

Coppell North Band Receives National Award & Recognition

Congratulations to the Coppell Middle School North Honor Winds on their selection as the Outstanding Middle School National Wind Band. The North Cougar Band was selected from a competition of the top Wind Ensembles and Concert Bands from each state, moving into finals competition and then named as an Outstanding National Wind Band. This is an award that recognizes the excellence in the total program and all performing bands at the school.

The National Winds Band Honors is a national competition entered by recordings in which the top 25% are selected and narrowed down for the National honor. The competition was stiff resulting in the top 81 of the finest concert bands from across the nation moving into the finals event. The final 81 were judged again to arrive at the top National honor groups in each classification.

Judges for the event were: Charles Peltz, director of the New England Conservatory of Music, and world known and noted composer John Mackey. Final comments from the judging panel included: "Wow, you are indeed the finest middle school band I have ever had the pleasure to hear!" Hats off to you, your students, parents, community and school district for creating what I believe to be the premier performance of this entire national competition." "The Coppell Band Program is a shining example of excellence for bands everywhere and truly setting newer and higher standards for music education throughout the world". "We were simply spell bound at your musicianship, performance technique and maturity of sound which is not normal in a public school environment. You are the envy of not only public school music programs, but private school and music conservatory institutions as well."

Other winners in class included: 5-A high school division-Buchholz HS Wind Ensemble, Gainesville, FL, 4-A high school division, Central HS Symphonic Band, Knoxville, TN., 3-A high school division Mabank HS, Mabank, Tx., 2-A middle school division Clint Small Wind Ensemble, Austin, Tx., 1-A middle school division, Coppell MS North, Coppell, Tx., New Music Division-HS-Broken Arrow HS Wind Ensemble, Broken Arrow, OK.

The National Award winner Bands will be invited to perform in the National Theatre, in Washington, D.C. this coming May.

The Coppell Middle School North Cougar band continues with a tradition of excellence, each year breaking many state records and now garnering a top National award as well.

The band has a total enrollment of just under 300 and is one of the largest and most successful groups in our entire school district.

The Cougar band will be performing at the North VS West Football game on Tuesday, Oct. 2. Game time is 6:00 so come on out and support our Cougar football team, band and cheerleaders for a night of friendly competition with the West Wranglers.

The North Bands have been under the direction of Joey Ashbrook for the past 5 years, and as our new addition to the staff, we welcome Mr. Jeremy Lindquist coming to us from Creekview HS in Carrollton.

The bands would like to thank the parents; community and Coppell ISD for your support in helping us reach our goals and educational successes in an enriched environment.