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# THE FOUNDATION For Music Education

DEDICATED TO THE SUPPORT AND ADVANCEMENT OF MUSIC EDUCATION

ALAN HANNA

*Executive Director*

CAROLYN BOTKIN

*Executive Secretary*

RICK YANCEY

*Managing Director, Mark of Excellence*

September 15, 2018

Dr. Darrell Brown  
Birdville ISD  
6125 E Belknap St  
Haltom City, TX 76117

Dear Dr. Brown,

On behalf of The Foundation for Music Education and our Board of Trustees, I am pleased to inform you that

The **North Ridge Middle School Honors Band**, directed by **Jessica Shadman**, has been selected as a **National Winner** in the Mark of Excellence / National Wind Band Honors project!

Congratulations on this wonderful achievement! The full listing of winners is enclosed.

The Mark of Excellence consists of the *National Wind Band Honors, National Choral Honors, National Orchestra Honors, National Jazz Honors, and National Percussion Ensemble Honors*. It is a competition, entered by recordings, in which the top quarter are selected as National Winners and the second quarter receive Commended Honors.

This year 279 of the finest musical ensembles in the nation entered the competition. The project has now received entries from thirty-eight states.

All the groups will receive recorded and written comments from the adjudicators, and also a compilation recording of the performances of the National Winners. Additional information is in the enclosed press release.

Would you be so kind as to inform the directors of their selection?

10701 Upland Avenue

Lubbock, TX 79424

Toll Free 888.518.3927

[www.foundationformusiceducation.org](http://www.foundationformusiceducation.org)

*The Foundation for Music Education is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the support and advancement of music education through scholarships and other worldwide projects.*

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RICK YANCEY  
*Managing Director, Mark of Excellence*

The North Ridge Band is a wonderful example of musical achievement, and is a credit to your school district.

Congratulations to the directors and to all involved!

Sincerely,



Alan Hanna  
Executive Director  
The Foundation for Music Education

## For Immediate Release

From – *The Foundation for Music Education*  
10701 Upland Ave Lubbock, TX 79424

September 15, 2018

Contact – Rick Yancey

Managing Director, The Mark of Excellence

rick@foundationformusiceducation.org

www.foundationformusiceducation.org

The Foundation for Music Education is pleased to announce the results of the **2018 Mark of Excellence project**. Two Hundred and Seventy Nine of the finest high school and middle school musical ensembles in the United States entered the project, a record number!

The Mark of Excellence consists of the *National Wind Band Honors, National Choral Honors, National Orchestra Honors, National Jazz Honors, and National Percussion Ensemble Honors*. It is a competition, entered by recordings, in which the top quarter are selected as National Winners and the second quarter receive Commended Honors. Over the last 12 years, the project has received entries from thirty-eight different states.

All the groups receive trophies, recorded and written comments from the adjudicators, and a compilation recording of the National Winners. This compilation recording is featured on the MarkCustom.com website, and is available for download. This creates a **permanent archive** of the achievement, as well as a valuable educational reference and resource for ensemble directors.

The nationally renowned adjudicators were:

National Choral Honors – *Dr. Janet Galvan* – Director of Choral Activities at Ithaca College, NY

National Orchestra Honors – *Gary Lewis* - Director of Orchestral Studies, University of Colorado at Boulder, conductor, Midland Odessa Symphony, *Dr. Mark Laycock* – Professor of Music, Wichita State University

National Wind Band Honors – *Richard Floyd* – Texas State Director of Music Emeritus, University of Texas at Austin

*Dr. Robert Carnochan* – Director of Wind Ensemble Studies, University of Miami

*John Whitwell* – Director of Bands Emeritus, Michigan State University

*Fred J. Allen* – Director of Bands, Stephen F. Austin State University

National Jazz Honors – *Dr. Stephen Guerra* – University of Miami, Frost School of Music, Managing Director of the Henry Mancini Institute

National Percussion Ensemble Honors – *Lalo Davila* – Director of Percussion Studies, Middle Tennessee State University

According to Managing Director Rick Yancey “The adjudicators were very impressed with the outstanding level of the performances.

