



OUR MISSION IS STUDENT SUCCESS...ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, AND HUMANISTIC

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School of the Arts Wins Seven Awards at National Heritage Music Festival Competition

Rochester, NY - School of the Arts' Instrumental Music Department won seven awards at the National Heritage Music Festival Competition held in Boston, MA on March 27-28. More than 50 students traveled to Boston to attend the annual competition representing SOTA, the Rochester City School District, and New York State on a national level.

The SOTA Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble both won Superior Gold Awards. These are awarded to groups that scored at least a 90 out of 100 possible points. The SOTA Wind Ensemble received a combined score of 94 out of 100 and the Jazz Ensemble received a combined score of 96 out of 100. School of the Arts was the only school to receive a Gold Award at the entire festival.

The SOTA Wind and Jazz Ensembles also won Adjudicator Awards which are presented to groups scoring higher than 92 out of 100 possible points.

The SOTA Jazz Ensemble won the Outstanding Band Award. This prestigious award was presented to School of the Arts for earning the highest score of all the instrumental groups at the festival.

School of the Arts won the Instrumental Sweepstakes Award presented to the school that receives the highest combined scores of all the instrumental groups at the festival. Senior Jaraad Gordon won the Maestro Award for Trombone which is presented to the outstanding soloists within each group.

The Heritage Music Festivals were established in 1980 by a group of music educators and educational tour professionals to offer bands, choirs, and orchestras performing opportunities. Heritage Festivals promotes excellence among choirs, bands, and orchestras by providing the best opportunity for learning through seeing, experiencing, and interacting with other student performers and top music professionals. Heritage Festivals offers adjudicated, national performance opportunities.

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