As a judgement for anything that has the power to move through consequence, we’re voting for plural structure. By submitting a vote for the nature of the activity we’re nurturing our own dreams. This past off season, I’ve had many life changing experiences, the largest one being separating my own mental barriers in context of inferiority: being personable with the emotions that drive you to succeed. But throughout my years marching Carolina Crown Rena Morton gave me the opportunity to breach my dreams by first creating adequate honor.

It’s always most difficult to look into a face that gives you twice as much honor back. Rena saw me through the most important breakthrough, and that would be the kind of being a sister again. She shows her strength by not negotiating the means in which we rise to challenges but the terms we make for one another. She knows she loves the organization but commits herself to loving the people more.

Rena in her own way inspired me to take the classes I wanted this semester. These classes didn’t apply to any real degree in context of necessity, but she prides herself in reaching for the chance of a lifetime: and that’s being excellent. Believing that in your own mind that you’re qualified to forgive doesn’t make you a sister; believing that forgiveness is already established makes you family. Both on and off the volunteer spectrum she’s been more than there to remind me how blessed I am.

It’s my honor to submit my vote for Rena Morton to be inducted into the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame in celebration to a successful 30 years of loving the same. Thank you all for the many years of dedication. In my Mind.

Megan Dolan; Hebrews 11
Crown Alum

I feel Ms. Rena Martin should be a hall of fame because of her love of Crown and all that she has done for the organization over the years and the members. She has my vote a million times over

Tammie Dorn
Crown volunteer

I was very pleased to see Rena Morton as one of the nominees for the Crown Hall of Fame this year.

When I think of Carolina Crown, I think of Rena. As a mom who had never done anything like this before and had no idea what I had signed up for, she took me under her wing and made me feel welcome. My daughter wanted me to be there, which was why I signed up. But drum corps was totally foreign to me and what had to be done to feed the masses was beyond my
comprehension. Rena showed me what to do and how to do it. She also helped me to have a love and loyalty not just to something my daughter was doing, but to Crown the organization. A love and loyalty that lasts to this day – long after my daughter has moved on.

Two days into my two-week stint, the young man who was in charge of the food truck left due to a family emergency. And Rena stepped up and things kept running smoothly with no hiccups. We fed the masses, kept the food truck clean and took time to watch the kids. Rena was an organized and thoughtful planner. We did as much as possible before the heat of the day and she made sure each of us had a little down time to shower and rest before the dinner rush, clean up and pack up. And out of kindness, she would send me outside to have 5 or 10 minutes with my daughter during dinner - if it was possible. Rena had the ability to keep a lot of different personalities working well together for 18 hours in a hot food truck - not an easy task. But as she said, it is about the kids, not about us.

But more than the food truck experience, I learned from Rena that the Crown organization as a whole was dedicated to taking care of the kids. I had heard too many horror stories of drum corps not feeding their kids well. And not taking care of equipment - which could be a safety issue. But Rena assured me that Crown would not put a corps on the road without the financial support needed.

Rena is one of those people who has worked for the good of Crown for years, on the board and with the kids and behind the scenes. She doesn't do it for applause. She does it for the betterment of the whole organization. And because she truly loves the kids. I cannot think of a more deserving person to be a part of the Crown Hall of Fame. And I hope to see her named to that honor this year.

Sincerely,
Jerrie N. King
120 Cottonwood Circle
Franklin TN 37069
615-790-8038
fourchocolate@gmail.com
Crown mom 2005
Crown food truck 2005 – 2008

Dear Hall of Fame Committee;
I would like to submit my support for Joe Rosemond for the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

Joe has had a very long history with the organization. Some of you may of know that for a short while Joe was an employee and worked to build community awareness and garner support for the then fledgling Carolina Crown.
In recent years, Joe has served as Contest Director for NightBEAT and has been a key member of the team in making sure that our largest fundraiser is run as smoothly as it can possibly be run. It is a thankless job that Joe has done for many, many years.

I believe that Joe's lengthy and continued involvement for decades has had a long and profound impact on the success that we enjoy today.

I urge you to join me in voting for Joe Rosemond.

