

# Summit Intermediate School Bands

## 2016-17 Year in Review

### Performances:

#### Fall Concert

Performed carols and holiday music around campus in December (7/8)

Concerts at DW Long, Etiwanda Colony, and Perdeu Elementary Schools (6/7)

#### Winter concert

Pre-festival concert (7/8)

SCSBOA Festival at Redlands HS (8)

Etiwanda HS Silent Auction (8)

**Spring Concert** (*Audience attendance ranged from 400-900 at each concert.*)

### Concert Band:

- Learned 17 pieces and sight-read at least 6 others
- 67 of 73 students played at least 5 major scales for me (92%)
- 21 sixth grade students were involved in the Etiwanda District Honor Band based on my recommendation
- Started year with 73 students, ended with 73 (*1 moved in, 1 moved away*)
- 68 of 70 sixth graders will continue in band at SIS next year (*3 are moving away*)
- 4 students made it onto the Wall of Fame by playing all 12 major scales in less than a minute.

### Symphonic Band

- Learned 16 pieces and sight-read at least 7 others
- Students composed an original melody and performed it with a digital backup track
- Learned about 10 composers in a survey of music history
- 66 of 72 students played at least 7 major scales for me (92%)
- 7 students made the Etiwanda District Honor Band by audition
- 1 student was selected for the King Karl king Honor Band at Riverside C.C.
- Judges at prefest rated the band Excellent and had many positive comments
- Started year with 74 students; ended with 72 (*2 moved away*)
- 68 of 72 seventh graders will be in band at SIS next year
- 5 students earned a place on the Wall of Fame this year; class total is now at 7

### Shark Band:

- Learned 22 pieces, and sight-read at least 22 others
- Students reported on two songs from the Civil War period, comparing and contrasting their messages
- Jazz improvisation: all students improvised in class and many performed jazz solos in concerts
- 51/60 students played at least 9 major scales for me (85%)
- 19 students made the Etiwanda District Honor Band by audition
- 1 student was selected for the King Karl King Honor Band at Riverside C.C.
- 1 student was selected for the All-Southern California Honor Band
- Every judge rated this group Superior and gave them glowing feedback.
- Started year with 60 students, ended with 59 (1 student quit)
- 32 students are planning to continue in music in high school
- 11 students made it onto the Wall of Fame this year. Over the course of their time here, 16 of these students made it (27%)

**Feedback:**

- *From a departing 8<sup>th</sup> grade student's note:* "Band overall has been a life changing experience that has molded me into the person I am today."
- *From a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student's note:* "I like having an extra challenge and when I'm practicing I feel like I've achieved something new every day."
- *From a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student's note:* "I've always looked forward to your class every day. You taught us that practice makes perfect and to never give up."
- *A few of the Festival Judge's comments:* Wow! Awesome performance. Outstanding demonstration of dynamics. Nuance is a real area of strength.

**What's exciting or new?**

- This was our second year of the new Play it Forward project to recognize students for giving back through music. 27 students completed projects.
- This year we shared classroom experiences with parents through Instagram.
- We successfully hosted the Etiwanda area pre-fest here at Summit in February.
- Two students were selected for the RCC King Karl King Honor Band.
- One student made the All-Southern California Honor Band. That same student won the Claremont Youth Symphony Concerto Competition and will perform as a soloist with the orchestra in January 2018.
- Three students also played in the Claremont Youth Symphony Orchestra during the course of the year.

**Director's Comments:**

This year was a year where everything seemed to come together really well. Each class made outstanding progress throughout the year and each concert went really well. The comments from the judges regarding the seventh and eighth grade students were very positive and affirming. Because the students were working so hard, we were able to pull off some very difficult music that I have been wanting to perform for a long time. Overall, it has been an exciting and memorable year.

I am very excited about the high numbers of students choosing to return for next year. My goal for next year is to maintain and build on what was accomplished this year. I plan to encourage more students to Play it Forward by making more music available for those types of projects.