Strong Showing for Sterling Silver Spectacular

The Sterling Silver Spectacular is a joint effort of the Sterling Band and Stars. Each year, the two organizations combine to produce a marching/performance group to compete at the UIL marching competitions and to entertain the audiences at the Sterling football games.

The Stars are the only drill team in this region that performs a feature routine of pom or kick and performs an 8-minute drill with the band. The band is under the direction of Richard Clem and Joseph Grobusky. The Stars are under the direction of Kelley Start and Tiffani Chamberlain. Carole Casey is the Percussion Consultant.

This year, the show is called "Frankly Speaking." It consists of music by composer Frank Ticheli. The pieces — "American Elegy" and "Vesuvius" — were arranged by Richard Clem. The drill was written by Andrew Tye, a drill designer in Indiana, and the choreography was designed by Kelley Start and Tiffani Chamberlain.

The Sterling Silver Spectacular performed its show at the Region UIL marching competition on Oct. 16 in Little Cypress-Mauriceville, and received straight 1's – the highest rating possible. Judge Dan Gibbs, former band director and longtime UIL judge, stated: "You should be extremely proud of your wonderful accomplishments! You are a credit to your school, your town, and to music education in the state of Texas."

As a result of the Final Rating 1, the band qualified to advance to the Area UIL Marching contest on Oct. 23 in Galena Park. The Sterling Silver Spectacular was the first group of 30 to perform that day.

Tim Vaughn, Director of Fine Arts, said, "The Sterling band and Stars' performance at UIL area marching competition was solid, strong and very impressive. I could feel a high level of pride and excitement from the students on the field and the parents in the stands as months of hard work culminated into one superior, intense eight-minute presentation. It was inspirational to see the kids come together in such a powerful and special way." Richard Clem, Director of Bands at Sterling said, "The Band and Stars were challenged to raise the bar this year. The music was very intricate and the drill required them to march using a multimetered step. No other group in our Area is currently doing this type of music and marching at the same time."

Kelley Start said, "The Stars were inspired by the "volcano" theme in Vesuvius; the erupting as lava fairies in the first movement, cooling the lava in the second movement, and the rumbling again in the third movement. The Stars find performing with the band an honor. It allows the Stars to be on the field the entire halftime and guarantees every Star an opportunity to perform. The Stars have gone from dancers to true performer this season."

Members of the band and Stars are not the only ones who were met with a challenge in August and surpassed it.

The band and Star parents have been hard at work also.

They have ridden buses, provided food and drinks, moved equipment, and stayed up late many nights to be sure these performers met the challenge and surpassed it.

We are very proud of the hard work that everyone has contributed to help make the Sterling Silver Spectacular an exemplary performance group and an exemplary representative of Sterling.

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