

## **PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL COMMITTEE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 8, 2008

Contact: Katherine Lyons  
(202) 203-1700

### **Presidential Inaugural Committee Invites Mountain Ridge High School Pride of the West Marching Band to Perform in 56<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Parade Talent From Across America To March In Parade From Capitol To White House**

WASHINGTON – Today, in keeping with its commitment to hold inaugural events that celebrate our common values and reflect the diversity and history of our great nation, President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect Joe Biden’s Inaugural Committee officially extended an offer to the Mountain Ridge High School Pride of the West

Marching Band to march in the 56<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Parade. Members of the group will join representatives from across the country and our Armed Forces in the historic parade down Pennsylvania Avenue following President-elect Obama’s swearing-in ceremony on the steps of the Capitol.

“I am honored to invite these talented groups and individuals to participate in the Inaugural Parade,” said President-elect Obama. “These organizations embody the best of our nation’s history, diversity and commitment to service. Vice President-elect Biden and I are proud to have them join us in the parade.”

Organizations wishing to participate in the parade submitted an application to the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (AFIC), which then assisted the Presidential Inaugural Committee in reviewing all of the groups’ applications. All told, 1,382 organizations applied to participate, setting a new standard for interest in marching in the parade.

The Presidential Inaugural Committee was assisted in its selection process by a group of experienced military musicians, who utilized their expertise to help assess the presentation skills of marching bands, musical acts and drill teams.

All participants in the Inaugural Parade are responsible for paying for their own lodging and transportation to and from Washington, D.C. The Committee has been working closely with area governments and civic organizations to facilitate access to affordable accommodations and would like to encourage citizens from across the country to reach out and help the groups raise the necessary resources to participate in this historic event.

If you are interested in finding out more about supporting the Mountain Ridge High School Pride of the West Marching Band and their participation in the 56<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Parade, please visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.mrhsband.net/" \t "\\_blank" www.mrhsband.net](http://www.mrhsband.net/).

Regularly updated information will be provided to the public and the media on our website,  
HYPERLINK "http://www.pic2009.org/" \t "\_blank" [www.pic2009.org](http://www.pic2009.org).