



BHISD's Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

Mont Belvieu TX – April 12, 2021

Barbers Hill Independent School District was recently named by the NAMM Foundation as one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the United States.

This marks the sixth consecutive year BHISD music programs, including band and choir programs Pre-K to 12th grade, have received this honor.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, BHISD music programs demonstrated outstanding practices in music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs, funding, and graduation requirements, as well as providing general strategies, activities and approaches to teaching music education during a pandemic.

Supporting data was verified and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

“The music department in Barbers Hill ISD is a unifying element as students come together from all walks of life to create something beautiful. These programs provide a place where our youth belong,” said Sandra Duree, BHISD Deputy Superintendent. “Our music programs provide an opportunity for students to express themselves and to learn the value of hard work. It is rewarding that the NAMM Foundation recognizes the incredible contribution our music program makes, not only to our district, but to the community as well.”

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music. Researchers have found that students with two years of musical education show more substantial improvements in reading scores and in how the brain processes speech than do students without musical training. Students who are involved in music are also more likely to graduate high school and to attend college, in addition to gaining social benefits such as conflict resolution, teamwork skills, and learning how to give and receive constructive criticism.

“I am honored to work in a district that supports music education,” said Kevin Stone, Barbers Hill ISD Director of Bands. “Despite the numerous challenges encountered throughout this school year, students and staff have remained committed to students’ personal musical development. This level of perseverance and dedication is fostered by ongoing participation in music programs.”

Barbers Hill Independent School District is a suburban district in western Chambers County and encompasses four communities: Mont Belvieu, Old River-Winfree, Cove, and Beach City. For more information about BHISD, please visit www.bhisd.net.

About The NAMM Foundation

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,400 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving and public service programs. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, please visit www.nammfoundation.org.

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