



MUSICAL TRAVELOGUE, FEATURING PATRICK SHERIDAN

# Backstage

## March 2014

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## Full House + Tuba = Amazing

Over 600 eager music lovers filled the Union High School Performing Arts Center to hear special guest, Patrick Sheridan, perform with the wind symphony on March 2. What was perhaps equally gratifying was seeing the energy and dedication he brought to the Master Class held on March 1.

### Masterful

Over 110 students, teachers, and community musicians stretched, inhaled ("sip-sip-sip"), and exhaled in controlled unison learning breathing and conditioning exercises to improve their wind instrument playing. The class ended with a Q&A session that extended way past the 2<sup>nd</sup> hour and Mr. Sheridan stayed until everyone got their questions answered. The feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive!

### Approachable

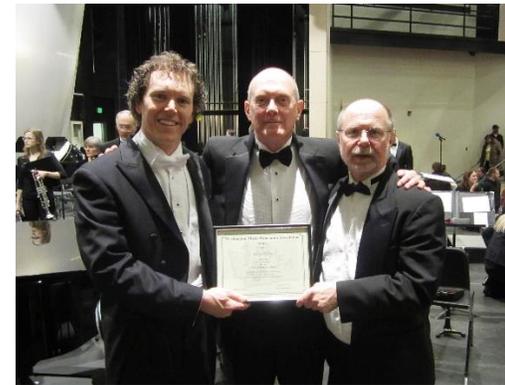
On concert day, Mr. Sheridan took the time to walk around the lobby after the performance and talk to concert volunteers, audience members, and musicians. You may not have recognized him in the baseball cap and jeans meandering in the lobby among the exiting guests. By the way, his CDs sold out in what seemed like 2 minutes so check

out [www.patricksheridan.com](http://www.patricksheridan.com) if you are interested in purchasing his recordings. He generously donated proceeds from his CD sales to the wind symphony.

### Dedicated

On Feb. 15 at the Washington Music Educators' Association annual convention in Yakima, SWWS President Richard Carr was presented the 2014 WMEA Friend of Music award by Lower Columbia River MEA President, Eric Smedsrud. One day prior, Eric (SWWS trumpeter) and Sam Ormson (SWWS conductor) had shepherded the Mountain View High School concert band via bus to the convention. Unfortunately their bus got stuck in the eastbound Hwy 14 traffic jam with other vehicles which were detouring around the landslide on I-84. Despite spending way too long in the bus, the MVHS concert band recovered well and wowed the audience the next day with a near-flawless performance including the hauntingly beautiful, "Ave Maria," by Franz Biebl.

So this is our first attempt at revealing some behind the scenes insights into SWWS goings-on. Hope you enjoyed the read. Stay tuned!



### Friend of Music Award

Conductor Sam Ormson (left) and Master of Ceremonies Don Nelson (right) presented the award to SWWS President Richard Carr.



### Master Class

No one sat down. Everyone learned better breath control and tips on how to approach learning new music more efficiently. 2+ hours well spent.