

## SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SMMUSD Students Perform in 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups**

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (Feb. 17, 2026) – Student musicians from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) were selected to perform in the 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups presented by the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA).

The honor groups are part of the annual SCSBOA Professional Development Music Conference and include more than 1,000 of the top student musicians from across Southern California. Students performed Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at the Riverside Convention Center following a competitive audition process.



*John Adams Middle School students from the 2026 All-Southern Honors group.*

SMMUSD students represented elementary, middle and high school ensembles, including honor band and orchestra groups.



*Lincoln Middle School students from the 2026 All-Southern Honors group.*

“Being selected for an All-Southern Honor Group is a tremendous honor and a testament to the dedication of our students and teachers,” said Dr. Jim Wang, SMMUSD coordinator of visual and performing arts. “When our students step onto a regional stage alongside the top musicians in Southern California, they experience a deep sense of belonging within a broader artistic community. They refine their skills through curiosity and discipline, and they are empowered to perform at the highest level. These opportunities reflect the core values we strive to cultivate across SMMUSD.”

SMMUSD’s visual and performing arts programs provide students with opportunities to grow as musicians, collaborators and leaders. Participation in regional honor ensembles reinforces the District’s commitment to belonging, curiosity and empowerment while celebrating excellence in music education.

For more information about the All-Southern Honor Groups, visit [www.scsboa.org](http://www.scsboa.org).

**2026 All-Southern Honor Groups Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Student Participants**

*-more-*

### **Elementary Honor Band**

- Casey Quon, Franklin Elementary School
- Nawat “Alex” Wattanalaowit, Lincoln Middle School

### **Middle School Symphonic Band**

- Ross Sullivan, John Adams Middle School

### **Middle School String Orchestra**

- Henry Fitzgerald, Lincoln Middle School
- David Gee, Lincoln Middle School
- Ariela Ostrovsky, Lincoln Middle School

### **Middle School Full Orchestra**

- Maelle Daniels, John Adams Middle School
- Liam Gillespie-Breslo, John Adams Middle School
- Indy Guggenheim, John Adams Middle School
- Joshua Hochberg, Lincoln Middle School
- Kaden Lin, Lincoln Middle School
- Hailey Nosho, John Adams Middle School
- Jackson Walther, John Adams Middle School

### **High School Symphonic Band**

- Alex Dimitrov, Santa Monica High School
- Angelina Knight-Weber, Santa Monica High School

### **High School Wind Ensemble**

- Nathaniel Chin, Santa Monica High School
- Elle Guggenheim, Santa Monica High School
- Matti Scott, Santa Monica High School

### **High School Symphony Orchestra**

- Grayson Fitzgerald, Santa Monica High School
- Ryan Hajmomenian, Santa Monica High School



*Santa Monica High School students from the 2026  
All-Southern Honors group.*

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### Estudiantes del SMMUSD interpretan en el 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (Feb. 17, 2026) – Músicos estudiantes del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Santa Mónica Malibú (SMMUSD) fueron elegidos para participar en el 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups (Grupos de Honor de toda la Región Sur 2026) a cargo de la Asociación de Banda y Orquesta de las Escuelas del Sur de California (SCSBOA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Los grupos de honor forman parte de la Conferencia del Desarrollo Profesional Musical de la SCSBOA anual e incluye a más de 1,000 de los mejores músicos estudiantes de todo el Sur de California. Los estudiantes interpretaron el 31 de enero y 1 de febrero en el Centro de Convenciones de Riverside, tras un competitivo proceso de audición.



*Estudiantes de la Secundaria John Adams Middle del 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups.*

Los estudiantes del SMMUSD representaron grupo de primaria, secundaria y preparatoria, abarcando los grupos de banda y orquestas de honor.



*Los estudiantes de la Secundaria Lincoln Middle del 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups.*

“Haber sido elegido para el grupo All-Southern Honor Group es un gran honor y testimonio de la dedicación de nuestros estudiantes y maestros”, dijo el Dr. Jim Wang, coordinador de Artes Visuales y Escénicas del SMMUSD. “Cuando nuestros estudiantes interpretan en los mismos escenarios que otros músicos de renombre del Sur de California, experimentan un profundo sentimiento de pertenencia con una comunidad musical más amplia; afinan sus habilidades a través de la curiosidad y la disciplina, y se sienten empoderados para interpretar al más alto nivel. Estas oportunidades reflejan los valores

fundamentales que buscamos cultivar en todo el SMMUSD”.

El programa de artes visuales y escénicas del SMMUSD ofrece a los estudiantes oportunidades de crecer como músicos, colaboradores y líderes. La participación en grupos de honor regionales solidifica el compromiso de pertenencia, curiosidad y empoderamiento que se fomenta en el Distrito, al tiempo que celebra la excelencia en educación musical.

Para más información acerca de All-Southern Honor Groups, dirigirse a [www.scsboa.org](http://www.scsboa.org).

## **Estudiantes del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Santa Mónica-Malibú participantes en el 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups**

### **Banda de honor de la primaria**

- Casey Quon, Escuela Primaria Franklin
- Nawat "Alex" Wattanalaowit, Secundaria Lincoln Middle

### **Banda sinfónica de la escuela secundaria**

- Ross Sullivan, Secundaria John Adams Middle

### **Orquesta de instrumentos de cuerda de la secundaria**

- Henry Fitzgerald, Secundaria Lincoln Middle
- David Gee, Secundaria Lincoln Middle
- Ariela Ostrovsky, Secundaria Lincoln Middle

### **Orquesta completa de la secundaria**

- Maelle Daniels, Secundaria John Adams Middle
- Liam Gillespie-Breslo, Secundaria John Adams Middle
- Indy Guggenheim, Secundaria John Adams Middle
- Joshua Hochberg, Secundaria Lincoln Middle
- Kaden Lin, Secundaria Lincoln Middle
- Hailey Nosho, Secundaria John Adams Middle
- Jackson Walther, Secundaria John Adams Middle



*Estudiantes de la Preparatoria Santa Monica High  
del 2026 All-Southern Honor Groups.*

### **Banda sinfónica de la preparatoria**

- Alex Dimitrov, Preparatoria Santa Monica High
- Angelina Knight-Weber, Preparatoria Santa Monica High

### **Grupo de instrumentos de viento de la preparatoria**

- Nathaniel Chin, Preparatoria Santa Monica High
- Elle Guggenheim, Preparatoria Santa Monica High
- Matti Scott, Preparatoria Santa Monica High

### **Orquesta sinfónica de la preparatoria**

- Grayson Fitzgerald, Preparatoria Santa Monica High
- Ryan Hajmomenian, Preparatoria Santa Monica High

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