



Off the Rails

Fannin Musical Productions

Since the days of steam, going 'off the rails' has meant to have an experience that is intensely powerful, thrilling, and maybe just a little wild. Fannin Musical Productions has captured that energy in a show that sends the audience careening down the tracks by way of original compositions, a wildly unexpected arrangement of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, and a final arrival at the embodiment of going off the rails, *Crazy Train*. Take your students, audiences, and judges for a ride they're certain not to forget!

Off the Rails is part of the Complete Concept Series, which includes a detailed storyboard and optional sound design.

Copyright permission is required for this show.

Set Design



The set design for *Off the Rails* is immediately evocative of the Old West, establishing a clear theme and mood from the moment you enter the field. A smartly designed set of props closes down the performance space, providing the ideal environment for a smaller ensemble to create a huge stage presence. High-quality, Corps Design frames are available for sideline screens and backdrops from our partners at [Total Visual Design](https://www.totalvisualdesign.com/), or the graphics can be adjusted to fit your pre-existing, or DIY frames.





Front field, Side B, sideline screens, printed with the gears and steam of the 'iron horse' itself, setting the tone while simultaneously providing a place for clean, elegant color guard equipment changes.

Similarly, on Side A another small backdrop creates a 'train station' staging area for our train to arrive, and the ideal area to features soloists and small ensembles.





...and finally, backstage, another set of backdrops portrays a classic Western locomotive, barreling down printed tarp 'tracks' as the show's momentum builds.

