

Press Release

May 24, 2011

Contact: Jeanne Kraft, Public Information Officer, 903-737-7473

AIKIN CHOIR RANKED SUPERIOR

The Aikin Elementary School 4th Grade Choir competed in the 41st annual Sandy Lake FunFest choral competition on May 13. The choir was awarded a first division superior rating and received a trophy to display at school. Aikin choirs have attended this competition for nine years and this was the school's ninth consecutive year to bring home a trophy.

FunFest annually hosts 56,000 students from a five-state area, including 1,600 choirs, bands and orchestras. The event attracts nationally known judges from across the country. The judges award more than just winning trophies. They frequently offer constructive advice and a learning experience for the participants.

The choir is a select group made up of students in the 4th grade. Singers audition and are chosen to participate based upon their musical ability. The choir is co-directed by Jim Adams and Patsy Elliott and is assisted by Erica Wellman.



Photographed from the left on the front row are Alyssa Tacuyan, Trinity Williamson, Alexxis Fry, Abby Cannon, Haylee Stinett, Rachell Holmes, Alyssa Gilmore, Katie Croushore, Gloria McIntyre, Shalecia George, Mason Sikes, Coby King, TJ Nickerson, Alan Garcia, Nick Gentry, Kobe Dixon, Nicholas Reed, Jonathan Yarborough, and director Patsy Elliott.

On the second row are director Jim Adams, Mahogani Hill, Summer Shrader, Mikaila Haley, Mchennsey Manire, August Kyle, Carol Sanchez, Kadaysha Price, Amagene Jeffery, Rhea Tabora, Skyler Kelly, Keeautra Moore, Emma Napier, Keemon Baird, Brian Wright, Caleb Doyle, Walker Preston, Axeel Rodriguez, Darius Ellis, and Tristan Barber.

On the top row are Mikaela Smart, Tatyanna Hurd, Nichole Hawkes, Michayla Hawkes, LaShadria Minor, Ansley Downs, Samantha Sandor, Raycie Rose, Faith Spies, Baleigh LaForge, Marilyn Mallory, Aubrey Gentry, Easton Vaughan, Jackson Rogers, Aaron Rodriguez, Isaac Vasquez, Jordan Morrison, Garrett Rowton, and Caleb Bates. Not photographed: Domenik Vasquez