These students perform incredibly well, mature beyond their years, and that is testament to their talent, their training, and their wonderful teacher / conductors. This achievement is also a credit to the support of their school districts and school district leadership.”

# 2018 Mark of Excellence / National Wind Band Honors

## National Winners

### Class A

Argyle MS Red Band	Evan Fletcher	Argyle, TX
Four Points MS Wind Ensemble	Jessica Gonzales	Austin, TX
<b>North Ridge MS Honors Band</b>	<b>Jessica Shadman</b>	<b>Arlington, TX</b>
Roma MS Symphonic Winds	Corey L. Graves	Roma, TX
Shadow Ridge MS Honor Winds	Chris Meredith	Flower Mound, TX
Veterans MS Honors Band	Raymond Alaniz	Rio Grande City, TX

### Class AA

Aledo MS Honor Winds	Joey Qualls	Aledo, TX
Arbor Creek MS Honors Band	Rylon Guidry	Carrollton, TX
Cedar Park MS Symphonic Band	Britni Dunn	Cedar Park, TX
Cedar Valley MS Honors Band	Pete Alvarado	Austin, TX
Coppell MS West Honor Winds	Greg McCutcheon	Dallas, TX
Dowell Wind Ensemble	Tiffany Lisko	McKinney, TX
Henry MS Honors Band	Robert T. Herrings, III	Cedar Park, TX
Keller MS Wind Ensemble	Jedidiah Maus	Keller, TX
Killian MS Honors Band	Rob Chilton	Lewisville, TX
Maus MS Wind Ensemble	Katie Lewis	Frisco, TX
Berry Miller JH Honors Band	Chris Bennett	Pearland, TX
Pearland JH West Honors Band	Meredith Bates Bishop	Pearland, TX
Red Oak MS Honors Band	Megan Czerwieski	Red Oak, TX
Spillane MS Symphonic Winds	John Barton	Cypress, TX
T.A. Howard Honor Band	Nathaniel Neugent	Arlington, TX
Walsh MS Honor Band	Jennifer Bergeron	Round Rock, TX
Wiley MS Wind Ensemble	Garland Chiasson	Leander, TX

### Class AAAA

Kennedale HS Wind Ensemble	Erol K. Oktay	Kennedale, TX
North Lamar Symphonic Band	Randy M. Jones	Paris, TX

### Class AAAAA

Victor J. Andrew HS Wind Symphony	Mark Iwinski	Tinley Park, IL
Las Vegas Academy Wind Ensemble	Brian Downey/John Seaton	Las Vegas, NV
LBJ Wind Ensemble	Brian Mayer	Austin, TX
Poteet HS Honors Band	Cody Newman	Mesquite, TX
Red Oak HS Wind Ensemble	Steven H. Moss	Red Oak, TX
Wakeland HS Wind Symphony	Tanner Smith	Frisco, TX

### Class AAAAAA

Marjory Stoneman Douglas HS Wind Symphony	Alex Kaminsky	Parkland, FL
Dulles HS Honor Band	Joe Pruitt	Sugar Land, TX
Guyer HS Wind Ensemble	Amy Woody	Denton, TX
Keller HS Wind Ensemble	Mark McGahey	Keller, TX
Langham Creek Wind Ensemble	Gloria Ramirez	Houston, TX
Richardson HS Wind Symphony	Jesus Marquez	Richardson, TX
Ronald Reagan HS Wind Ensemble	Daniel Morrison	San Antonio, TX
Vandegrift HS Wind Ensemble	Mike Howard	Austin, TX
Vista Ridge HS Wind Ensemble	Bryan Christian	Cedar Park, TX
Wylie HS Wind Symphony	Todd Dixon	Wylie, TX

### New Music Division

Friendswood JH Symphonic Band	Sarah Bennett	Friendswood, TX
Vandegrift HS Wind Ensemble	Mike Howard	Austin, TX
Wylie HS Wind Symphony	Todd Dixon	Wylie, TX

## **Commended Winners**

### Class A

Bonnette Bobcat Symphonic Band	Trenton Petry	Deer Park, TX
Colleyville MS Honor Band	Lauren Jones	Colleyville, TX
Griffin MS Wind Ensemble	Leigh Ann McClain	The Colony, TX
Griffin MS Wind Symphony	Carolyn Cansler	Frisco, TX
Los Cuates MS Honor Band	Criselda Marroquin-Morrell	Los Fresnos, TX
Space Center Int Symphonic Band	Bernadette Walls	Houston, TX