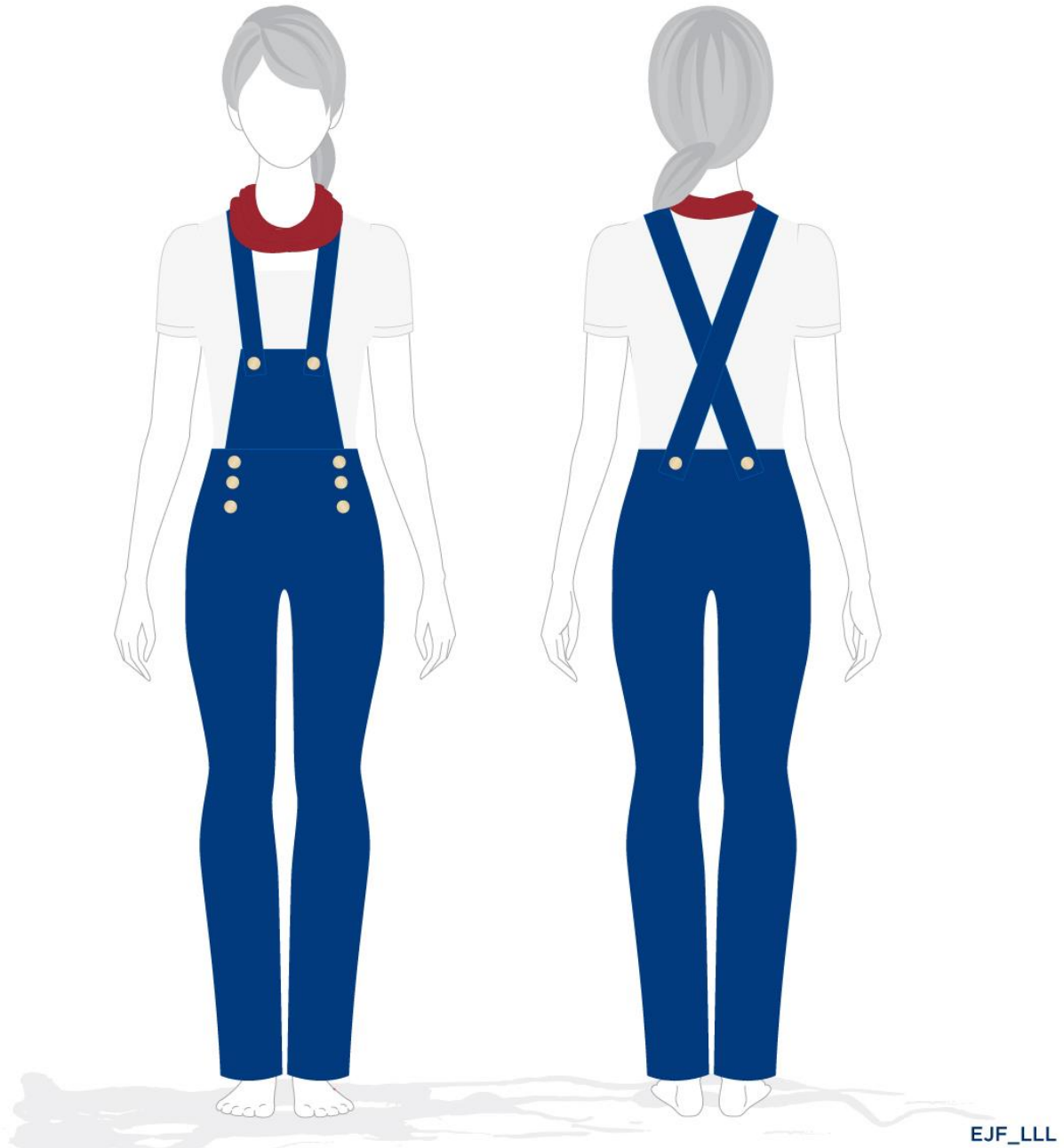
Guard Design

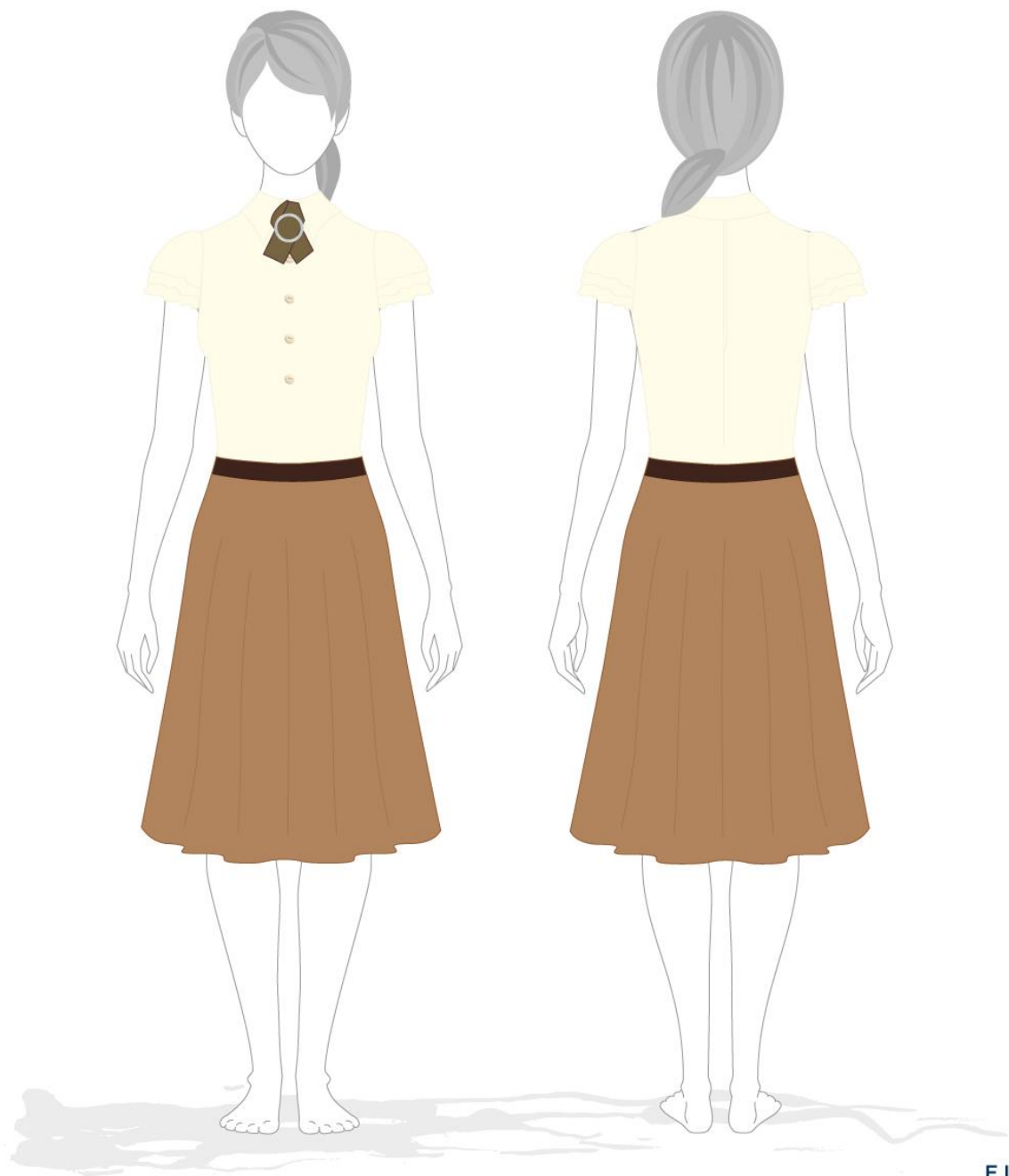


BAND SHOPPE® GUARD UNIFORM DESIGN FOR

