

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

1/19/2018

Contact: Brian Best, Director of Bands – 832-398-5601

## Area Student Selected as Texas All-State Musician

---

WHEN: January 10, 2018

WHERE: Dekaney HS, Houston TX

WHAT: Area student selected to perform in Texas All-State Music Ensemble

- Over 70,000 students initially enter the All-State competitive process
- 1,780 students are selected to perform in 15 All-State ensembles (bands, orchestras, and choirs)
- All-State performances will be held as part of the annual TMEA Clinic/Convention, Feb. 14–17, 2018. Over 29,000 people from Texas and around the world will attend over 280 workshops, 100 performances, and visit over 1,300 exhibit booths at this nation's largest music educators convention.

MORE

INFO: [www.tmea.org/convention](http://www.tmea.org/convention); 832-398-5601

Graydon Harrison, a member of the Porter High School Band will perform with the Texas All-State 5A Symphonic Band in San Antonio, Saturday, February 17, 2018 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center as part of the 2018 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention. He was chosen for this prestigious honor through a competitive process held this year across the state at District, Region, and Area levels. What makes his accomplishment additionally exceptional is that he is a freshman in the band. Graydon is a student of Michell Gastler and plays at school under the direction of Brian Best who is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, a 19,000+ member organization headquartered in Austin. This is Graydon's first time to perform as a member of a TMEA All-State organization. Graydon is the son of Deborah and Ryan Baldwin.

High school students selected to perform in the All-State concerts have competed through auditions to qualify at the state level. All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive. 1,780 students are selected through a process that begins with over 70,000 students from around the state vying for this honor to perform in one of 15 ensembles (bands, orchestras, and choirs). Texas Music Educators Association sponsors the Texas All-State competition. This competitive process begins throughout the state in auditions hosted by 33 TMEA Regions. Individual musicians perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part. From this ranking, a select group of musicians advances from their Region to compete against musicians from other areas in eight TMEA Area competitions. The highest-ranking musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in a TMEA All-State music group. **Only the top 2.5% of musicians who initially audition become All-State musicians.**

These All-State students participate in three days of rehearsals directed by nationally-recognized conductors during the TMEA Clinic/Convention. Their performances for thousands of attendees bring this extraordinary event to a close. For the All-State concert schedule and conductor information, go to the Performances section of [www.tmea.org/convention](http://www.tmea.org/convention).

The Texas Music Educators Association is an association of over 13,000 school music educators dedicated to promoting excellence in music education. Go to [www.tmea.org/convention](http://www.tmea.org/convention) for more information.

###