



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Malibu High School Orchestra Places First at Music in the Parks Competition



MHS orchestra performing at Music in the Parks

The Malibu High School (MHS) orchestra earned an outstanding score of 98/100 while at the Music in the Parks competition. Having competed against 25 other musical ensembles, from California, Nevada, Arizona and Idaho, MHS also placed first in Single-A Division, receiving Best Overall Orchestra, Superior Rating and Highest Scoring Ensemble Overall. The competition took place at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, CA last month.

“Our students played so well that they even scored perfect 10s across the board from both judges on their final selection,” said Dr. Maia Zander, Malibu Middle and High School Orchestra Instructor. “I was blown away by their beautiful playing and musical commitment and I am overwhelmingly grateful to be able to work with these amazing kids every day.”

With Music in the Parks being their first live competition and their first indoor concert since the pandemic began, the 45-student orchestra spent countless hours practicing diligently and focusing on minute details.

“After having been without live music events for so long, we truly understand what a gift it is to be able to perform live with an enthusiastic audience, receive real-time feedback from a panel of exceptional judges and listen to other student ensembles perform,” said Dr. Zander. “One of the main reasons we all play music is to share it with others, and there is no substitute for the exhilaration of being onstage with a live audience.”



Members of MHS orchestra pose with trophy.

As part of a collaborative concert with the professional band, A Call 2Peace, the MHS orchestra will perform the same award-winning program in Malibu on Saturday, April 23, at 2:30 p.m. at Malibu City Hall. The Road to Carnegie Hall concert is a fundraiser to help support the

orchestra's trip to New York City next spring to perform at Carnegie Hall. In order to attend the concert please buy tickets here: <https://bit.ly/MHSRoad2CarnegieHallTix>.

Donations to MHS orchestra's Road to Carnegie Hall can be made here: <https://bit.ly/MSHCarnegieHallDon>

Additionally, the middle school orchestras will be competing at another Music in the Parks competition in May, along with the band and choir classes.

Written by Diana Bouchaaya, Communications Specialist

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