JFM - Off the Rails

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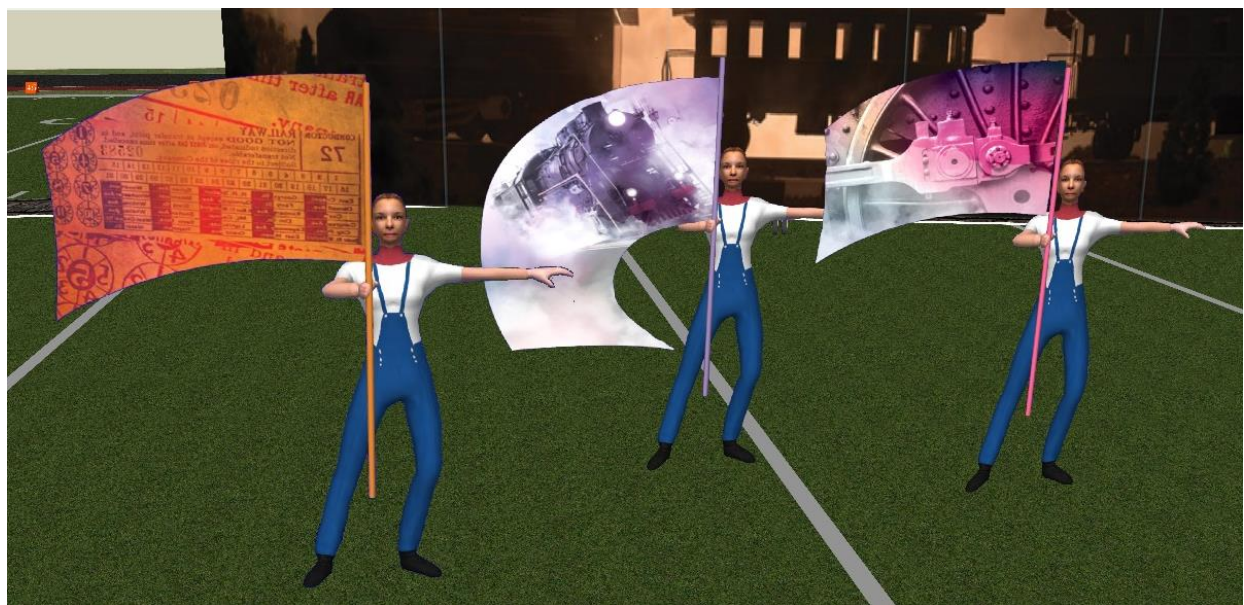
COLORS USED

