfront with us about what meals would be provided and which ones wouldn't be so that people had time to plan an alternative meal.
- Usually wasn't enough food, and the quality wasn't great. We had an ensemble rehearsal called "Vom-semble" because there were so many people who have food poisoning.
- We always had to get our food and it would always be during the big lunch rushes. We always barely had any time to eat by the time we got back to the school
- We ate lunch on our own during rehearsals and had an hour long break.
- We had a living situation where we were in apartments, so we had to cook our own meals during spring training
- We would have 1 hour meal blocks between 3 and a half to 4 hour rehearsals and the food was adequately portioned and honestly delicious! If you felt like you didn't get enough they always had peanut butter and jelly with bread available for you!

General Wellness

Were you reasonably confident that your administrative management team made decisions that set your group up for success to the best of their abilities?

- Yes - 44 (90%)
- No - 5 (10%)

On average, how many hours of sleep/"floor time" did you have per night?

- "4" - 1 (2%)
- "5" - 1 (2%)
- "6" - 2 (4%)
- "7" - 26 (53%)
- "8" - 19 (39%)

Did you feel like you received enough sleep?

- Yes - 43 (88%)
- No - 6 (12%)

Have you ever shown up to rehearsals ill or felt pressured to show up to rehearsals despite feeling ill?

- No - 29 (59%)
- Yes - 16 (33%)
- No, but have felt pressured to - 4 (8%)

Have you ever performed a show while ill or felt pressure to perform while ill?

- No - 33 (67%)
- Yes - 12 (25%)
- No, but I have felt pressured to - 4 (8%)

Did your staff encourage you to practice wellness (e.g., stretching before block, encouraging injured members to not rehearse, providing foam rollers)?

- Yes - 46 (94%)
- No - 3 (6%)

Did you get proper medical treatment for your injuries or illness?

- Yes - 37 (76%)
- No - 6 (12%)
- Did not need medical treatment - 6 (12%)

Were you allowed to go to the doctor if injuries or illness were serious?

- Yes, I received transportation or time off to go to the doctor - 27 (55%)
- Did not get injured or sick - 22 (45%)

Were there trained medical personnel that were on the road or on call with the group?

- Yes - 46 (94%)
- No - 3 (6%)

In your opinion, were you provided with an adequate amount of free days/ laundry days on tour?

- Yes - 44 (90%)
- No - 5 (10%)

Did you get enough water during rehearsals?

- Yes - 47 (96%)
- No - 2 (4%)

Were you reasonably confident that your administrative management team adhered to COVID-related protocols?

- Yes - 46 (94%)
- No - 3 (6%)

Do you know about anyone in your corps getting COVID-19?

- No - 42 (86%)
- Yes - 7 (14%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with general wellness as a performer?

- At one point, many of us were injured. We were told by our colorguard director that she "did not believe our injuries were real" or that we were simply being lazy, even though those of us who were unjured had gone to a physical trainer who identified our injuries. I understand our directors are meant to push us to our extreme to be better performers, but it felt discouraging to be berated for physical limitations that were

out of our control, especially since we were all doing our best to continue performing regardless of our injuries, & we were incredibly sad whenever we reached a limit & had to sit out instead of participating. Many of our injuries most likely came from the prolonged lack of normal activity due to the pandemic, which we felt our colorguard director almost shamed us for & felt a little insensitive, especially since a number of us in our section had lost many family members in 2020 due to Covid-19. Although we received a lot of encouragement & medical support from other staff in the corps, our colorguard director was often absent & wasn't aware of our constant efforts while she was gone. I think her intentions were for the best interest of our team & the corps, but it often felt counter-productive since we often felt discouraged to continue trying rather than the opposite.