Thank you.
Andrew Crews
Crown HOF Member

I would like to nominate Rena Morton for the Crown Hall of Fame.

Our family is fairly new to the world of DCI. We didn't even know it existed until our son went to a summer symposium camp in Muncie, 2012, and met the members of Crown. Tim auditioned the next year, and our family jumped in with both feet to the exciting world of Carolina Crown. Tom went along as the handy man/mechanic that summer and is still volunteering to this day.

One of the first, and most helpful, people I met at finals was Rena. She gave me a pin to wear going along with the show theme. She made sure I knew how things worked with the shows and practice sites and times. I had quite a few newbie questions that she patiently answered. Every year at Indy finals, Rena is a smiling, helpful face I look forward to seeing. She is an awesome ambassador for Crown.

A couple years ago, we took a trip down south to visit our Crown friends in the Carolina area. Rena graciously opened her house to us. While there, we found out about her history with Crown. She has been so active for so long. She keeps in contact throughout the year with her Crown friends. Rena also keeps in touch with former students from during her teaching days. Her list of friends is endless, and she is always there for them.

I have seen many things on Facebook and the Crown site showing Rena's involvement with Corp activities. Anything involving drumming, and she is there. She is always willing to jump in and help with whatever is needed. Rena is an asset to any organization and would be a great addition to the Crown Hall of Fame.

Thank you,
Kathy and Tom Frkovic(Crown volunteer 2013-present)
Dear Carolina Crown's HOF Voting Committee,

I am beyond excited to see Rena Morton's nomination to be inducted into CC's Hall of Fame, Class of 2019.

While I've only known Rena for four years (and I say "only" because her legacy has been running in the corps for much, much longer than that), I have seen up close the direct positive influence Rena has had in the organization, on the volunteers and on the marching members.

For a start, Rena welcomes and embraces whoever sets foot in TeamCROWN with her arms wide open. She makes us feel quickly at ease and she does have great stories with her background as an educator.

Rena loves Crown from the bottom of her soul. There's no other way to describe the impact she creates and the footprints she's leaving within the entire group. Always smiling and cheering (Oh Yeah Baby!!)

She is not only considered a valuable TeamCROWN member, she's also valued on a personal level as a true Crown gem, a mentor, a mom, and a friend.

I've seen Rena post positive signs such as "Crown drums rock" on the wall for the kids to read during Spring Training. I've also seen her save money for the corps by taking old shako boxes that could hardly be used and making them solid and looking almost like new. And then there are all these hours she spends meticulously making show theme Crown jewelry for everyone in the corps to enjoy and take away a small token of the season. I've even seen her take a jersey off her back to give it away to someone who was admiring it and couldn't afford to buy one.

It is clear that everyone lucky to cross Rena's path at Crown will always remember her fondly as a pioneer volunteer with a heart of gold. It would be mighty nice if she had something in return to honor her love, time and dedication to Crown.

Thank you for your consideration of Rena. She fully deserves this recognition and there are no doubts in my mind that she would be deeply moved to receive this honor.

Gisele Cadieux
4th year volunteer
and
grateful to have crossed Rena's path.

I would like to support Rena Morton for the Crown Hall of Fame.

While there are a few that have been nominated that I would love to see in the Crown Hall of Fame, I am compelled to support Rena Morton for the 30th Anniversary Hall of Fame.
When I first came to Crown during spring training in 2010 as a food truck and uniform volunteer, not knowing one single person, Rena welcomed me with open arms and made me feel like I could actually have a new drum corps home. It didn't matter that I hadn't marched with or had a child in Crown. She recognized my lifelong love for the activity, the need I had to give back to the activity, and she made me feel welcome even though I had come from a part of the country that was typically loyal to other organizations. She is a very big part of the reason that I returned that summer of 2010 to continue volunteering, and ultimately chose to make Crown my home, my career, and my life. Rena is an example to all of our volunteers, old and new, of the unselfish commitment to our members to give them the best experience we can possibly give them. For as long as I've been in my position at Crown, whenever we have needed volunteer assistance Rena has always booked the first flight she could get, to arrive anywhere we are, to help anyway she can. I've seen her doing all-nighters in laundromats in Bristol RI, and all day on the food truck in tuna, chicken and egg salad up to her elbows to feed the kids. She has been willing to sacrifice and do whatever it takes to help the corps succeed. During my experience in what will be my 10th season with Crown, there are few as selfless and deserving of this honor than Rena.