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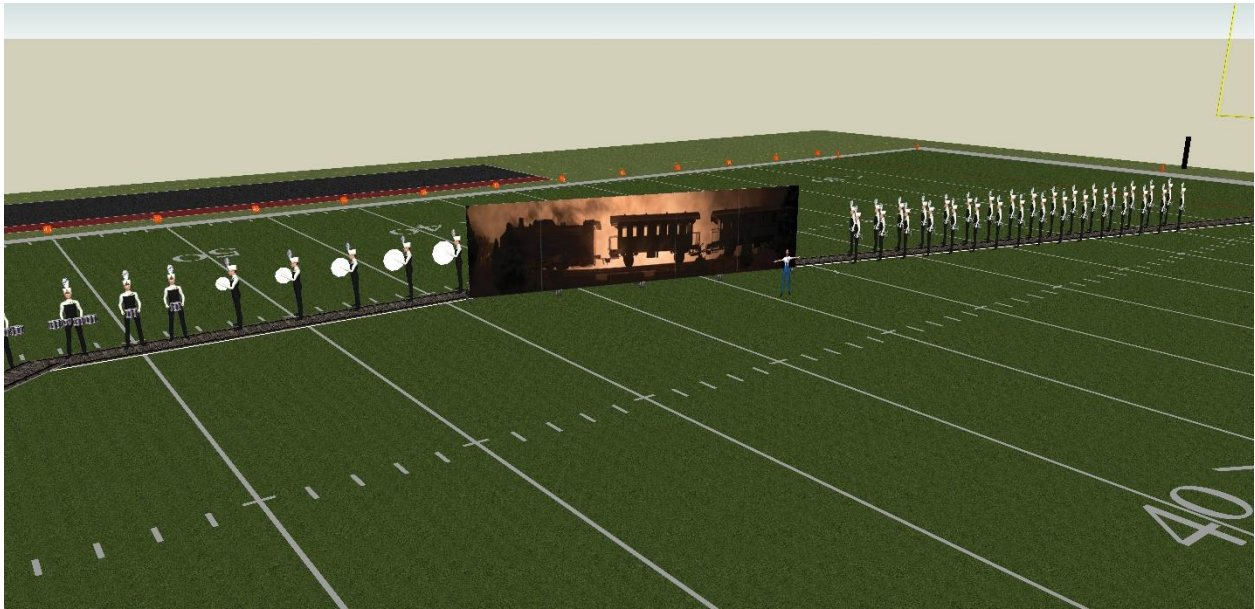


For *Off the Rails*, our partners at Band Shoppe have created three color guard costuming options, each based on the sort of folks who might meet on a steam locomotive: engineer, passenger, engineer. Choose which best fits your color guard's personality, or larger color guards may wish to mix and match to portray a full storyline.

For flag silks, Sara Solomonson of Solomonson Creative has designed a set of three which are connected to her beautiful prop graphics via imagery but will contrast pleasingly in color for maximum impact.



Movement 1 Effects



As *Off the Rails* opens, the musical ensemble begins on the tracks, literalizing the show theme and beginning our journey. The guard begins to introduce our first silk, base on 19th century train schedules and tokens .

