Check out our website for a calendar of upcoming events, pictures and timely information.
www.sycamoremusicboosters.com

Sycamore Music Boosters

February, 2008

SYCAMORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ALL-STATE COMPETITION

Sycamore High School is pleased to announce that 12 instrumental and vocal musicians from SHS were selected to attend the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) All-State Conference in Peoria, Illinois. The conference took place January 30 - February 2 and included auditions, rehearsals and performances by the All-State ensembles.

According to SHS Band Director Ken Goodman, the selection process for All-State is highly competitive and rigorous. Music students first audition for the IMEA District music festivals in the fall. Then, the top students from each district around the state are chosen to participate in the All-State festival. After arriving at the All-State festival, the students audition again for placement in the state groups and they are placed in either the all-state or honors ensembles. The rehearsals, over two days, culminate with performances of jazz bands on Friday night and orchestras, choirs and concert bands on Saturday afternoon

Students from Sycamore High School selected for the 2008 All-State include:
ALL-STATE HONORS JAZZ COMBO - Bryan Carter, drums
ALL-STATE BAND - Amy Olson, trumpet; Corie Choi, French horn
ALL-STATE HONORS ORCHESTRA - Francie Weberpal, violin
ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA - Chelsea Miller, violin; Anthony Salis, violin; Gina Spinoso, violin; Lindsay Maurer, cello; Hans Anderson, cello; Greyson Scott, cello
ALL-STATE HONORS CHOIR- Jessica Aldis; Jamie Melin

Music Booster Board

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Karen Huff

Scholarship Chairperson :
Madelyn Anderson

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Jenny Thornton

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Jazz Choir

Congtratulations to the following students for making the 2008 Jazz Choir :
Jessica Aldis, Gail Anderson, Veronica Behrens, Chelsea Benjamin, Alli Corr, Miles Grimes, Yaron Lotan, Tom McManamon, Jamie Melin, Jacob Nesler, Amy Olson, Jake Pearson, Caleb Pluhm, Siobhan Sheil, Sam Simpson and Nathaniel VanWienen

SHS ANNOUNCES ALL-CONFERENCE MUSICIANS

The Western Sun Conference recently announced the all-conference musicians who will participate in the conference band festival on February 21. Rochelle High School will host the Western Sun Conference Band Festival. After a full day of rehearsals, the festival bands will perform at 7:00 p.m. at the high school.

Seventeen musicians from Sycamore High School were selected for the all-conference bands. They include the following:
Freshman-Sophomore Band: Gail Anderson, Leif Anderson, Jacob Correa, Ian Kates, Kristian Kates, Joey Larkin, Jessica Pluhm, Nathaniel Van Wienen.

Junior-Senior Band: Kayla Benjamin, Bryan Carter, Corie Choi, Katie Doonan, Dylan Larson, Holly Martin, Amy Olson, Siobhan Sheil, and Sam Simpson.

Go Syco!

We would like to congratulate the Beginning Band students on an excellent first performance. Their hard work and dedication was evident in their January concert. Keep up the good work!

SHS Treble Choir participated in the N.I.U. Women's Choir Days held on February 15th. The ladies sang 3 songs for a collegiate choral director panel, were critiqued and had a workshop with the guest clinician, Sandra Peter. Ms. Peter is an assistant professor at Luther College, where she directs Cathedral Choir and Pike Kor, as well as conducting classes. The students also had an opportunity to hear the N.I.U. Concert and Chamber Choirs perform.

The Music Department will be attending the Illinois High School Association State Solo and Ensemble Contest on Saturday, March 1 at Stillman Valley High School. A large number of students from band, choir, and orchestra are expected to participate in this contest. Please contact your student's music teacher for further information!

Bryan Carter goes to the Grammy's

Senior drummer Bryan Carter has been selected as a member of the Gibson/Baldwin Grammy Jazz Ensembles. He is one of 30 students selected from national auditions, and he will be transported to Los Angeles and housed from February 2-11 by the Grammys. Bryan will be playing with the jazz combo, and will have the opportunity to perform with Sonny Rollins, McCoy Tyner, and trumpeter Christian Scott. He will watch rehearsals for the Grammy awards, record with his combo in the historic Capitol Records building, and perform at the Grammys post-party.

