

News Releases

Nov. 13, 2006

Music Students Qualify for 74 IMEA Spots

Students in the DeKalb High School and middle school music programs are being recognized for excellence. DeKalb students qualified for seventy-four spots as members of Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District 8 performance groups.

Students were put through a rigorous audition process on Oct. 14 in Rock Falls. The students chosen for District 8 performance groups have developed their technical skills to a high level and are considered top student musicians/singers in Northern Illinois.

The following nineteen DeKalb High School choir students, under the direction of Travis Erikson, qualified for the IMEA District 8 Honor Choir: bass singers senior Will Goehring, sophomore Drew Taylor, and sophomore Adam Welch; baritone freshman Joey Gage; tenors senior Dan Larmon, senior Wes Nelsen, and senior Holden Wilson; altos junior Hana Green, junior Danica Henry, junior Rebecca Mellott, and freshman Cassie Wagle; and sopranos senior Christina Gowen, senior Sarah Hammack, senior Amber Mingus, junior Emily Nelson, sophomore Emily Padilla, junior Allison Shive, senior Meagan Thies, and junior Jessica Zenzen.

The DHS Orchestra is directed by Karen Meikle. Five students qualified for the Senior Festival District Orchestra: senior James Miller, double bass; juniors Sam Battista and Sam Kirk, both violin; and sophomores Stephen Bentley and Maria Gommel, both viola.

The following sixteen students, under the direction of Reuben Cooper, Jr., qualified for the District 8 Honor Band: seniors Brianna Colletti, contra-bass clarinet; Ian Cook, trombone; Sam Crittenden, trombone; Christine Fiedler, bass clarinet; Matt Judson, percussion; Roy Peregrine, tuba; and Derrick Peterson, trombone; juniors Max Frank, B-flat clarinet; Joshua Mariani, euphonium; Katie Mooney, flute; Matt Nagy, B-flat clarinet; Bryan Simpson, tuba; and Melissa Vines, flute; sophomore Lisa Oller, trumpet; and freshmen B Crittenden, French horn; and Liz Peregrine, bassoon.

Seven members of the DHS Jazz Ensemble, also under Cooper's direction, qualified for the District 8 Jazz Band. They are seniors Matt Judson, drum set, and James Miller, string/electric bass; juniors Ian Cook, trombone; Sam Crittenden, trombone; Jeff Miguel, tenor sax; and Matt Nagy, tenor sax; and sophomore Adam Welch, trumpet.

Huntley Middle School had seventeen students qualify for nineteen positions in IMEA junior ensembles. Ten students, directed by Dave Lehman, qualified in band. On B-flat clarinet, eighth graders Amany Abdel-hotaleb, Lisa Nagy, and Jenna Smith; on bass clarinet, eighth grader Krysta Zelaya; on trumpet, seventh grader Audrey Smith; on trombone, eighth grader Brett Balika and seventh grader Christopher Holder; on euphonium, home school student Lexi Thuli; on tuba, eighth grader Justin Klecka; and percussion, eighth grader Justin Gingrich. Two Huntley eighth graders also qualified for the IMEA jazz ensemble: Lisa Nagy on alto sax and Brett Balika on trombone.

Five students from Huntley's Orchestra, under the direction of Amanda Lake, qualified for IMEA Junior Festival Orchestra. Sixth graders Hanna Bingham and Genna Smelser, both on violin; seventh graders Kelsey Chelberg on viola and Jeremy Snow on double bass; and eighth grader Pennie Tempel on viola.

The Huntley Chorus, directed by Kim Moorman, qualified two eighth grade students – Autumn Brandon, soprano, and Emily Silver, alto.

Eight students from Clinton Rosette Middle School qualified for IMEA junior ensembles. The largest group, five, came from the Rosette Orchestra, directed by Karen Meikle: eighth graders Mary Adams and Daphne Goek, both violin, and Bridget Gorchels, double bass; and seventh graders Mark Proesel and Jordan Sons, both violin.

In band, under the direction of Steve Lundin, Rosette qualified two students, eighth graders Katherine Metzler and Hillary Taylor, both on flute. One student, seventh grader Harrison Hintzsche, piano, qualified for jazz ensemble. The Rosette Jazz Ensemble is directed by Johan Ericksson.

The IMEA District 8 Orchestra, Band and Choir will perform in the District Festival on Nov. 11 at Northern Illinois University. The Orchestra will perform in Boutell Hall on Nov. 11 at 5:30 p.m. The IMEA Honor Band and Honor Choir will perform in the Duke Ellington Ballroom on the same day at 7:00 p.m. The IMEA Jazz Festival will be on Nov. 18 at Belvidere High School.