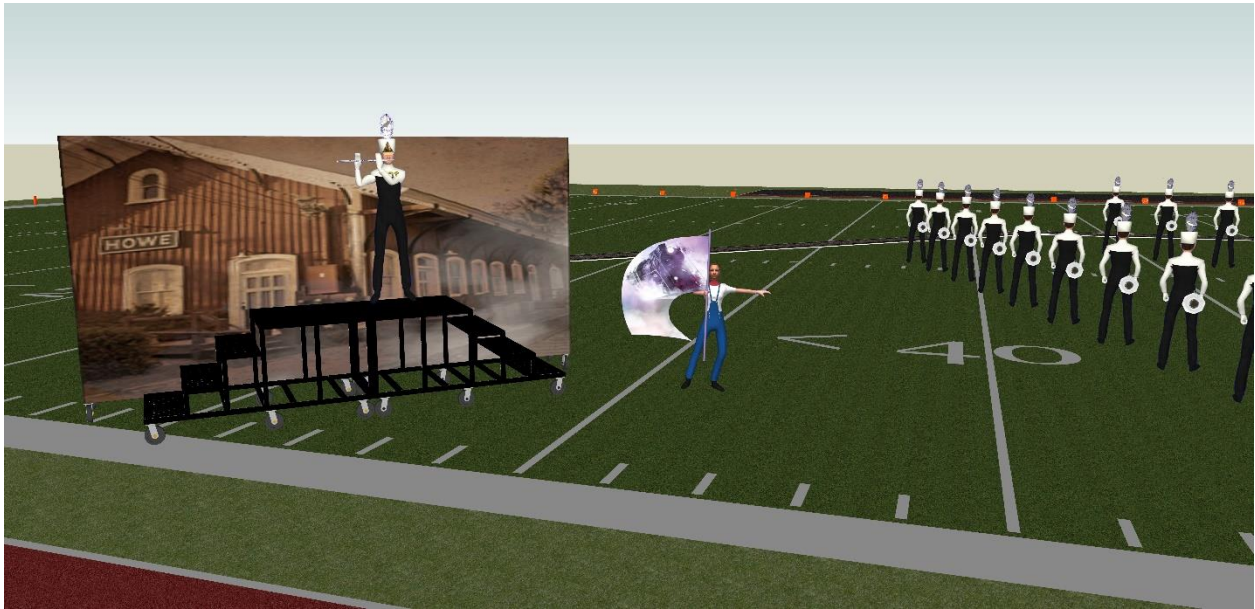




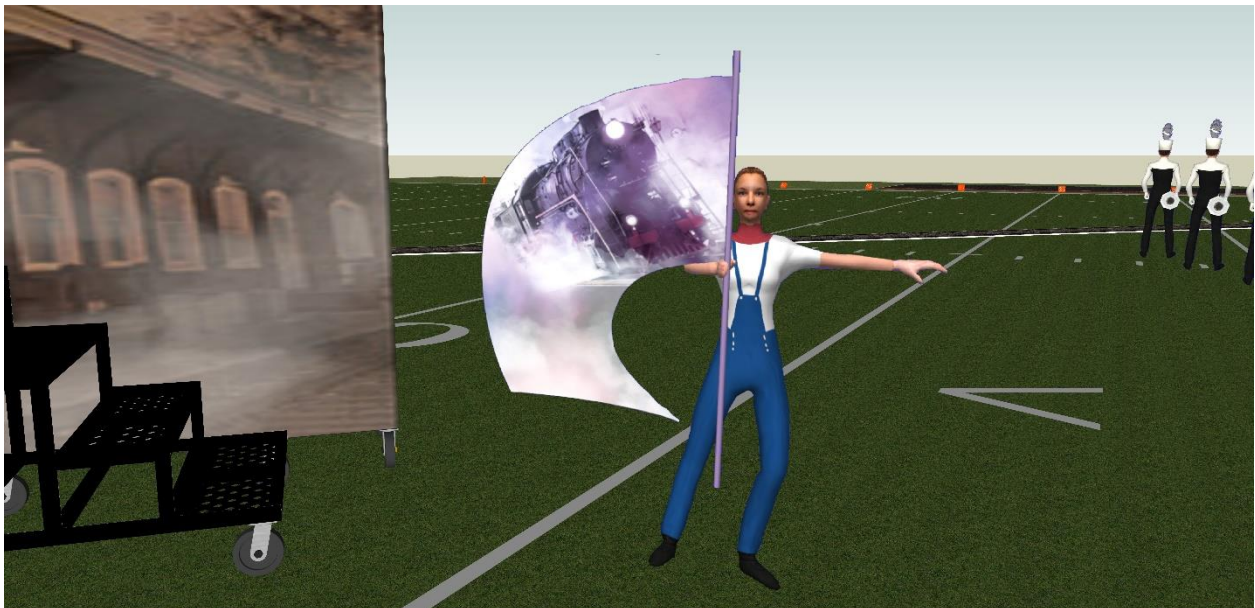
The musical ideas continue to develop throughout this movement, providing integrated opportunities for individual elements of the ensemble to shine, such as a thrilling woodwind-lead moment illustrated above. More and more energy is developed, propelling the movement to its exciting, fully-ensemble conclusion.



