



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Goose Creek CISD choir festival

Feb. 28 was a wonderful evening of songs, performed by students from all levels of Goose Creek CISD.

The Elementary Honor Choir, composed of 10 fifth-graders from each elementary campus, sang a selection of songs after the Junior High All-City Choir during the district's annual choir festival held in the Goose Creek Memorial High School Auditorium.

This year, all 13 elementary schools participated, totaling 130 fifth-graders in the honor choir. Every junior school was also represented in the Junior High UIL choir and the Goose Creek Memorial High School Show Choir performed as well. (The district rotates high school choirs and locations every year).

"Over the years, this concert has become a very respected event and a real honor for the students who are chosen to participate," said Tim Vaughn, Goose Creek CISD's Director of Fine Arts.

According to Mr. Vaughn, the Elementary Honor Choir started in the late 1980s when the junior high choirs were having all-region tryouts in November and former Gentry choir director Carol Barwick suggested that it would be nice to have elementary students join the junior high students in a concert so that the junior high students could perform their region music under pressure, and at the same time showcase the fine elementary singers who were looking forward to joining choir.

At that time, many junior high choral programs were new and small in number, and the purpose was to provide a positive experience for the elementary students in order to follow their interest in choir to the junior high schools.

The rules have remained consistent throughout the years: each elementary school must choose 10 singers to represent their school, and those 10 students must be fifth-graders.

Students practice with their music teacher beforehand, then we have one zone rehearsal and two rehearsals as a whole group before the actual performance.

The Junior High All-City Choir is comprised of all 46 junior school choir students who earned all-region honors this year. They participated in a two-day clinic and concert in November, and performed their audition pieces.

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Physical Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
4544 Interstate 10 East
Baytown, Texas 77521
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
P.O. Box 30
Baytown, Texas 77522
281.420.4800

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