



PRESS RELEASE

From the BYBA Communications Office

BYBA and MPAUK enter Strategic Partnership

The British Youth Band Association (BYBA) and Marching & Performing Arts United Kingdom (MPA-UK), representing both Drum Corps United Kingdom (DCUK) and Winterguard United Kingdom (WGUK), are pleased to announce that, following the first official meeting between the two organisations, a new Strategic Partnership has been formed to ensure, following the successful Europe wide talks that have taken place, we are able to provide a coherent and structured focus for the UK activity.

Whilst these initial talks were fairly informal, discussions did take place about season dates, collaborations and ensuring that every effort is made to ensure barriers are not put in the way forcing performing units to make a choice about which direction they take but still allowing units to decide how best to plan their own seasons.

Both organisations have a history totaling over half a century and are proud of their separate heritages but are committed to working together to benefit the activity. Further meetings are being planned for the New Year.

Commenting on the Partnership Tony Patrick, BYBA Chairman notes "for as long as I can recall there has been collaboration of some kind between the British Youth Band Association and members of the Marching and Performing Arts UK subsidiaries, especially Drum Corps United Kingdom, where good ideas have been shared for the benefit of all members. This step starts the journey towards solidifying much of that good work, and I look forward to a strong period for Marching Bands and Drum Corps here in the United Kingdom as a result"

The British Youth Band Association - Registered Educational Charity Number 277591

For further information on this Press Release or any other BYBA information visit our Web Site at www.byba.org.uk or contact communications@byba.org.uk