Movement 2 Effects

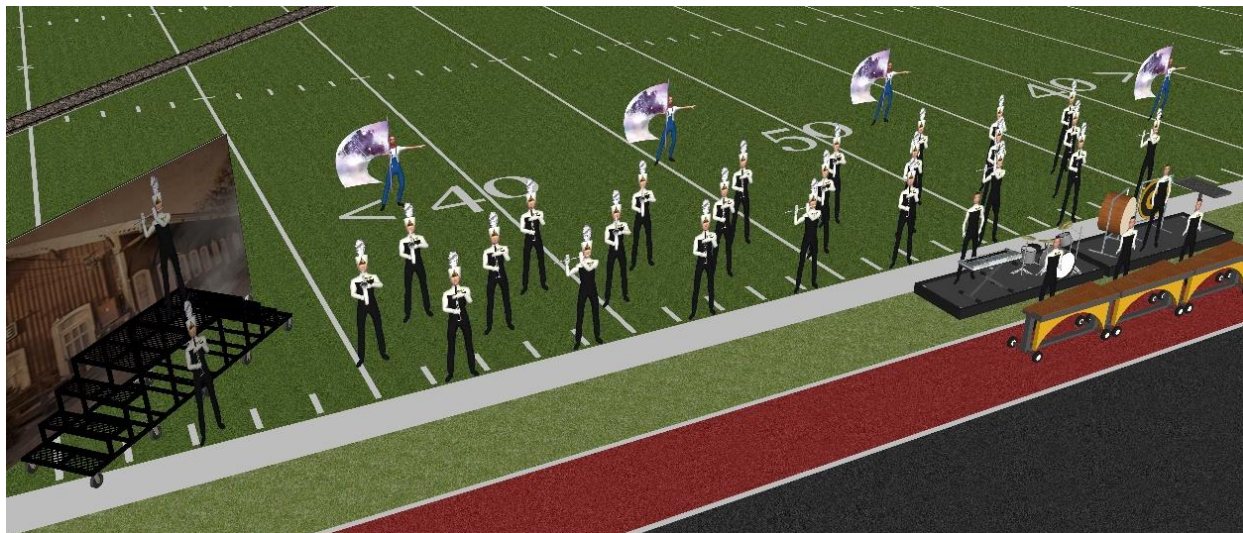


Movement 2 is perhaps the most intriguing part of *Off the Rails*, a surprising and incredibly clever arrangement of “Chattanooga Choo Choo” which renders the classic pop tune as a lyrical, haunting ballad. It opens with an opportunity to feature one of your finest performers with a solo—sketched here as a flute but adaptable for your needs—which sets the mood for the rest of your students to join. Meanwhile, the color guard introduces a dramatic, sweeping swing flag whose new color palette enhances that musical mood.