OH YEAH! BABY!!! You deserve this. <3

Nancy Luckey Coates
Carolina Crown
Director of Operations/Drum Corps
Tour Manager

To the Members of the Crown Hall of Fame Committee:

I would like to put forth my enthusiastic support for the Nomination of Joe Rosemond for inclusion in the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

Joe has been a loyal supporter of Carolina Crown for Decades. He was among the original founders of the corps and has been a huge part of NightBEAT and our other events to be recognized as the finest in the activity.

Joe is always a fixture at NightBEAT. The "Field General", he has for years insured that the corps get on and off the field as smoothly as possible.

Joe was a member of the Legendary 1980 Spirit of Atlanta, a corps that overcame great tragedy to become a legend on and off the field. The lessons he learned there have stuck with him through the years, and clearly displayed by his exemplary character and good nature. Joe's selfless dedication to our corps is a true example of Crown's stated mission of "developing lifelong excellence".
Respectfully submitted,
Marcus M Jones
Brass 91-92, Operations Staff 1993-present

I would like to express my support for the induction of Joe Rosemond into the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

I have had the privilege of knowing Joe for over 40 years, including time spent at East Carolina University, marching in Spirit of Atlanta, volunteering for Crown, and enjoying having him as one of my closest friends.

I have watched Joe work tirelessly to make sure that all of Crown's events (Nightbeat, Crownbeat, Firstbeat, Joebeat (Durham)) were as successful as possible. His organizational and leadership skills have been a crucial piece of the puzzle in Crown's success. With the many personalities involved in running an elite Drum Corp, Joe can always be counted on to help resolve any disagreements and keep the focus on fulfilling Crown's true mission of providing the best possible educational experience for its marching members.

Joe has supported Crown with his time, money, experience, and talent. He has stepped forward when the organization needed him or passed the baton if he saw a greater benefit to Crown by doing so. I believe Joe has always, without exception, represented Crown in the highest possible manner. He does so with passion, class, and the professionalism commensurate with what one would expect from a championship organization.

There are many strong supporters of Crown and many for a long time. Joe was there even before the first note was played, or the first drill was marched. He has played a key part in the evolution of the Corps and, I believe, the path travelled was straighter for Joe being a part of it.

He was there back then. He is still there now. He will be there again.

It's not about him. It's about the kids .... always the kids.

I believe Joe deserves to be in the HOF. Although personal recognition has never been a motivation for him, (passion and love of Drum Corps are) I believe it would be one of his proudest moments if granted such an honor.

Thank you, and I hope you will induct Joe Rosemond into the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Daniel Stapleton
This is a letter of support for 2019 HOF nominee, Joe Rosemond.

I have known him almost 32 years and support him whole-heartedly in his nomination for the HOF.

Joe has helped with the organization, since before there was a corps on the field. Joe has managed the field gate at almost, if not all, of our NightBEAT shows. He helps corps on and off the field, and is extremely knowledgeable of who goes where, and when. Running a show like NB has never been easy, but Joe does it with a smile on his face, and a lot of encouragement for Corp members.

He is a welcome sight to all participants. Timing is always important when running and managing groups of this size, and I can't remember a hiccup occurring when Joe has been around.

Joe is a kind, caring and helpful person who lends a hand anyway he can. Before you can ask for help, he is there.

