

**Mr. Michael Joseph Davis
1993
Special Award Division
Walt Disney World
Orlando, Florida**

Michael Davis recently retired as the Band and Orchestra director for the Walt Disney World® Resort. During his tenure with Walt Disney World, he conducted the Walt Disney World Band and Orchestra and appeared on national TV specials as "Major Mike." Michael also served as manager of Atmosphere Talent and Education Programs at the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World, where he was responsible for the development of educational workshops offered by Disney Magic Music Days as well as the show concept, audition process and the operational procedures for Disney's Collegiate All-Star Band and Orchestra ensembles. Although he has retired from Walt Disney World, he remains active, serving as a contract conductor, music director, and consultant. Michael received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Vander Cook College of Music, Chicago, Illinois, and a masters of music from the University of Wisconsin, Platteville. His Postgraduate study was at the University of Wisconsin, Madison in the Doctoral Program of Curriculum Instruction in Music. He was the Director of Bands and Percussion Instructor at James Madison University, Band Director and Percussion Instructor at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater and has taught high school, middle school, and elementary band, orchestra, and chorus. Presently Mike serves as the Music Director for the St. Johns River City Band, serves on the Board of Directors for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra and is involved in the United Arts Association and the promotion of live music performances. He is an Associate member of the American Bandmasters Association.