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OCTOBER SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE



Dear Upland Unified School District Community,

The arrival of fall has brought many reasons to celebrate across Upland Unified!

We kicked off the month with our fifth annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration on October 1, bringing our community together to honor the rich heritage, culture, history, and traditions of our Latino families. Attendees enjoyed student performances, live music, student artwork, and delicious food from local vendors.

Congratulations to the Upland High School (UHS) Highland Regiment for its outstanding performance at the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association competition on October 3, earning Sweepstakes honors and sweeping every caption! This achievement is a testament to the strength of our District's arts programs, which have helped nearly all of the Regiment's instrumentalists develop their musical talents beginning in elementary or middle school.

The arts continued to shine with UHS Theatre's production of "Sense and Sensibility...and Margaret." Thank you to the community members who came out to support our talented student performers and the dedicated students working behind the scenes to bring this production to life.

Our fall sports teams have also given us much to celebrate as their seasons come to a close. The UHS flag football team advanced to the second round of the CIF Division 2 playoffs, demonstrating determination and teamwork throughout an impressive season. We applaud all our student-athletes for their hard work and dedication.

We also joined in the fall festivities at Scary-A-Faire on October 24, connecting with families and community members for an evening of seasonal fun and celebration.

As we look ahead to the holiday season, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our administrators, teachers, and classified staff for the care, commitment, and passion they bring to our schools each day. Their efforts, together with the continued support of our families and community, are what make Upland Unified such a special place to learn and grow. Thank you for all you do to help us continue *Creating Excellence for All.*

In gratitude,

Lynn J. Carmen Day, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Upland Unified School District



Upland High School Regiment Celebrates Competition Sweep, Nearly Doubles in Size Since 2021

The Upland High School (UHS) Highland Regiment is marching to the beat of success, sweeping all captions at a recent Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) competition while celebrating a remarkable resurgence that has seen the program nearly double since 2021.

Competing against other Division 6A high school bands at Colony High School on October 3, the Regiment earned Sweepstakes honors in every caption, marking a significant achievement for a program that has steadily rebuilt its membership following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Regiment has grown from 100 students in 2021 to 198 this year, nearly doubling in size. With 78 freshmen joining the program this fall, the Regiment's continued growth reflects strong student interest in music education and a thriving culture of camaraderie, teamwork, and school pride.

"To see how far this program has come in just a few years is incredibly rewarding," UHS Director of Bands Ernest Miranda said. "We've worked hard to rebuild our program following the pandemic, and our students have embraced every opportunity to grow and improve. Sweeping the competition is a tremendous accomplishment, but what makes it especially meaningful is knowing how much dedication, teamwork, and perseverance went into getting us here."



The Highland Regiment includes a pipe band, drum line, color guard, jazz bands, and wind ensemble, providing students with opportunities to explore their musical interests while developing valuable skills that extend beyond the performance field.

This year's field show, "The Vanishing Act," features a circus theme complete with ringleaders, red-and-white striped tents, and costumes inspired by circus performers, showcasing students' musical talents and precision on the field. Read the full article.



Upland Unified's robust arts education programs are inspiring the next generation of artists, musicians, and performers, beginning in elementary school. Through the District's HeARTs program, students in grades K-6 explore their creativity through music, dance, theater, visual arts, and media arts. Elementary General Music Teacher Audrey Monfreda is a shining example of the lasting impact of arts education, having discovered her own passion for music as an Upland Unified student before returning to teach at the District and inspire young musicians. Her story reflects the power of arts education to spark lifelong passions and open doors to future opportunities.



Students from Baldy View Dual Language Immersion Academy showcased their talents during Upland Unified's fifth annual Hispanic Heritage Month Festival with a special cultural performance on October 1. The performance highlighted the District's dual language immersion program, which fosters bilingualism, biliteracy, and cultural appreciation while giving students opportunities to celebrate and share the rich traditions of the communities they represent.