### Class AA

American Fork JH Wind Ensemble	Lance Major	American Fork, UT
Briscoe JH Honor Band	Mark Keene	Richmond, TX
Burnett JH Wind Ensemble	Ross Patterson	Wylie, TX
Canyon Ridge MS Honor Band	Amy Allison	Austin, TX
Central JH Symphonic Band	Christine Belle Cumberledge	Eules, TX
Cinco Ranch JH Honors Band	Rachelle Isaacson	Katy, TX
Cooper JH Wind Ensemble	Adam Powell, Misty Smith	Wylie, TX
Crownover MS Wind Ensemble	Christin Bunch	Corinth, TX
First Colony MS Honors Band	Carter Matschek	Sugar Land, TX
Fort Settlement MS Honors Band	Greg Countryman, T. Barages	Sugar Land, TX
Hamilton MS Symphonic Winds	Jamie Cabot	Cypress, TX
Harwood JH Wind Ensemble	Doyle Bellville	Bedford, TX
Highland Park MS Honor Band	Lara Whitehouse	Dallas, TX
Krimmel Int Symphonic Band	Sharon Kalisek	Spring, TX
Trautmann MS Honors Band	Jorge Luis Garcia	Laredo, TX

## Commended Winners – continued

Trinity Springs MS Wind Ensemble	Dean Surface	Keller, TX
Ulrich Wind Ensemble	Mike Rogers	Klein, TX

### Class AAAA

Churchill Fulshear HS Symphonic Winds	Andrew Lee	Fulshear, TX
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### Class AAAAA

Aledo HS Wind Ensemble	Joey Paul	Aledo, TX
Amarillo HS Honors Band	Bruce Collins	Amarillo, TX
Frisco HS Wind Symphony	David Simon	Frisco, TX
Roxbury HS Honors Wind Symphony	Jeffrey Conrad	Succasunna, NJ
Summit HS Wind Symphony	Chris Kanicki	Arlington, TX
Tomball HS Wind Ensemble	Chris Yancey	Tomball, TX

### Class AAAAAA

Allen HS Wind Ensemble	Dr. Philip Obado	Allen, TX
Cedar Ridge Wind Ensemble	Nolan Loyde	Round Rock, TX
Clear Springs HS Wind Ensemble	Lester Williams	League City, TX
Conroe HS Wind Ensemble	Bobby W Heathcock	Conroe, TX
Hebron HS Wind Symphony	Andy Sealy	Carrollton, TX
J.J. Pearce HS Wind Ensemble	Dimitrios Icosipentarhos	Richardson, TX
Lake Ridge HS Wind Symphony	Brad Bonebrake	Mansfield, TX
South Grand Prairie HS Wind Ensemble	Justin Wood	Grand Prairie, TX
Waxahachie Wind Ensemble	Rich Armstrong	Waxahachie, TX

### New Music Division

Central MS Symphonic Band	Eric Rose	Nederland TX
De Zavala MS Varsity Band	Melissa Colvin	Irving, TX
Frisco HS Wind Symphony	David Simon	Frisco, TX
Lake Ridge HS Wind Symphony	Brad Bonebrake	Mansfield, TX
Vista Ridge HS Wind Ensemble	Bryan Christian	Cedar Park, TX

## State Level Winners

Century HS Wind Ensemble	Chris Dasovick	Bismark, ND
Hewitt-Trussville MS Honors Band	Brandon Peters	Trussville, AL
Huntley HS Wind Ensemble	Philip Carter	Collinsville, IL
Monticello MS Symphonic Band	Amanda J. Allen	Monticello, IL
North Habersham MS Symphonic Band	Dr. Emery C. Warnock	Clarksville, GA
Pacific Beach MS Concert Band	John J. O'Donnell	San Diego, CA
Penn HS Symphonic Winds	Glenn Northern	Mishawaka, IN
Sangaree MS Concert Band	Brian L. Trauger	Ladson, SC

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