- Free days/laundry blocks were rare but only because of the season. During a normal season we would've gotten many more but of course because we had less days in the season, we didn't use as much laundry so Y'know, less laundry blocks
- Honestly the thing that struck me the most was them having someone to help me with my mental health while on tour.
- I feel my group was really good on precautions. Rapid testing when there was one exposure, questionnaire and temp checks at start of rehearsals, and masks.
- I fractured my leg during tour and the corps took good care of me. Even when I begged to do something irresponsible (like marching on it) they wouldn't let me.
- I got a cold during spring training and was allowed to take some blocks off and received medicine. At first the staff was not giving us enough water but after almost 1/4 of the corps had dehydration related issues the medical staff made the directors give more water. Unfortunately during the entire 2 months we did not receive a single free day and only got 3 laundry blocks in total.
- I normally would expect occasional complete free days, but was ok with just free/laundry blocks instead because of the shorter season. Only complaint about covid protocols was that it seemed educational staff were not held to the same standard as members (specifically in regards to going to restaurants/bars during free time).
- I think the admin and support staff took great care of us, but my caption head was a jerk who cared about winning (in a non-competitive season) much more than he cared about me as an individual.
- My drum corps took AMAZING care of me and my injury. I was in a car accident before move ins and they gave me the care I needed so I could march over the summer.
- No issues
- Occasionally the admin staff in charge of scheduling during tour proper would not list enough floor time, combined with unforeseen delays with housing arrivals. so the education staff would fight for more floor time.
- Our medical staff was phenomenal, took issues seriously, and I felt very taken care of the whole summer
- Our medical team was just one person, she was absolutely amazing, but felt like there should have been more people in the medical team rather than just one person. That's a lot of pressure and work for one person vs a whole corps. Finances are a thing and it's understandable, but there should be a solution to provide better wellness for the corps and play off all of the pressure onto one person
- The med team had less certifications than I do currently.
- they (admin and med staff) actively yelled at us and forced us back into rehearsal without screening us for injuries. med staff was selective with who could sit out and who was forced to rehearse through respiratory illnesses, cracked sternums, numerous definitely not concussions, and torn menisci. they tried to pressure mildly injured and chronically ill members to go home from day 1 even if their condition was well managed.
- They made me feel like I was faking my shin splints, would demonize you sitting out and call you out over the box to embarrass you, I tried sitting out once because my legs were swollen and one staff member threw KT tape at my face from the top of the box whenever I was at the bottom (it wasn't even enough) and forced me to March, they would always make you go back in whenever you weren't ready, and wouldn't even let you use the ice machine to get ice for your body.
- We had 2 athletic trainers and a on call doctor who all gave us their number to call/text them if we weren't feeling well or had a condition that needed treatment. If serious enough we would be at a local hospital within 20 minutes.

- We had no Covid cases!
- We had no medical team, which as a disabled member was hard for me. Our corps director claimed that it was due to legal issues with providing treatment etc
- When I got injured, the athletic trainer did everything. I didn't need a doctor

Transportation

Did your ensemble go on tour, within the state or across state lines?

- Yes, across state lines - 41 (84%)
- No - 4 (8%)
- Yes, within the state - 4 (8%)

Were your buses reliable (e.g., reasonably temperature controlled, did not break down often, serviced reliably)?

- Yes - 44 (90%)
- No - 5 (10%)

Did your corps arrange transportation for you during camp weekends? If yes, did you have to pay for that transportation?

- Did not need transportation (virtual camps) - 29 (59%)
- Yes, no extra cost - 10 (21%)
- No - 7 (14%)
- Yes, extra cost - 3 (6%)

If your corps did not arrange transportation for you during camp weekends, how did you get there?

- Picked up by another member - 7 (14%)
- Did not have camps - 6 (12%)
- I drove - 3 (6%)
- Public transit - 2 (4%)
- Plane - 1 (2%)

If you were provided transportation, did it feel safe?

- Yes - 30 (61%)
- No answer - 19 (39%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with transportation as a performer?

- I believe another bus from our corps that I wasn't on had issues, but was replaced.
- I was provided a shuttle from the airport to our housing site for pretour/moveins. It was a safe experience
- There was a night where me and the other two women in the front ensemble had to sleep on the floor with no mattress because the bus that broke down still had all of our stuff on it and we had no way to get it. We got 1.5 of floor time that night because the front ensemble had to wake up an hour earlier than everyone to unload. There were MANY nights on tour, almost all of them, where a bus broke down and by the time we got to the housing site it was already light outside.

