



Backstage

June 2018

MUSIC IN THE LOBBY II: ABOVE AND BEYOND

October 22, 2017: Union High School Jazz Combo featuring Noah Hadfield (bass), Rashad Kabir (drums), and Chase Williams (trumpet), directed by Mr. Mark Claassen

March 4, 2018: Union High School Trombone duet (upper left) featuring Sean Grimm and Rhys Peerenboom, directed by Mr. Mark Claassen AND the Skyview High School Brass Ensemble (upper right) featuring Cameron Nielson, Nathan Greenwood, Mia Young, and Emmett Smith, directed by Mr. Tim Heichelheim

May 20, 2018: Southridge High School Saxophone quartet from Beaverton, Oregon (lower right) featuring Noah Lindsay, Will Greer, Sam Kwak, and Benson Truong AND Tuba soloist (lower left) River Edwards Robinson; both directed by Mr. Jared Sorum

If you arrived at an SWWS concert a bit early, you've experienced some of the exceptional high school ensembles showcased in the lobby. Hats off! to these student musicians who choose to extend above and beyond the typical school band class curriculum and commit to additional practice sessions and performances. We acknowledge your dedication to musical excellence, time management, and organizational skills that increase your future likelihood of success. Music education and music therapy studies from multiple universities have correlated formal music education in children with improved language skills, spatial-temporal skills needed to solve multi-step tasks, memory recall, and more.

Hats off! also to their parents who undoubtedly have been "band parents" for several years, rearranged their schedules, chaperoned events, and committed to driving their children to lessons, practices, and performances near and far. We empathize!

The audience members are the lucky beneficiaries of their combined commitment and we hope that there will always be student groups willing to share their special talents and exceptional musical moments with us.