Respectfully,
Luanne Bialecki
Crown Cofounder, and 2018 HOF

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To Carolina Crown HOF Nominating Committee:

I write this letter in recognition of the enormous contributions that Joe Rosamond has made to our world championship Carolina Crown. Please review and provide Joe your utmost consideration when selecting your recipients into our prestigious Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

Joe Rosemond being a year older than I has placed me in a position to follow Joe my entire life. Growing up together in Hillsborough, NC, I followed Joe into little league, and on to band and the marching arts. Joe attended East Carolina University and I followed, where we both marched and held captain positions in the prestigious Marching Pirate Band. Following Joe provided me chances to work with great high school marching bands and judge many marching competitions. Joe took me along for auditions for Spirit of Atlanta 1980, where we succeeded in marching and playing brass together under the infamous Jim Ott. After college I followed Joe to Charlotte where we continued to grow our lifelong love of drum corps by attending local and regional shows, as well as championships each year. He has included me in everything Carolina Crown since their inception 30 years ago, and what a fantastic ride it has been. Following Joe has allowed me to experience some of the greatest opportunities in my life, including meeting my gorgeous wife, and his sister-in-law Sheila, who he introduced me to at NightBeat 1995. Following Joe has been a very good thing!
Now it would take many pages to explain what Joe has contributed to Carolina Crown through thirty years, but to abbreviate his contributions to Carolina Crown he has volunteered from the very beginning offering time, financial backing, and endless energies to numerous positions. He has been a board member, employee, Director of Development, driver on tour, directed FirstBeat, CrownBeat, and most notably Operations Director of our most prestigious DCI NightBeat show. He brings a professionalism and commitment to everything Crown, providing everyone he engages a positive experience. Corps' members, staffs, volunteers and fans have all benefited from Joe's ability to provide his standard commitment to excellence. I'd say everybody has enjoyed a better corps experience by allowing his involvement and following Joe Rosemond.

It has taken commitment by many to propel Carolina Crown to the level of competition they now sustain, and extreme dedication by hundreds besides the members, staff, volunteers and our board. Joe's 30 years of service to Carolina Crown merits strong consideration for this most admired honor. His involvement mirrors and exceeds our corps mission to succeed in "developing lifelong excellence in young people".

Respectfully Submitted,
Hans Haas (Carolina Crown Volunteer, 1990-Present)

This is a letter of support for the McCrary's to get into the 2019 class of Crown's HOF.

Both Ray and Mary have been avid supporters of Crown since the beginning. Both volunteered their time for hours, weeks and months to help Crown become a reality, and help it flourish into the organization it is today.

Both held full time jobs, but still helped to get the corps on the road, and traveled with the corps, driving, cooking, sewing and basically anything else that needed to be done. Sleeping on floors after driving all night is a thankless job, but Ray was more than happy to do it. Mary had control of feeding the members and staff and did so with a smile for all the members and staff.

I fully support their nominations!

Respectfully,
Luanne S Bialecki
Crown Cofounder and 2018 HOF

I have not been part of the Crown Family for many years; 2019 is the third year and my daughter's age out year. Each year has brought about new friendships, meeting new people, and new performers, but what sticks out in my mind is how Carolina Crown exudes the sense of family.
I am a worker and am grateful that I can volunteer some of my time to such an awesome organization. I never expect anything in return for volunteering and a kindhearted "Thank you", means the world to me. But during the end of season banquet for 2017; "It Is", Ms. Rena Morton gave me a pin and a kindhearted "Thank You".

A pin ... something so small and seemingly unimportant made such a huge impact, because she made the effort to go to each table and asked if anyone had volunteered during the season. I told her I had volunteered at camps and a little during Spring Training but never went on tour. Rena responded, "Well, you volunteered. On behalf of the alumni of Carolina Crown, I want to thank you for volunteering your time to help this organization".

To me that simple gesture of presenting me with a homemade pin that she spent the time to make herself, is why I feel she should be inducted into the Crown Hall of Fame. She made the effort to reach out to everyone who had volunteered; no matter how much or how little and made what a person did seem so important to the Carolina Crown Organization. To have a person who comes back year after year to volunteer her time and then recognize other volunteers, is an invaluable member of the Crown Family. She is kind, supportive, and grateful. She tries to recognize others, and she is an excellent "face" for Carolina Crown to have.

I know Rena has volunteered her time in other areas as well. She makes herself available for the Crown Cares Service Days in which shoes, socks and books are distributed to children. She is just a wonderful asset to the Carolina Crown Family and would be a wonderful addition to the Crown Hall of Fame.

