**Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band Selected to represent OHIO in the 2015 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C.**

The National Memorial Day Parade Selection Committee has accepted the **OHIO STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND MARCHING BAND** as an official representative of the State of **OHIO** in the **2015 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C.** This acceptance is a result of the very high recommendations of their band program.

The parade on Constitution Avenue between 7th and 17th streets passes alongside the National Mall, the Washington Monument and the White House in a magnificent salute to America’s Veterans and in honor of those who died in defense of our country. It is featured on local, national and international television.

The parade consists of select marching bands and veteran units from each of the 50 states honoring World War I, War World II, The Korean and Vietnam Conflicts, Desert Storm, and the liberation of Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan. Included with the many veterans in the parade are tributes to earlier eras of American military history, including re-enactor units representing the American Revolution, War of 1812, Civil War and Spanish-American War along with fife and drum corps and bagpipers. Large patriotic floats and helium filled balloons are also part of the procession. More than 10,000 participants take part in the parade each year.

August 2014 marks the 10th year for the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band! The band is working to raise $30,000 to cover the cost of the trip.

**Donations in the form of checks made out to “OSSB PTSF” with “music department” in the subject line can be mailed to**

**Jim Peterfish**
**OSSB PTSF Treasurer**
**5220 N. High Street**
**Columbus, OH 43214**

The OSSB Marching Band is the only blind marching band in the world and its members come from all over the state of Ohio. The nationally recognized band, under the leadership of Director and Founder Carol Agler, drill writer Jeff Schneider and Music Assistant Yolanda Johnson is known for their ability to both entertain and inspire.  September 21, 2014 at the OSU v FAMU football game they joined The Ohio State University Marching Band in a “Double Ohio” drill during halftime.  OSUMB performed Script Ohio while OSSBMB performed their signature drill Script Braille Ohio, uncoiling to form “Ohio” in Braille.

OSSBMB was awarded the prestigious “Creative Use of Braille” award by the American Printing House for the Blind (AMP) in October, 2013, for the use of Braille in their signature drill. The band marched in the Jan. 1, 2010 Tournament of Roses Parade, and was awarded the prestigious **National Citation** by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity for their many achievements and for opening the eyes of their community by creating new standards of excellence for persons with disabilities.