

**PRFB.net**

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## ***Drummond*, Young-Adult Music Novel Challenges Book Bannings with Surreptitiously Non-Religious Protagonist**

**SYRACUSE, NEW YORK** — *Drummond: Learning to find himself in the music* is a young adult novel by Patrick R. F. Blakley, a native of Syracuse, New York. His novel utilizes marching band to help young readers find who they are inside, then use that information to fit in. Using music as a starting point, the book guides its readers to think about some larger life events. It also helps readers learn to ask questions and seek out new information for developing a better specific understanding. The writing subtly shows how extraneous religion can be by drawing careful parallels to music. This subtlety is what underscores the story and also derides book bannings across the country. *Drummond* has been donated to several US counties that have persistently banned similar books.

*Drummond* tells the story of a young drummer who tries desperately to fit in by pursuing brass and woodwind instruments (with the help of some new friends). After some humorous and frustrating failures, he eventually realizes he fits nicely in the drumline and that this solution was staring him in the face all along. The story is loosely based on Blakley's own experience joining marching band as a teen and his personal journey through life navigating some noteworthy topics outside of music. At release, the eBook became an Amazon.com #1 best seller in four different categories. The novel has also received several five-star professional reviews and multiple book awards.

“We finally have a story that speaks to the formative experiences our many young adults have in school band! If you have a child in band they will certainly connect with this smartly-written tale.”

-Dr. R. Ward Miller, D.M.A.

Macy's Great American Marching Band

Blue Stars Drum & Bugle Corps

PRFB.net is an all-things percussion resource based in Syracuse, New York. The website features free sheet music, publications, apparel, and in-person studio lessons. Marching percussion consultation and show design are also available through the site as well as WGI winterguard audio editing services. Blakley's percussion music and WGI sound designs have been utilized by groups all across the country.

Learn how to find yourself in the music at [PRFB.net/Drummond](https://prfb.net/Drummond)

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Review copies of *Drummond* available. Press kit at [PRFB.net/Press-Kit](https://prfb.net/Press-Kit)