We in the Sycamore School District are very proud of Bryan's accomplishments. His excellence and his leadership have helped to strengthen all of our band performance groups, and we are fortunate to have had his talents on display. We are excited for Bryan, and we look forward to seeing where his talents take him.

Thanks to everyone for a great 2007 Craft and Treasures Market

We have to have the absolutely, best group of music parents on the planet!! Thanks for all your support for the 2007 Autumn Craft and Treasures Market a few months ago. Our biggest fundraiser of the year went smoothly and we are especially pleased with some changes that were made that turned out very well: Marianne's chili :) and the student food runners to name a couple.

Without the pies, donations and work shifts that you parents do - we wouldn't be able to support our music program (s) as well as we are able to.

Thanks to Sycamore administration, Mr. Carlson and his staff and the custodial crew for their support and help as well.

Sycamore Middle School is excited to announce the addition of Jazz Strings to the 07-08 school year! This is a brand new audition-based group that is open to all middle school orchestra students. Jazz Strings is an ensemble for those students that are looking to play some challenging jazz, alternative, rock-n-roll, and fiddling music.
Come hear the Jazz Strings perform at Family Fine Arts Night, Thursday, April 24th! For more information regarding Jazz Strings or to find out how your child can be a part of this exciting ensemble, please contact their director, Amy Tonaki: atonaki@syc427.org

2008 Summer camp Scholarship!

Attention Sycamore Music Students and Parents!

It's time to start thinking about Summer Music Camps!! The Sycamore Music Boosters are again offering scholarships to music students grades 6 through 11 who are currently participating in a music program and are planning to continue in music in 2008-2009. The scholarships are in the amount of $250.

See your music teacher for music camp suggestions and scholarship application forms. In addition, application forms are available on line at the Sycamore Music Boosters website at www.sycamoremusicboosters.com. Completed applications are due back to your music teacher no later than April 4, 2008. All application forms MUST be signed by your parents to be eligible for scholarship consideration.

QUESTIONS? Talk to your music teacher or call Madelyn Anderson, Sycamore Music Boosters at 815-895-5560.

Continuing Education Scholarships

BOOSTERS AWARD CONTINUING COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sycamore Music Boosters are pleased to announce that two college students were awarded the 2007 College Junior/Senior Music Booster Scholarships. Erin Landshaft, a 2004 SHS graduate, and Garth Anderson, a 2005 SHS graduate, were each awarded $500 scholarships.

Erin is currently attending North Central College in Naperville, Illinois studying music education. She is a member of the North Central College Women's Chorale. She is the daughter of Joanne and Bill Landshaft of Sycamore. Garth Anderson is a junior music education major at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. He is a member of the Symphony Orchestra, University Band, Jazz Ensemble and Combos, and Trumpet Ensemble. In addition, he is the secretary for DePauw's chapter of MENC. He is the son of Keith and Madelyn Anderson of Sycamore.

Applications for the 2008 College Junior/Senior Music Booster Scholarships will be announced after April 1 on the Sycamore Music Booster website.

ATTENTION 2008 GRADUATING SENIORS:

Senior Music Scholarship information and applications are available in the SHS Guidance Office (Deadline for this scholarship is April 1).

Upcoming Events

Events February, 2008

Mondays, February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008 - HS Jazz Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room, 6:00 - 10:00 pm
Monday - Friday, February 2008 - Spring Play Rehearsals continue in the Auditorium, 3:30 - 6:00 pm
Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 - Middle School Band Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:30pm
Thursday, February 14th, 2008 - Middle School Orchestra Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:30pm
Friday, February 15th, 2008 - SHS Treble Choir to perform at the N.I.U. Women's Choir Days
Thursday, February 21st, 2008 - Western Sun Band Festival at Rochelle High School
Thursday, February 21st, 2008 - Sycamore Music Boosters Meeting, Library of the High School, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