Respectfully
Nancy Ro

I have had the pleasure of knowing and volunteering with Rena Morton for many years. Rena is one of the most dedicated Crown supporters that I know. She is one of the most entertaining people that I know. No matter how impossible the task at hand seemed, Rena was always ready to dive in and give 100% and make you enjoy it no matter what. Rena and I were faced with some pretty big tasks at times and somehow, we were able to pull it off and laugh about when it was over.

Rena has always let the Crown members know that she loves and supports them. Her "Oh Yeah Baby" yell is expected and brings a smile to the faces on the field. She never fails to be able to bring out the best in whoever she is around. That is what makes her special.

I have spent many hours volunteering with Rena and there are a few things are a given:

-You will enjoy yourself doing the hardest work you have ever done.
-You will laugh until your gut hurts.
-You will have found a true friend in Rena.
-Crown members each own a piece of her heart.

This is why Rena Morton needs to be inducted into Crown's HOF.

Sincerely,
Susan Murphy

I would like to submit my vote for the Carolina Crown Hall of Fame Class of 2019 for Rena Morton.

I first met Rena when I was a marching member in 2005. She stuck out as a relentless hard worker when volunteering. At that time, we sometimes had earlier gate times and shorter EPL times. But that didn't matter. Took your shower first and missed dinner? Don't worry - Rena saved you a plate. She KNEW each and every single one of us. No one had to tell her that someone missed dinner. She already knew, and already had you covered. THAT is dedication and LOVE.

I got to know her better during the 2007-2008 summers when I volunteered more extensively on the food truck. Again, she was there, taking care of each member. Making sure they had the fuel they needed to succeed. Giving out hugs when needed. And lifting up and encouraging the other volunteers, reminding us what it was all about on the hard days. Constantly cheering us on and clearly our biggest fan with her "OH YEAH BABY!" She certainly has a way of making us all feel loved and special.

Later, as I finished school, residency, and started a family, I wasn't able to take the time to travel and volunteer any more. But I talked to Rena and she helped me see that there are so many ways to help Crown. And it's not about ME. It's not about my hurt feelings or broken relationships that inevitably happen along the way. It's about the mellophone player living out her dreams, following my footsteps. It's about the girl auditioning that doesn't think she'll make it but tries anyway. It's about doing everything in our power to give these kids the chance at the same amazing experience that we had.

Rena doesn't just love Crown. She hasn't just dedicated herself and given everything she can. She has helped instill that love and dedication in us. She has inspired future "Rena's" and "OH YEAH BABY"s. And that's why Rena gets my vote.

Thank you,
Erin (King) Morrison
Mellophone 2005
May 2, 2019

To the Members of the Crown Hall of Fame Committee:

I would like to submit my letter of support for Rena Morton for inclusion into the 2019 Carolina Crown Hall of Fame.

For the past 20 or more years Rena has given her time graciously volunteering for Crown. She has served on the Crown Board and Crown Council (2002-2011). She helped with camps and many of our fundraisers. Rena toured with Crown during the summer and filled in slots wherever we needed the help. In fact, she flew out to tour on short notice, at her own cost, after finding out we were shorthanded, to work food service, sew and wash uniforms.

Rena always has kids at heart with everything she does. One example: She purchased drum pads, sticks and shirts for her elementary school kids to keep music in the schools and give them an early introduction to Crown. She brought them to the uptown Drumming event so that they could participate and experience drumming in front of a crowd. The smiles on the faces of those students was priceless! Something they would not have experienced without her support.

She also gives her time helping with our newest initiative CrownCARES where we provide shoes and books to those children who may not have the means to get new shoes or books.

Everything she does is for the good of the kids and faculty. She will come into my office and say okay who is having trouble with fees? I give her a name and she lays out cash on my desk and says," here put this toward their fees." She continues to support Crown through her donations and volunteerism and is not afraid to jump in and help where the need lies. I believe she has adopted every faculty member as one of her own!

Her heartfelt support can be heard by the kids, faculty and supporters all year long at camps, tour and shows. Just listen and you will hear OHHHH YEEAAAHHH BABY resonating throughout!!!

I regard Rena a great friend and supporter of Crown. I hope that you would consider Rena when making your decision for the next members to be inducted into the 2019 Crown Hall of Fame.

Respectfully submitted

Moe Smith