

For Immediate Release: January 16, 2015

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Paris High School Students Named Texas All-State Musicians

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015

WHERE: TAMU-Commerce

WHAT: PHS students selected to perform in Texas All-State Music Ensemble; over 60,000 students initially enter the All-State competitive process; 860 are selected to perform with All-State Concert and Jazz Bands; 220 are selected to perform with All-State Orchestras; 616 are selected to perform with All-State Choirs.



All-State performances will be held as part of the annual TMEA Clinic/Convention, Feb. 11–14, 2015. Over 26,000 people from Texas and beyond will attend over 315 workshops, 88 concerts, and visit over 1,100 exhibit booths at this nation's largest music educators' convention.

Dylan Candelora and Deja Sikes, members of the Paris High School Chorale will perform with the Texas All-State Choir in San Antonio, Saturday, February 14, 2015 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center as part of the 2015 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention. They were chosen for this prestigious honor through a competitive process held this year across the state at District, Region, and Area levels. Dylan and Deja are under the direction of Jan Blize, Hunter Sitz and accompanist Dottie Billman who are members of the Texas Music Educators Association, an 11,000+ member organization headquartered in Austin. This is Dylan and Deja's first time to perform as a member of a TMEA All-State organization. Dylan is the son of Jay and Tess Candelora. Deja is the daughter of Billy Sikes and Kristy Wilson.

High school students selected to perform in the All-State concerts have competed through several levels of auditions beginning in the fall of 2014 to qualify at the state level. All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive. Over 1,600 students are selected through a process that begins with over 60,000 students from around the state vying for this honor to perform in one of 15 ensembles (bands, orchestras, and choirs). Texas Music Educators Association sponsors the Texas All-State competition. This competitive process begins throughout the state in auditions hosted by 28 TMEA Regions. Individual musicians perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part. From this ranking, a select group of musicians advances from their Region to compete against musicians from other areas in seven TMEA Area competitions. The highest-ranking musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in a TMEA All-State music group. Only the top 3% of musicians who initially audition become All-State musicians.

These All-State students participate in three days of rehearsals directed by nationally-recognized conductors during the TMEA Clinic/Convention. Their performances for thousands of attendees bring this extraordinary event to a close. For the All-State concert schedule and conductor information, go to www.tmea.org/convention.

The Texas Music Educators Association is an association of over 11,000 school music educators dedicated to promoting excellence in music education. Go to www.tmea.org/convention for more information.