



Strack Orchestra Winter Update

Congratulations to all of the members of the Strack Varsity and Non-Varsity Orchestras who participated in the KISD Orchestra Solo & Ensemble Contest this past Saturday at Klein High School. Our students earned a school record of 103 total medals and 5 Outstanding Performer Awards.

The following students earned a rating of "Good" for their solo performances: Josh Miguel, Jacob Trevino, Tom Kaiser, Amy Hemphill, Caleb Baldwin, Tatiana Worontsoff, Nikole Nguyen, Megan Arnett, Alma Ali, Srivishnu Yarabarla, Jehrad Haskell, Emily Olivares, Kendall Gereke, Rachana Sudhir, Ashlynn Matlock, Daniel Zuniga, Rhea Alex, Dylan Vu, Abigail Butler, Alizee Dishongh and Luisa Boettner. There were also 2 ensembles that earned ratings of "Good." Members included Rylee Geer, Nikole Nguyen, Emily Tran, Bradley Gibbs, Hunter Goodwin and Jehrad Haskell. All of these students will receive gold medals with blue drapes.

The next group of students earned a rating of "Excellent" for their ensembles: Thomas Castillo, Timothy Nguyen, Sophia Sagar, Kayla Saunders, Amelia Baker, Sabrina Fekrache, Julio Lima, Ethan Tran, Adrien Fuentes, Kendall Gereke, Kim Pham, Christy Vu, Avery Whitten, Nabihah Momin, Cecilia Vinh, Emma Vinh, Grace Trautwein, Rita Yonkeu, Caleb Baldwin, Tom Kaiser, Josh Miguel, Jacob Trevino, Cameron Hammer, Kyle Morgan, Austin Slusher and Tatiana Worontsoff. And Linh Duong, Cameron Taylor and Daena Quiambao each participated in 2 top-rated ensembles.

Receiving ratings of "Excellent" for their solos were: Emily Tran, Austin Slusher, Acharaj Tripathi, Jordan Herring, Kyle Morgan, Rylee Geer, Michael Gann, Bridget Earthman, Cameron Hammer, Zain Rizvi, Chelsea Stein, Angela Huertas, Abby Jenny, Lillian Melgar, Nabihah Momin, Adrien Fuentes, Hunter Goodwin, Shania Hurtado, Avery Whitten, Christy Vu, Jordan Golden, Emma Mann, Julian Martinez, Adrian Atienza, Kayla Abellar, Olivia Houston, Stephanie Phan, Julio Lima, Ethan Tran, Kayla Saunders, Kim Pham, Linh Duong, Thomas Castillo, Julitza Berdecia, Sabrina Fekrache, Grace Trautwein, Timothy Nguyen, Brye Huffs Schmidt and eighth grader, Sophia Sagar earned an "Excellent" rating for both her violin and bass solos.

Finally, Amelia Baker, Rachel Joseph, Daena Quiambao, Avelon Daniels and Sophia Sagar not only earned "Excellent" ratings for their solos, but they were also named Outstanding Performers by their judges. They will not only receive gold medals with red, white and blue drapes, but they will also receive special awards for this most prestigious title at the awards ceremonies at the end of the school year.

Beyond the awards that so many of the students earned, Ms. Eissler and Mr. Jones were most proud to have been personally congratulated by so many of the judges for the outstanding preparation, professionalism and behavior the students demonstrated. They exemplified the true meaning of "Cougar Pride!"

Important Dates for the 5th Six Weeks

March 3—KISD Superintendent's Dinner at Kleb from 6:30-8:00pm (Call 832.249.4172 to reserve a seat).

March 10— Strack Bullritos Night

March 14-18— SPRING BREAK!!!

March 24—Progress Reports go home

March 29—STAAR 7th grade Writing; STAAR 8th grade Math

March 30—STAAR 8th grade Reading

March 31—Cheer/Mascot Parent and Student Meeting

April 2—KISD Job Fair

April 12—NJHS induction ceremony

For a complete list of school activities including swimming and tennis meets, and fine arts events, please visit the Strack website.

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STRACK NEWS

Impacting futures through learning today.

February '16/March '16

Comer's Corner

Dear Families,

First of all, we would like to thank everyone for a fantastic Strack Fest! The members of our community came together to create some beautiful auction items, and thanks to your generosity and support, we raised a lot of money for our school. Strack is an amazing place!

As we approach Spring Break and warmer weather, we will need to remind our students about school appropriate dress. From the KISD handbook:

- Any low-cut, see-through, or backless dress, tank top, blouse, or shirt may not be worn to school. Straps on outer garments must be sufficiently wide to cover undergarments.
- Color or style hair in a manner that is not distracting to others.
- Shorts ("athletic attire," walking or "Bermuda" type)/skirts/dresses are acceptable as long as they are mid-thigh or below. Bike shorts of any style or length, worn either as an outer or visible under garment, are prohibited.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to ensure that all of our students have a successful and safe school year.

Vistors/Volunteers

For security reasons, any adults staying on campus are required to sign in at the main office, show a state ID, and wear a visitor badge. Without a visible badge, you will be stopped by a staff member and asked to return to the office. If you are eating lunch with your child in the cafeteria, please stay in the designated parent area. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Spelling Bee Champ

On February 18, Klein ISD held the district spelling bee, and all nine Klein intermediate schools sent their school champions. Vishnu Yarabarla was Strack's champion speller and represented our school at the bee. All nine students in the contest were fantastic spellers. Vishnu did very well coming in as runner-up. We would like to congratulate Vishnu on his win and thank him for all of his hard work in preparing for the bee.



