

Fine Arts salute: Musical groups excel in competitions

The Goose Creek Fine Arts Department is applauding the many successes of the district's music groups in UIL competitions. Here are some of the highlights:

 Goose Creek CISD junior school bands were successful at this year's UIL concert and sight-reading contest that took place at Cedar Bayou Junior School.

Sweepstakes trophies were won by the Cedar Bayou Junior, under the direction of Kurt David and Diane Baker, and Baytown Junior, under the direction of Carrie Faulkner and Patricia Cormier.

The Goose Creek Memorial Patriot Band was one of two bands in class 4A and 5A to receive straight 1s in their stage performance at Region X UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest. This year was the first year that they competed at the Varsity level at UIL and earned a sweepstakes in marching, concert, and sight-reading.

The Patriot Band is lead by Richard Lewis (head director), and Jon VanOmmeren (assistant).

"All of our Goose Creek bands did an outstanding job," said Director of Fine Arts Tim Vaughn.

 The Goose Creek Memorial and Sterling high school choirs earned sweepstakes at the recent UIL concert and sight-reading contest at Sterling High School. The Goose Creek Memorial choir is under the direction of Holly Lewallen.



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The Goose Creek Memorial choir is under the direction of Holly Lewallen.

"I pushed my students really hard this year, so it was nice to see their hard work rewarded," Lewallen said.

The Sterling choir is under the direction of Nikki Thompson. "They really came together as a team. It was an awesome experience," she said.

 The Ross S. Sterling and Robert E. Lee high school orchestras earned a 1, or the highest rating given, on stage in a UIL contest. Sterling's orchestra is under the direction of Stuart Eisen, while Wes McEwen leads the Lee orchestra.

 The Gentry and Highlands junior school choirs earned sweepstakes or top honors at the UIL Junior High Choir Concert and Sight-Reading Competition. Baytown Junior and Gentry Junior earned 1st divisions on stage at the UIL competition.

The Cedar Bayou Junior School choir is under the direction of Sarah Scoggins, Highlands Junior School choir is led by Tonya Callahan, the Baytown Junior School choir is under the direction of Neal Gage, and Gentry Junior School's choir is under the director of Mireya Rodriguez.

"I believe that, collectively, this is the best our junior school choirs have ever done at UIL," Vaughn said.

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