

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

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I am pleased to inform you that the

Westwood Symphony Orchestra,

directed by **Joshua Thompson** and **Jack Green,**

is a **National Winner** in the 2018 Mark of Excellence / National Orchestra project!

The Mark of Excellence is a national music competition that recognizes music programs and their ensembles for high standards in performance.

The Foundation for Music Education sponsors this project. Ensembles are judged by nationally respected adjudicators, with the top quarter being named as **National Winners** and the second quarter named as **Commended Winners**.

The project received 279 entries in all classifications this year, and has had entries from 38 states.

The adjudicators were Gary Lewis, University of Colorado at Boulder, and Mark Laycock, Wichita State University.

The performance of your ensemble represents the very highest level of music teaching, learning, and performing. Congratulations on this wonderful achievement!

Regards,



Alan Hanna
Executive Director
The Foundation For Music Education

2018 Mark of Excellence / National Orchestra Honors

National Winners

High School Full Orchestra

Klein Symphony Orchestra	Creston Herron	Klein, TX
Seven Lakes HS Symphony Orchestra	Desiree A Overree, John Mays	Katy, TX
Westwood Symphony Orchestra	Joshua Thompson, Jack Green	Austin, TX

High School String Orchestra

Dulles HS Honors String Orchestra	Michael Isadore, Angela Yip	Sugar Land, TX
Klein Chamber Orchestra	Creston Herron	Klein, TX
Plano West Chamber Orchestra	Ryan Ross	Plano, TX
Seven Lakes HS Symphony Strings	Desiree A Overree	Katy, TX
Seven Lakes HS Sinfonia Orchestra	Desiree Overree	Katy, TX
James E. Taylor HS Chamber Orchestra	Clinton Capshaw	Katy, TX

Middle School Full Orchestra

Curtis MS Symphony Orchestra	Amanda Su	Allen, TX
Woodcreek MS Full Orchestra	Heather Davis, Carrie Hitt	Houston, TX

Middle School String Orchestra

Beckendorff JH Honor Orchestra	Karel Butz	Katy, TX
Canyon Vista MS Honors Orchestra	Ragan Whatley	Austin, TX
Curtis MS Chamber Orchestra	Amanda Su	Allen, TX
Doerre Int. School Chamber Orchestra	Rowina Torres-McKee	Klein, TX
Ereckson Chamber Orchestra	Joanna DeVoto	Allen, TX
Faubion MS Honors Orchestra	Kari Zamora	McKinney, TX
Spillane MS Chamber Orchestra	Jeannine Adams	Cypress, TX
Willow Springs MS Chamber Orchestra	Amy Gearhart	Lucas, TX

Youth Orchestra

Houston Youth Symphony	Michael Webster	Houston, TX
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Commended Winners

High School Full Orchestra

L.D. Bell Full Symphony Orchestra	Allison King	Hurst, TX
Dulles HS Honors Symphony Orchestra	Michael Isadore, Joe Pruitt	Sugar Land, TX
Round Rock HS Symphony Orchestra	Sandra Vandertulip	Round Rock, TX

High School String Orchestra

Allen HS Chamber Orchestra	David DeVoto	Allen, TX
L.D. Bell Symphony Orchestra	Allison King	Hurst, TX
Guyer HS Rhapsody Orchestra	Michelle Brians Hanlon	Denton, TX
McKinney Boyd HS Honors Consortium Orchestra	Michael Link, Michelle New	McKinney, TX
Plano East SHS Chamber Orchestra	Ann Smith, Jeremy Pillow	Plano, TX
Round Rock HS Symphony Orchestra	Sandra Vandertulip	Round Rock, TX

Middle School Full Orchestra

Garcia MS Full Orchestra	Frances Weberpal	Sugar Land, TX
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Middle School String Orchestra

Burns MS Symphonic Strings	Sandy Neel	Brandon, FL
Central JH Chamber Orchestra	Tara Truex	Eules, TX
Fort Settlement MS Chamber Orchestra	Angela Peugnet, Roger Vasquez, Jr.	Sugar Land, TX
Kealing MS Symphony Orchestra	David Jarrott	Austin, TX
McCullough Chamber Orchestra	Colin Larsen	The Woodlands, TX
Sartartia MS Symphony Orchestra	Sophia Hsieh	Sugar Land, TX
Vandeventer MS Chamber Orchestra	Chase Fickling	Frisco, TX
Woodcreek MS Chamber Orchestra	Heather Davis, Fernando Schirmer	Houston, TX

State Level Winners

Pacific Beach MS Orchestra	John J. O'Donnell	San Diego, CA
Sangaree MS Orchestra	Rachel DePriest	Ladson, SC

Special thanks to adjudicators Mark Laycock and Gary Lewis.