

Honor Band has record number of participants

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Holyoke Honor Band, held Monday, Jan. 19, featured a record number of participants in both the junior high and high school bands. Students were pleased with the ene



rgy and enthusiasm of both visiting clinicians.

Eleven JH students and 12 HS band members from Holyoke participated in this year's program, joining the 106 total junior high students and the 71 high school instrumentalists.

Holyoke band director Patricia Wiebers noted others tried out but weren't selected for this year's Honor Band, and she encourages them to continue to submit audition tapes. Each student provides a tape that is reviewed for selection.

After rehearsing all day Monday, the JH and HS Honor Bands performed a concert in the HHS auditorium Monday evening.

HHS participants who were selected for first chair included Ella Stewart, tenor sax; Taylor Haidle, trumpet; and Duncan Brandt, tuba.

Other HS participants were Amy Krogmeier, flute; Nicole Brandt, alto sax; Sydney Nelson, tenor sax; Mallory Bennett, Krista Schafer, Logan Bly and Michael Stark, trumpet; and Cody Fricke and Becca Brandt, percussion.

Junior high students earning first-chair honors were Elissa Baker, flute; Camille Elliott, bassoon and clarinet; and Molly Brandt, bass clarinet.

Other JH participants were Jacinda Krueger and Shaylee Kruger, flute; Eva Penzing, clarinet; Erin Vieselmeyer, Trevor Dalton and Lindsay Helgoth, tenor sax; and Ben Martinez and Alyssa Cordova, percussion.

For the HS portion of the concert, students performed Florentiner March, Symphony #1 in Memoriam Dresden, Ave Maria, At a Dixieland Funeral and Flight of the Pegasus.

JH concert pieces were Fanfare, Ode and Festival, Air for Band, Clouds and Lost Mountain.

Participating schools were Akron, Brush Middle School, Chase County, Fort Morgan Middle and High, Haxtun, Holyoke, Julesburg, Merino, Pawnee, Perkins County, Peetz, Sterling, Yuma, Wiggins and Wray.

Dave Williams, who has been the band director at Doherty High School in Colorado Springs for five years, served as HS Honor Band guest clinician. Prior to his current position, he taught for three years in Sterling. His enthusiasm was catchy, and HS students enjoyed his leadership.

His bands and ensembles have had continued success in state competition, and the Pride of Doherty Marching Band performed at Disneyland in California in 2006.

He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in education and saxophone performance from Hastings College in 2001. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in wind conducting from the University of Southern Oregon in Ashland, Ore.

He and his wife Leslie have a new baby boy, Dillon.

Kim Bowers, associate director of bands and orchestras at Horizon Community Middle School in Aurora, provided fun, energy-filled, inspiring leadership as she conducted the JH Honor Band.

In addition to teaching, Bowers serves as Principal Horn in the Colorado Wind Ensemble and performs regularly with the Capitol Brass and Mountain Winds Quintets. She also is the music arranger for the Doherty High School Marching Band.

She earned her bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Northern Colorado in 2001, and is currently working towards a master's degree in wind conducting from the University of Southern Oregon.