Cheerleader Tryouts

Any current 6th or 7th grade student interested in trying out for cheerleader or mascot for the 2016/2017 school year will need to attend a mandatory tryout meeting on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 6:00pm in the Strack library.

Both candidate and a parent must attend the meeting in order to be eligible to tryout. Tryout packets may be picked up from Mrs. McKeever in Room 311 beginning March 7, 2016. Tryout clinic will be April 25th-28th and tryouts will be April 29, 2016.



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Scholastic Writing Competition

Every year students from Strack enter the Scholastic Writing Contest, sponsored by Scholastic Books. This contest is very prestigious and is the longest continuous-running writing contest in the United States. This year Strack was very fortunate to have 11 of its entries honored by receiving an award. The winning writers were:

Cady Gibbs winning a silver key for her poem entitled "Heavenly" and an honorable mention for her poem entitled "Wallpaper Walls."

Emma Hickford winning a gold key for her memoir entitled "Jake."

Ashley Kloth winning a gold key for her poem entitled "Heartbreak" and a silver key for her memoir entitled "Happiness and Heartbreak."

Kennedy Lightfoot winning a gold key for her poem entitled "My Grandmother's Roses."

Isha Maknojia winning an honorable mention for her flash fiction piece "Snowball War."

Morgan Padgett winning a silver key for her memoir "The Old Yellow House."

Sofia Sagar winning a gold key for her poem entitled "Oblivion" and an honorable mention for her memoir "Flowers in my Ghost Town."

And Megha Sengupta winning a silver key for her memoir entitled "Breaking Free."

There will be a reception honoring these winners on March 5 at the Harris County Department of Education, and the gold key winners' works will be forwarded on to the Scholastic National Competition. The winners from this contest will be honored at a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York. We want to congratulate all of the winners and to wish good luck to the gold key winners in the national competition.



Klein Academic Competition Results

The Klein Academic Competition was held Friday, February 12 at Klein Intermediate. Each intermediate school in Klein sent three 6th graders, three 7th graders, and three 8th graders to compete in Ready-Writing, Spelling, Problem Solving, Number Sense, Science, and Social Studies. The winners were:

In Ready-Writing

* Cecilia Nguyen placed 4th,

* Nena MacNojia placed 3rd

* Rhea Alex placed 2nd.

In Spelling

* Elijah Jackson placed 3rd

* Vishnu Yarabarla placed 2nd.

* Annika Thompson placed 1st

In Problem Solving

* Megha Sengupta placed 5th.

In Number Sense

* Nathan Otchere placed 4th.

In Science

* Nasheed Hossain placed 6th

In Social Studies

* Neil Johnson and Aug Momin placed 3rd

* Meredith Linnell placed 2nd.



Congratulations to all of the students who participated in KAC and to all of the students who placed in the competition.

Strack Art Updates

Strack Intermediate Art students have rounded up a herd of outstanding awards in this year's Rodeo Art Competition. Isabela Funke's prisma drawing, "The Strings to My Heart" was one of the top two intermediate school pieces in Klein ISD and earned Gold Medal honors. Her artwork will be on display in the Hayloft Gallery at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. In addition to garnering one of Klein ISD's highest awards, four Strack students, Malcolm Chan, Ian Johnson, Selina Ayup, and Alan Rubio Perez earned blue ribbon finalist distinction for their artwork. Artwork by Strack students, Lan Nguyen, Audrey Ly, Breonna Brown, Doung Nguyen, Hannah Narvaez, and Julie Redding also won blue ribbon awards for their colorful, western themed artwork. Kierra Sherman, Caroline Knight, Avery Fuhr, Samantha Nodine and Lisa Bishop won second place red ribbon awards. Ashley Bowdre and Hasan Ansari each won third place white ribbon awards. Congratulations to these talented, outstanding students.

Participants in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Quick Draw Contest consist of junior high and high school students from school districts and private schools that are registered participants in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program. Contestants compete for cash prizes and the chance to attend a Glassell School of Art Workshop. From the hundreds of intermediate students that apply, only 26 artists are invited to participate in the Quick Draw Junior High Still Life Division. This year, Kiera Sherman has been invited to compete. Kiera is one of only two Klein ISD intermediate art students that have been awarded final contest invitations!

Congratulations to Strack Intermediate's Regional Scholastic Art and Writing Award Winners. The Scholastic Art and Writing awards are an important opportunity for students to be recognized for their creative talents. Students in grades 7 through 12 can apply in 28 categories of art and writing for the chance to earn scholarships and have their works exhibited or published. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards was first organized in 1923 and continues to be the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the U.S., and the largest source of scholarships for young artists and writers.

Winning highest honors in Art with Gold Key status are Alisa Funke for her charcoal self-portrait, "Time Stands Still" and Ian Johnson for his drawing, "Reaching High".

Lan Nguyen won two Gold Key awards for her charcoal self-portrait, "Blue" and for her drawing, "Gargoyle". These regional Gold Key winners will go on to compete at the national level.

Silver Key awards go to Isabela Funke, Ian Johnson, Audrey Ly, Rajvi Patel, Marycarmen Salazar and Rachel Thomlinson.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Augustine Eckels, Doung Nguyen, Michael Clark, Caroline Knight, and Rachel Thomlinson.

Congratulations to all our Strack Intermediate Scholastic Art Winners!



STRACK STARS presents...

"Ax of Murder" was performed by our amazing theater department on February 12, 2016. It was a huge success and Mrs. Paske and Mrs. Robinson would like to thank all of the students for their hard work, and the parents, family, friends and community for their continued support!

