



## Guard Visual Ensemble

### What is a Guard?

The traditional guard originated from the military. About the time of the American Civil War, during the 1860s. A band would play alongside soldiers to boost morale, while another soldier held up a flag representing the colors of the regiment. During warfare, the role of the guard was extremely important—if the flag of the army fell, it meant the defeat of one side. Therefore, the position of the guard captain was a great honor, representing the regiment and bearing the symbol of victory.

Today's guard, however, has evolved into so much more than its noble roots. Now known as the *Sport of the Arts*, the colorguard is gaining international recognition and will be competing in future Olympics and worldwide competitions.

The *Saratoga Guard Visual Ensemble* (GVE) creates a mixture of dance, performance, and energy. Using a combination of choreographed work, props, and equipment, the Saratoga GVE is the visual representation of the music, adding life to field shows. The GVE tells a story, showcases skill, and displays dedication! Watch the video of their past season's show at [www.saratogamarchingband.org](http://www.saratogamarchingband.org) to see a picture alive with messages and meaning. Be part of this amazing organization, the *Sport of the Arts!*

Discover, Determination, Daring, Dance, Dream, Destiny