



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Goose Creek CISD students set to join BSO for May 7 performance

Two Goose Creek CISD high school students will take the stage on May 7 with Baytown Symphony Orchestra after winning a performance, plus a cash prize, in a juried concerto competition held recently.

Violist Sarah Johnson and pianist Andra Valerie Steele won top honors among a large field of contestants, thus earning the honor of performing as the Baytown Symphony Orchestra (BSO) in the Grand Auditorium at the Performing Arts Center at Lee College.

Johnson, a senior at Ross S. Sterling High School, will perform the "Presto" movement of G.P. Telemann's "Concerto in G Major" while Steele, a senior at Robert E. Lee High School, will perform the "Allegro" movement of W.A. Mozart's Concerto for Piano in B flat Major.

Conducted by resident conductor Maestro Dennis Eichler, the concert will start at 7:30 p.m. and include Chabrier's "Spanish Rhapsody," William's "Liberty Fanfare," Bizet's Suite No. 1 from the Opera "Carmen," and Verdi's "Overture" to the Opera "Sicilian Vespers."

Johnson is the 18-year-old daughter of Jeff and Amanda Johnson. She has played the viola for seven years under the direction of Stuart Eisen and has studied privately with Laura Tompkins.

She has won numerous Division I solo ensemble awards. She has been a Region Z Orchestra member for six years and has been named Outstanding Student of the Year for three consecutive seasons.

She plays percussion in the Ross S. Sterling marching band and, in her spare time, plays piano, guitar, mandolin, and ukulele.

Majoring in Music Education, she will attend Lee College in the fall and plans to transfer to Baylor University.



Sarah Johnson



Andra Valerie Steele

Steele has been taking piano lessons from Nedra Bradley for 12 years. She is also an accomplished violinist. She now performs as a concertmaster in the Robert E. Lee orchestra and in the violin section of the BSO since she was a high school sophomore. She made state UIL solo and ensemble competitions for four years, earning a total of six medals.

Aside from her musical undertakings, Steele has competed with Lee's academic team in Poetry, Prose and Number Sense. She will graduate in the top 10 percent of her class and holds a number of leadership positions. She plans to study Multimedia Journalism and Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin.

The May 7 concert will be the finale program of the 2010-2011 "Sciolto" season.

General admission tickets can be purchased at the Lee College Bookstore or by calling 281-424-7682. Tickets are also available through the BSO website at www.baytownsymphony.org. Adult admission is \$10 or \$7 for students and anyone age 65 or older.

Tickets can be mailed for a \$1 fee or picked up at the PAC Box Office within one hour before the concert.

As a courtesy to musicians and the listening audience, children younger than age 7 will not be admitted.

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