Educational Climate

Was your working relationship with the educational staff reliably pleasant?

- Yes - 48 (98%)
- No - 1 (2%)

Did you feel like you received enough comments / critique from instructors?

- Yes - 45 (92%)
- No - 2 (4%)
- My instructors were exceptional - 1 (2%)

- Only ever got one comment and never a solution of how to fix it no matter how hard I tried - 1 (2%)

Did you have a different experience (positive or negative) with staff outside of your caption/section?

- Yes, positive experience - 33 (67%)
- No - 10 (21%)
- Yes, negative experience - 4 (8%)
- Not applicable to my situation - 2 (4%)

Did you ever feel unsafe in your educational climate?

- No - 46 (94%)
- Yes - 3 (6%)

What were the main motivating factors in your ensemble's rehearsals?

- Education/Learning - 43 (88%)
- Fun/Enjoyment - 42 (86%)
- Success - 42 (86%)
- Self-Growth - 41 (84%)
- Ensemble Culture - 33 (67%)
- Promise of Opportunities - 10 (20%)
- Social Status - 8 (16%)
- Shame/Guilt - 5 (10%)
- Fear - 3 (6%)
- Pain - 2 (4%)
- Money/Retaining Scholarships - 1 (2%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with educational climate as a performer?

- (I kinda touched on this on my last response.)
- Admin was severely sexist. And would try to relate to me being a woman by comparing me to their daughters. It was super weird
- Educational Staff would push you but it was always clear we had a number of options to take if we felt staff was going too far.
- I dont think fear was intentionally made a motivator, but when staff gives angry or aggressive reaction to mistakes, fear becomes the motivator. I do think this was just a natural emotional response when it happened- the intention was for success to be the motivator but could shift in unsuccessful rehearsals. I included shame, although this didnt involve singling out members- general comments about everyone contributing, one person can ruin the moment etc. I think intended to give individuals responsibility/ownership for their performance, but could come across as shaming- being the 1 guy who screws up the rep for everyone else.
- I LOVE THE STAFF.
- My personal experience with the education climate at my corps was great.
- Not enough attention given to struggling individuals
- The educational staff might have been one of the best parts of my summer
- The learning atmosphere greatly depended on whom was in front of us. My caption head used fear and shame to motivate but the rest of the guard staff was awesome
- There were a few staff members that were hard to approach and were not running rehearsal efficiently, but the vast majority of staff was amazing
- They talked a lot of crap about the members and even made bets on who was going to throw up first
- We had an incident where the housing site we were at the football team were harassing female members and even entered their housing area during a freeway. As soon as any staff found out our tour coordinator called the dean of the school and an investigation was launched and policy's changed where groups of 3 or more were required for females. (Often times this was after night block and plenty of male members/

admin would walk with or drive members to their dorms.) The members of said football team were expelled and those who stood by were given probation. It also happened again with the basketball team where similar consequences were given to the offending party. A meeting was had with all female members to notify staff immediately if they felt uncomfortable about any situation and that even minor things such as cat calling and things as such were important to report.

- We had problems with brass staff not showing up, or having conflicts which sucked. All the staff seem generally locked in with the corps culture of helping and uplifting each other, and making it seem like we're part of a community. They didn't say family like I've seen other groups, but community a lot. I like that more because it feels real, and like you have to have it.

Equity & Discrimination

Are you a member of a marginalized community?

- Yes - 32 (65%)
- No - 17 (35%)

If you are comfortable, please let us know which communities you belong to:

- My sexual orientation is marginalized - 26 (53%)
- I have a disability - 12 (24%)
- My sex is marginalized - 11 (22%)
- I am racially/ethnically marginalized - 11 (22%)
- I am gender marginalized - 8 (16%)
- I am marginalized because of my socioeconomic status - 6 (12%)
- I am plus size and/or marginalized because of my body type - 5 (10%)
- I am outside the average age of my ensemble (younger or older) - 3 (6%)
- I am a member of a marginalized religion (relative to North America) - 1 (2%)

If you checked any of the above, did you feel reasonably safe during your time as a performer?