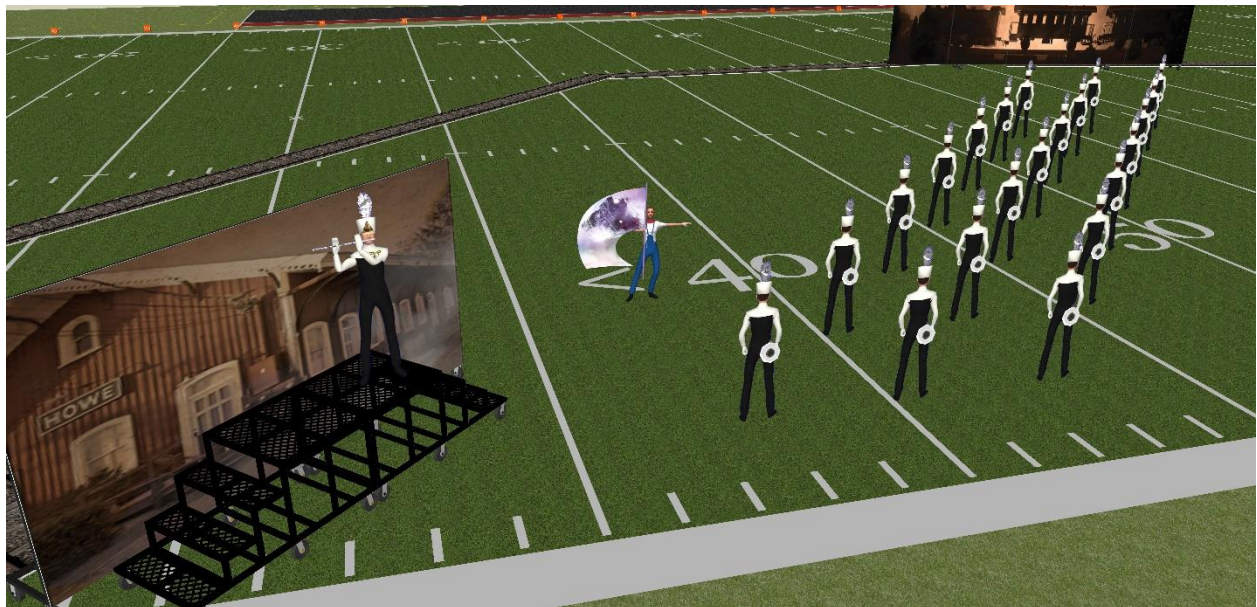
From the original solo, the spotlight expands: first to include a duet partner [again, adaptable to your instrumentation needs] and then to include the entire woodwinds section.



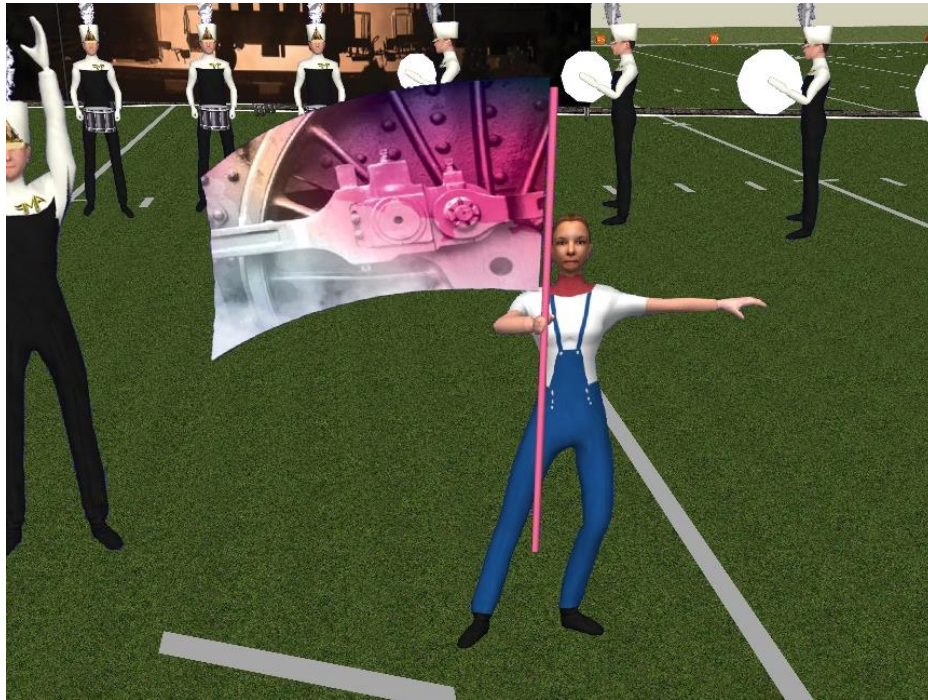


Soon, the full-ensemble creates a lush, gorgeous musical moment at the arrival point of the movement, perfectly matched by the swing flags which fill the field with color—a sure applause moment for your students to enjoy.

...and then, subtly, the melodic idea is passed back to the soloist who sets up for the exciting finish of this production.



