LOS ANGELES – November 22, 2011 – While the USC Football team looks for a double-digit win total this Saturday against crosstown rival UCLA in the Coliseum, Trojan Marching Band Director Arthur C. Bartner is celebrating a triple-digit milestone: 250 home games at the helm of The Spirit of Troy. During this time, the Trojans have won 185 times – a 77% win percentage – and gone 23-16-2 against the Bruins.

Since his first game on Sept. 12, 1970, Dr. Bartner has missed only one home USC Football game. In 1982 he was forced to skip the Oct. 2 game versus Oregon to lead the All-American College Band at the opening of EPCOT Center in Florida.

Now in his 42nd season, Dr. Bartner has been honored for both his longevity and his work turning The Spirit of Troy into one of the premiere collegiate marching bands with induction into the USC Hall of Fame next May.

The Trojan Marching Band has celebrated other important milestones during the 2011 season. The contest against Syracuse was the band’s 300th consecutive USC Football game, home or away, and the Notre Dame game marked the 20th straight time the band had traveled to South Bend for the intersectional matchup. To ensure the future of these streaks, the organization has launched the Trojan Marching Band Travel Fund to fund the $325,000 it takes to travel to all road games every year. Information on how to donate is at uscband.com/travel.

A longstanding fundraising effort for band travel is Bosko’s BBQ, an all-you-can-eat and drink tailgate before the game across from Tunnel 2 at the Coliseum. This annual tradition features a pregame performance by the band and USC Song Girls. RSVP information is at uscband.com/boskos. At halftime, the band’s show will feature an eclectic mix of modern hits including “Super Bass” by Nicki Minaj, “Give Me Everything” by Pitbull, and “Moves Like Jagger” by Maroon 5.

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