- Yes - 31 (63%)
- No - 2 (4%)
- I did feel safe. It is just that a very large number of people don't understand some disabilities or would accept the stereotypes that come with them
- It varied at times due to the status quo of skinny white boys
- Kind of, they really weren't prepared for disabled members. They didn't exactly discriminate but they didn't understand

Have you ever witnessed or experienced instances of discrimination or harassment based on the following?

- Gender identity - 9 (18%)
- Sex - 8 (16%)
- Sexual orientation - 7 (14%)
- Body size - 7 (14%)
- Race/ethnicity/national origin - 6 (12%)
- Age - 4 (8%)
- Disability status - 3 (6%)
- Religion - 1 (2%)

Who were these instances of discrimination/harassment carried out by?

- Members - 19 (39%)
- Staff - 8 (16%)
- None - 6 (12%)
- Admin - 3 (6%)
- Directors - 2 (4%)

- Alumni - 2 (4%)
- Bus drivers - 1 (2%)
- Volunteers - 1 (2%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with equity or discrimination as a performer?

- A member from a different section left before tour because one of her staff members threatened to call her by her "real name."
- A member was thrown out of the corps for racist remarks
- A member who was openly racist towards a POC member was kicked out. My corps took issues like these very seriously
- Any discrimination was very small and not meant to hurt. All situations were talked out and squashed by the end of the season
- As a woman I often felt left out. I got along with everyone very well but the other members would leave us out of things (like group chats) and say "oh it was just for the boys". In some instances the men felt like they did not want to be friends with us for no reason other than that we were girls.
- I didn't see any discrimination or hear anyone talking bad about us. Our group has lots of black, gay, Latino, and biracial members and staff plus all of our directors are minorities, along with all of our caption heads being black or women. All the brass staff were black and from black colleges which was kind of cool. The drum caption was a woman, and our snare tech marched we a hbcu, while our bass tech is from a working class background and just loves to play and teach. It just seems like everyone gets along and that stuff didn't happen or maybe I didn't see it?
- It wasn't necessarily targeted harassment, but it was consistent misgendering
- Just want to shout out my corps for getting rid of the "separated by gender" sleeping area thing and adding a third-option shower time for members/staff who didn't feel comfortable in "female" or "male" showers. It didn't technically personally affect me as I am cis but I know that it really made our trans/enby/genderqueer members a lot more comfortable.
- Lots of gay jokes and if they found out you were gay it was the only thing people would talk about. You couldn't be a person outside of your gayness. Lots of sexist comments like "my pussy hurts so I can't..." and often negative association of being compared to a woman if you did something bad. Very obviously assumed I couldn't do much bc of my presenting (female) gender even though I'm NB
- That rule DCI has about needing a medical team really needs to be enforced. That was my only issue this season really
- The corps was very inclusive to everyone and I felt very included and would help to make sure others felt included
- The staff made fun of the bigger sized people for being slow and throwing up during block
- There was one member in particular made insensitive comments but once the admin found out they were sent home so I think the corps handled a bad situation well
- There were only three women total in the entire percussion section. Because the pit had to load the truck during EPL and they staggered showers by gender, there were MULTIPLE occasions in which I and the other female in the pit did not get to shower at all. Pit also missed meals because loading time wasn't properly scheduled into EPL with when the kitchen truck/crew had to pack up.
- Two people in specific within the membership were very toxic. Many racist, sexist, xenophobic, etc. comments were made by them, such as calling guard members fat, saying the N word with a hard R even though they were white, making fun of LBTQ+ membership, etc.
- Was great, very including community.

Whistleblower Support

Do you trust the whistleblower process that your organization has in place?

- Yes - 42 (86%)
- No - 7 (14%)

Did your staff/admin walk you through the whistleblower process?

- Yes - 33 (67%)
- No - 16 (33%)

If you have submitted a complaint, was it followed up with to your satisfaction?

- 10 responses
- No - 5 (50%)
- Yes - 5 (50%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with whistleblowing processes as a performer?

