

Academy of Visual and Performing Arts At Culver City High School

Award Winning Musicians In CCHS' Spring Concert

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For immediate release:

Culver City – May 17, 2007: On Wednesday, May 30, AVPA will once again help make the music in the Culver City High School's Spring Music Concert in the Robert Frost Auditorium on the Culver City High School campus, 4401 Elenda Ave., in Culver City. This free concert starts at 7 p.m. and will feature the high school's Concert Band and Concert Choir as well as the middle school Choir. The AVPA Chamber Singers and Jazz Ensemble are also included in the program. No reservations are needed for this musical evening.



These young musicians from the high school – more than 75 of them –are just back from the Music in the Parks Festival which was held at Savanna High School in Anaheim on May 12. Four ensembles went to the festival – AVPA's Chamber Singers and Jazz Ensemble as well as the CCHS Concert Choir and Concert Band. The Chamber Singers and the Concert Choir both received the highest rating possible – “Superior,” a first for both these groups in the four years they've been attending the festival. The Concert Band and the Jazz Ensemble both received “Excellent” ratings. This was the Jazz Ensemble's first year at the festival. After the competition, the students enjoyed time at Disneyland where the awards ceremony was held.



Each of the groups who performed at the Music in the Parks Festival will bring their award-winning pieces to the Spring Music Concert. Here's just a small sampling of what can be heard at the concert. The Chamber Singers will perform a 16th Century English Madrigal, a set of three Mozart nocturnes, and

Lewis Carrol's "Jabberwocky." The Concert Band will perform "Crescent Moon Floats in Blue-Pink Sky," "Hymnsong Variations," and "Simple Gifts" while the Concert Choir will sing "Be Joyful with Music," "Rhythm of Life" and "I Remember." The Jazz Ensemble will include "It Don't Mean a Thing," and "How High the Moon." The middle school choir will also perform "It Don't Mean a Thing," as well as "Don't get around much anymore," "Charlottown," "Somewhere out There," and "I Only Want to be with You."



Tony Spano, AVPA's co-director and head of the CCHS music program, directs the Concert Choir, the Jazz Ensemble and the Concert Band. According to Spano, "I'm very proud of the work the Jazz Ensemble has done this year. CCHS Senior Mimi Markoe has been a great co-director of the group, helping it grow to be the biggest and best we've had at Culver High." Lisa Michel, AVPA's Chamber Singers' director, adds, "The Chamber Singers knew we were a "Superior" group, and now we have the trophy to prove it! Actually, all the students did really well and both Tony and I are very proud of them."

About the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School has been inspiring and empowering students to build a compassionate, creative community through innovative and challenging arts education since 1996. AVPA enjoys tremendous support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other area businesses as well as from the Culver City community. For more information about the Academy, go to avpa.org or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or Kristine Hatanaka at 310-842-4200 x6001.

Photo caption:

IMG_0560: AVPA's Jazz Ensemble with director Tony Spano
IMG_0551: AVPA's Chamber Singers with director Lisa Michel
IMG_0592: AVPA Musicians with their awards

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