March, 2008

Monday - Saturday, March 2008 - Spring Play Rehearsals continue in the Auditorium thru March 7th
Mondays in March, 2008 - Jazz Choir Rehearsals
Saturday, March 1st, 2008 - IHSA Music Solo & Ensemble State Finals at Stillman Valley High School - 8:00am - 6:00pm
Tuesdays, March 4th, 11, 2008 - High School Band Dress Rehearsal in the Band Room, 4:00pm
Friday, Saturday, March 7-8, 2008 - Spring Play in the Auditorium at 7:30pm
Saturday, March 8th, 2008 - Mundelein Jazz Festival
Sunday, March 9th, 2008 - Spring Play in the Auditorium at 2:00pm
Monday - Friday, March 10-17, 2008 - High School Band Rehearsal in the Auditorium, 8:00am
Monday, March 10th, 2008 - Spring Play set strike in the Auditorium, 3:30pm
Wednesday, March 12th, 2008, Middle School Talent Show Rehearsals in the High School Auditorium, 6:00 - 10:00pm
Thursday, March 13th, 2008 - High School Orchestra Concert in the Auditorium, 7:30pm
Friday, March 14th, 2008, Middle School Talent Show in the High School Auditorium, 7:00pm
Saturday, March 15, 2008 - Middle School Solo & Ensemble Contest at the Sycamore Middle School
Monday, March 17th, 2008 - High School Band Concert in the Auditorium, 7:30pm
Tuesday, March 18th, 2008 - High School Choir Concert in the Auditorium, 7:30pm
Thursday, March 20th, 2008 - Sycamore Music Boosters Meeting, Library of the High School, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
March 24-29, 2008 - Band and Choir trip to Baltimore over Spring Break

April, 2008

Thursday, April th, 2008 - North School Talent Show in the HS Auditorium, 6:30pm
Tuesday, April 15th, 2008 - South Prairie Spring Sing in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Thursday, April 17th, 2008 - West School Spring Sing in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Thursday, April 17th, 2008 - Sycamore Music Boosters Meeting, Library of the High School, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Monday, April 21st, 2008 - South East School Spring Sing in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Tuesday, April 22nd, 2008 - North School Spring Sing in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Thursday, April 24th, 2008 - Middle School Family Fine Arts Night at the Middle School, 6:30pm
Saturday, April 26th, 2008 - High School Barber Shop Quartet in the Auditorium, 1:00pm
Sunday, April 27th, 2008 - High School Barber Shop Quartet in the Auditorium, 12:00noon
Sunday, April 27th, 2008 - High School Barber Shop Quartet cast party in the cafeteria, 3:30pm
Tuesday, April 29th, 2008 - Middle School Band Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:30pm

May, 2008

May 4-8, 2008 - Middle School Musical rehearsals in the HS Auditorium
Friday, May 9th, 2008 - Middle School Musical for the Middle School students in the HS Auditorium, 8:30am
Friday, May 9th, 2008 - Middle School Musical in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Saturday, May 10th, 2008 - Middle School Musical in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Wednesday, May 14th, 2008 - NCJC Music Fest in the NIU Ballroom, 7:00pm
Thursday, May 15th, 2008 - Sycamore Music Boosters Meeting, Library of the High School, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Monday, May 19th, 2008 - Elementary/Middle School Orchestra Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Tuesday, May 20th, 2008 - 5th/6th Grade Band Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:00pm
Monday, May 26th, 2008 - 7th/8th Grade Band marches in the Memorial Day parade
Tuesday, May 27th, 2008 - Middle School Choir Concert in the HS Auditorium, 7:30pm

Sycamore School District #427
245 W. Exchange Street
Sycamore, Illinois 60178

Sycamore Music Boosters

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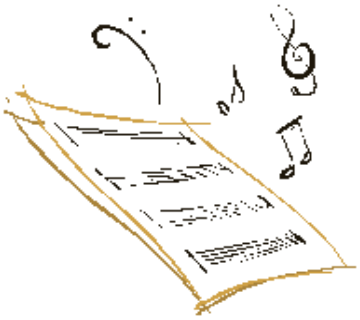
Did you know? You can keep up with current activities on our website? www.sycamoremusicboosters.com

The Sycamore Music Boosters Needs YOU!

We are always in need of chaperones, volunteers and caring parents for the many music activities our students participate in. If you would like to become more involved in supporting your child's musical interests, we are always in need of more people.



There are many opportunities to help out, here are just a few :

- Chaperones for out of school events
- Volunteers for Pumpkinfest Fund Raiser
- Accompanist for performances and in the classroom
- Phone callers for events and performances
- Pie bakers for the Antique, Craft and Flea Market
- General helpers throughout the entire school year

If you would like information on any of these opportunities to help support the music program and get to know your kids better, contact any of the board members listed on the front of this newsletter or on the website. Your kids may not say it but....Thanks for making a difference in their lives.