Movement 3 Effects

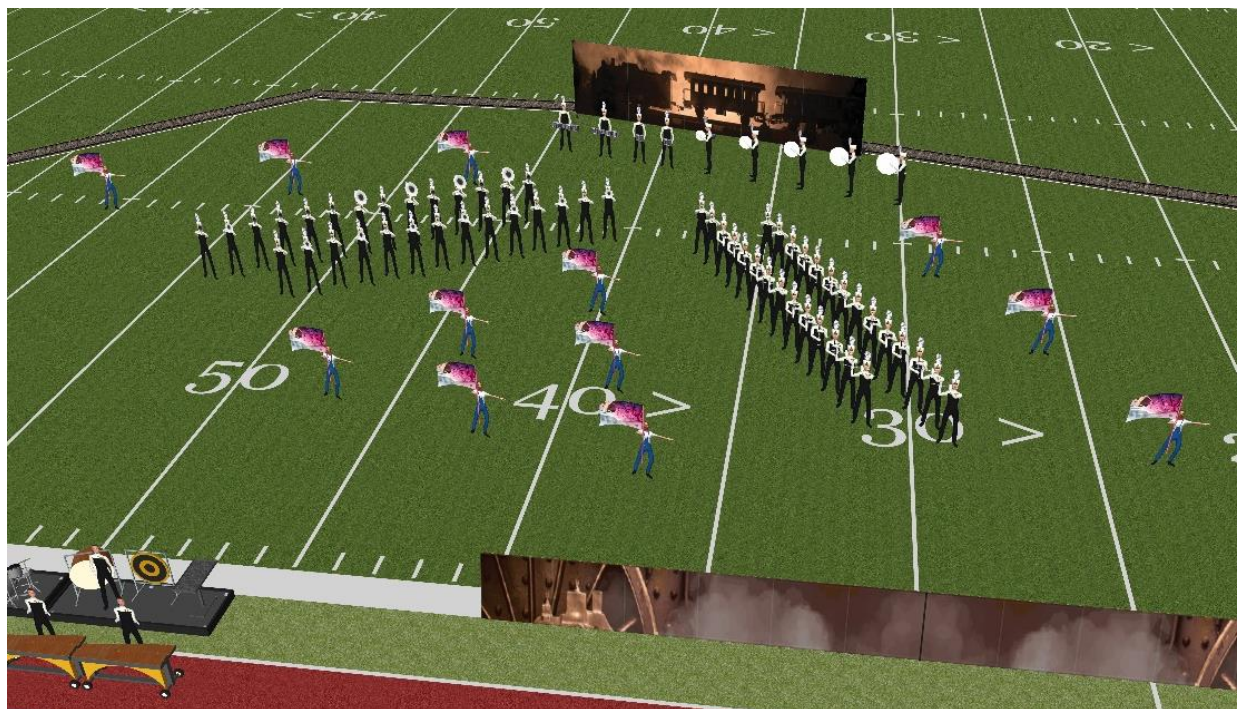


Having pulled from the station and gone barreling down the tracks, *Off the Rails* finally reaches full bore, no holds barred excitement in the third movement, an infectious and musically clever take on “Crazy Train.” The guard signals the mood switch immediately with the introduction of our final silk, a bright, eye-popping take on the sideline screen graphics. The percussion introduces the musical motif while the hornline builds up to a fake out musical arrival point with fun choreography to match Ozzy’s famous cries that open “Crazy Train.” The low brass then introduces one of the most iconic motifs in rock and roll and the crowd is sure to be rocking along!





The drill and guard work conspire with the musical arrangements to create more and more energy, using contrary motion to drive the excitement ever higher... finally bursting forth in a full-on, let-loose, 'mojo' moment where the main theme is taken up by the entire ensemble.





Off the Rails concludes with the kind of thoroughly integrated, all-pistons firing moment that will make both audiences and judges rave —and which your students will love performing. A classic theme—with a twist—with smart arranging and design to elevate your students to the rock stars they are... *Off the Rails* is a show not to be missed!

Fin.

Created with Pyware 3D®