- didn't need it at this corps thank god!!!
- From the beginning there was a large selection of avenues for a member to take in regards to whistleblowing, including a mention of this organization [MAASIN].
- I marched with my abuser and admin knew 100%, yet nothing was ever done
- I wish it would be brought up more often to make it comfortable for the members to use rather than just be introduced to it on the beginning and then never talked about again
- never submitted one
- They read it to us at a virtual camp once or twice. Then said just talk to the director; no judgement. If you don't want to talk to them, then here are some parent advocates.
- This girl sent a complaint about a staff member being creepy. She was told that he would be blacklisted. He then was still working that next weekend.

Financial Accessibility

Does your group provide a means to work/"volunteer" to reduce participation fees?

- No - 27 (55%)
- Yes - 22 (45%)

Did your group provide payment plans for members on an as-needed basis?

- Yes - 35 (71%)
- Not sure - 14 (29%)

Does your group provide and/or circulate scholarship opportunities for members?

- Yes - 45 (92%)
- No - 4 (8%)

If scholarship opportunities were provided, were they a deciding factor in your ability to march or selection of the corps you marched?

- No - 42 (86%)
- Yes - 7 (14%)

Did you receive a scholarship or financial aid from other organizations or opportunities outside of your ensemble?

- No - 45 (92%)
- Scholarship from the corps - 2 (4%)
- Don Warren Scholarship Recipient 2021 - 1 (2%)
- MAASIN - 1 (2%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with financial accessibility as a performer?

- DCI Scholarships not being announced until finals made it EXTREMELY difficult to cover costs and meet corps deadlines. What's the point of getting a scholarship if you have to pay the fees first?

- I will not be able to continue marching because of finances. I was only able to march this year due to the lowered tour fees of the shortened season
- I'm blown away by how cheap they work to make it. Sometimes you can tell that we need more money; we use older equipment, and our trailer is old as dirt, but not one seems to care. I remember seeing a director welding a frame for a member during rehearsal over the summer. It was crazy. They really work hard to keep it super cheap. They also make you feel like it's ok to ask for help. No stigma for asking for a scholarship which made me feel really good.
- I'm very grateful for the scholarships & payment plan opportunities I received. I would've never been able to march without them, & I hope they become more available across DCI so more students from low-income families can have these opportunities.
- If I did not have reduced fees from the member I filled the hole for already paying, I wouldn't have been able to march. I can't march this next summer because of how insane the fees PLUS EXTRA COSTS are.
- Just concerned with rising costs, I don't know if I would've ever auditioned if fees were as high as they are now when I started- and my first time was Dec 2017, upcoming season is over \$5k. I included that complaint in my end of year member survey as well. This complaint applies to pretty much every world class corps and most open though I'd imagine, not corps specific.
- They were very supportive and helpful in providing scholarships to the members in helping the members be able to march.

General DCI Experience Questions

Were you provided housing during rehearsal periods (ex: camps, move-ins, tour)?

- Yes for Move-in - 44 (90%)
- Yes for Tour - 43 (88%)
- Yes for Camps - 22 (45%)
- Does not apply/virtual rehearsals - 12 (24%)
- No for Camps - 8 (16%)
- No for Move-ins - 1 (2%)
- No for Tour - 1 (2%)

If your ensemble held virtual rehearsals, how did that impact your experience?

- All of our camp rehearsals were virtual. Obviously this was difficult to hold a camp over with so many problems and other factors in place, so what they tried to do instead was just have us recording ourselves practicing or submitting recordings of ourselves on some kind of practicing app so that the staff along with the members could see and give feedback to each other.
- At first it was strange because you were practicing alone or with your small group. It felt like you weren't getting better and just going through the motions. But it just took time for the practice to start to show. Eventually we had move-ins and I felt like I got a lot better.
- During the virtual camps, I found a parking lot and practiced alone, that was very challenging to get better with only hearing myself
- For the time it made my life easier
- High anxiety bc I had to play everything down the line
- I had difficulty getting reliable internet in a place where I could march/exercise without bothering apartment building neighbors. Battery on laptop was also an issue even for 4 hr camps.
- I was concerned that it would hinder ensemble growth, but the amount of individual feedback I got was astounding!
- I wasn't apart of the corps whenever they were virtual
- I'm glad I was able to bond with members early before our season began.
- It hurt and kinda helped. Like if we didn't have virtual rehearsals we would have been worse, but by having virtual rehearsals it was really hard to teach visual or play together. They did cool things like have corps virtual movie night, and game nights which was cool.
- It made me better realize how out of shape I was
- It was a great way to start getting on the same page about procedure and techniques
- It was a little more difficult to learn choreography but the staff overall did a great job

