



Backstage

November 2015

"Take the attitude of a student, never be too big to ask questions, never know too much to learn something new."
 -- Og Mandino

High school and college students play an essential role in the success of many SWWS performances. Certain musical numbers require additional parts that need to be covered above and beyond the SWWS musician ranks. In these situations, the music educators in the group identify gifted musicians from their high school and college programs who are then offered the opportunity to work with the wind symphony. If the parent approves (for high school students) and the student agrees to the rehearsal and performance schedule, they are offered the opportunity to perform with SWWS. For example, Steven Melillo's composition, *David*, performed at our May 2015 concert required 12 percussionists and we were delighted to work with 4 high school students. This provides the students with opportunities to practice with and be mentored by highly skilled musicians from our community and perform higher caliber band music. While it requires extra work for the students, after the concert they are appreciative

of the opportunities provided.

Volunteer students from Union High School also assist with audio-visual and technical set-up and support for the pre-concert slide shows. We are also grateful for UHS student help with stage lighting and sound system management. Unfortunately we are unable to list their names here because they do their jobs so well behind-the-scenes.

Many thanks to the following students who have performed with SWWS:

Charley Abernathy
 Lydia Castro
 Rebecca Dixon
 Thomas Fox
 Sean Furcron
 Zach Griffin
 Austin Hass
 Ben Kelley
 Seungsoo Kim
 Taylor Kragness
 Ryan Mallory
 Kevin Mellmer

Hunter Middlemas
 Sophie Mortenson
 Tim Nelson
 Alex Neshyba
 Thomas O'Donnell
 Zach Ohara
 Nicolette Parker
 Kishan Patel
 Reed Perkins
 Jonathan Saltmarsh
 Eric Singleton
 Rachel Stenberg
 Sean Taylor
 Tyler Trepanier
 Colin Tucker
 Stephanie Venturella
 Nathan Walyer
 Jack Wilson
 Ryan Yeh