- it was great
- It was honestly better on my wallet and brain
- It was very difficult to learn my music virtually and to learn to grow without knowing what im doing right and wrong and not being able to see in person how to properly play my music especially from me who had little experience in my instrument.
- Seemed like they did the best they could given the challenges. Some great guest speakers!
- Standards were not set in place when we moved in. I could tell it was different from other seasons because people didn't know how to act or what to do. Also we all went into spring training not really knowing each other.
- The expectation was we knew the music and were able to play it somewhat confidently so that when we showed up to move ins we would focus on drill and cleaning.
- They honestly suck but there was only one of them about 3 weeks before move ins so it wasn't too bad
- They were annoying but by no fault of the corps
- Virtual camps made drum corps financially possible, as plane tickets rack up exponentially.
- Virtual rehearsals were very good, our particular captionhead had home recording experience and was very familiar with his equipment as well as our video conference software.
- Virtual rehearsals, even when done very well, are not very educational
- We held virtual rehearsals up until moving in for spring training. I think it definitely made things more difficult in terms of not just learning the show but also getting to know people before you are thrown into a full 6 weeks of spending time with them and only them.
- Went well, helped with music preparedness without paying to travel all the way to Texas from minnesota
- Would have preferred in-person 100% of the time. Couldn't accomplish as much.
- Zoom rehearsals suck and everyone agreed on that but the cymbal staff was very understanding and only did zoom when we needed to

Did housing cost extra \$ on top of your member fees?

- No - 47 (96%)
- Yes - 2 (4%)

If housing was provided, were you satisfied with it?

- Yes - 46 (94%)
- No - 3 (6%)

Did you feel safe in the housing that was provided?

- Yes - 43 (88%)
- No - 1 (2%)
- We had one instance with an outside party. It was handled immediately and policies were put in to place to keep us safe and prevent it from happening again (ex. Buddy systems throughout the corps, police presence)
- The first school we stayed at (for about 1 month) had a cockroach infestation. Other than that everything was fine
- Some sites were considerably better than others
- Some housing places were very questionable and did not have the sanitary qualities for the members
- My host was mean 😏😏😏 but i never felt unsafe

If housing was not provided, where did you stay?

- 8 responses
- Housed with another member - 5 (63%)
- Your own house/apt - 3 (37%)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with housing?

- DCI needs to provide better housing options for smaller corps because finals week was not the greatest for us, but it's what they could provide
- I had to stay with a friend a night before move ins officially started due to some scheduling conflicts with my ride.
- I think the corps should work to provide housing for out of town. Not sure how they do it without charging more but it would make it easier for some people.
- No quarantine for sick- I slept in the lobby for most of move ins bc my roommate had an infection
- There were two gyms and the girls had their own gym while guys and non-binary individuals shared the other gym. Despite a bunch of people being dissatisfied with that I think it was the best call for the age range of the group
- We stayed at a College in dorms where the first 2 weeks we ate out of the colleges cafeteria free of charge.

What was your tour job?

- Prop Crew - 12 (24%)
- Scaffolding Crew - 11 (22%)
- Bus Loading - 9 (18%)
- Food truck Crew/Kitchen Crew - 6 (12%)
- Field Lining/Paint Crew - 5 (10%)
- Gym Cleaning/Bathroom Cleaning Crew - 3 (6%)
- Truck Loading/ATV Crew - 3 (6%)
- Front ensemble loading - 3 (6%)
- Guard loading - 2 (4%)
- Field Cleaning - 1 (2%)
- Ice crew - 1 (2%)
- Water crew - 1 (2%)

Did your tour job have a significantly positive impact on your experience?

- Yes - 31 (63%)
 - Includes: Prop Crew (8), Bus Loading (7), Truck Loading/ATV Crew (6), Scaffolding Crew (4), Front ensemble (3), Gym Cleaning/Bathroom Cleaning Crew (2), Field Lining/Paint Crew (2), Food truck Crew/Kitchen Crew (2), Guard loading (2), Field Cleaning (1), Water Crew (1)
- No - 18 (37%)
 - Includes: Prop Crew (4), Food truck Crew/Kitchen Crew (4), Bus Loading (3), Field Lining/Paint Crew (3), Scaffolding Crew (3), Truck Loading/ATV Crew (2), Gym Cleaning/Bathroom Cleaning (1), Ice crew (1)

Do you have anything else you would like to disclose about your experience with your tour job?

- bus loading is objectively the best tour job
- Everyone had a job except the guard. That sucked; they would just disappear when it came time to load.
- field lining sucks
- Front Ensemble ended up doing the jobs of several other sections with no negative impact on their part. Our section being hard-working and mature was definitely taken advantage of (doing food crew, loading the bus and truck, taking care of all of the props, not having time to eat because other members in those crews would just not show up) and this issue was never handled much by the staff.
- I learned a lot about marching, spacing, and other higher level concepts I never would have thought of because of field lining
- I think I had one of the easiest tour jobs bc I had to do it only for show days and the people I did it with were awesome so it was alot of fun
- I thought prop crew was really good bonding time with other members, in addition to taking pride in speed and quality of prop builds.
- I was co-captain of the crew because I was one of the two people in the corps who knew how to do it

- It was a mess with the section leaders. A lot of drama and it took way longer than it needed to to unload and load. At made a negative impact on me in the season.
- It wasn't bad, I just didn't like doing it lol
- Negative experience, our crew leader was not a nice guy and acted like it was my fault for him being disorganized
- People decided to just not do it and then yelled at me for doing their work?
- Switched from bathroom cleaning to loading because member leadership thought I was more efficient within loading.
- We had to wake up early for field lining during tour so we weren't able to get adequate sleep.

If there is anything else you would like to disclose, please use this space to do so. Please leave your contact information if you would like MAASIN to follow up regarding your response(s).

- Disabilities in the marching arts really need to be discussed and accommodated for. Over my five years I've been through some really horrible stuff due to my disability, including before I knew I had it.
- I had a really great summer :)
- I enjoyed my experience with [REDACTED] and this summer was by far the best one I have ever marched!
- In general my experience was positive, however I am not a member of a marginalized community and it's clear at least two members had taken a part in the harassment of people in marginalized communities.
- Just some final thoughts - I marched [REDACTED] this past summer and honestly the reason I decided to go there was because of what I had heard about their incredible member experience and how they took care of their students. Even with all the COVID protocols and typical logistical issues of a drum corps season I was not even a little bit disappointed. We were incredibly well taken care of, we were listened to when we had concerns (big shoutout to [REDACTED]) and our health and safety was always the number one priority.
- Just that I wish more people considered DCA, or realize they can march drum corps. I didn't think I could do it but they got me at a virtual rehearsal and it just felt good to be in a group again. We struggled all season to be honest and I wish we had more members. I just don't know why we don't because the staff is good, it's so cheap, and we get to do DCA and compete in DCI which is awesome. Being on the field for the DCI Celebration was a once in a lifetime thing for me because there isn't any way I can afford to do DCI or DCA.
- Loved every minute of my experience!
- My personal experience this past summer was very good. We had freeways every Sunday and Monday morning off. Staff were always friendly and those who were Injured that ATs said couldn't march would get transportation to meal breaks/rehearsal area via admin. The general experience was always we showed up ready to go or and everything else was taken care for us. We had weekly testing for covid and only got sick due to a children church camp sharing our housing site. Even then ATs and Admins did their best to try and quarantine those who were sick even as much to bring them food and Gatorade. On one occasion I was sick and overslept past lunch and was given food from a local restaurant. Again my experience was as a front ensemble member but overall I got along with the brass and some color guard members where they had similar experiences.
- Overall I hade a great tour experience over the summer, especially for my rookie year
- We had a homophobic/transphobic member who was eventually removed