



For Immediate Release

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Choice Music Events Announces Mark of Excellence Results

Lubbock, Texas, 9/1/07 — Choice Music Events' first annual Mark of Excellence Contest was an outstanding success due to the participation of many fine high school and middle school bands, jazz bands, and orchestras across the nation. The Mark of Excellence recorded music contest offers bands, choirs, and orchestras the unprecedented opportunity to earn national recognition for their musical achievement while creating a unique, competitive environment that allows ensembles to compare their performance quality to that of other outstanding groups from across the country.

The 2006 Mark of Excellence results are as follows:

Middle School Band National Finalist:

- Ereckson Middle School Honor Band, Ann Peace
- Indian Springs Middle School Wind Ensemble, David Puckett

Middle School Overall Outstanding Band:

- Space Center Intermediate School Symphonic Band, Donald McCandless

High School Band National Finalist:

- Allen High School Wind Ensemble, Anthony Gibson
- Clements High School Symphonic Band, Larry Matysiak
- Conroe High School Wind Ensemble, Bobby W. Heathcock

High School Overall Outstanding Band:

- Spring High School Symphonic Band, Gabe Musella

High School Overall Outstanding Full Orchestra:

- Allen High School Full Orchestra, David DeVoto

High School Overall Outstanding String Orchestra:

- Poteet High School Varsity String Orchestra, Vernon Lewis

Overall Outstanding Instrumental Jazz Ensemble:

- Woodlake Hills Middle School Jazz Ensemble, Penny Compton

Choice Music Events' Board of Trustees President Jon Locke stated, "Although the participation in the first year of any event is never as high as we would hope, the recordings that were submitted this year were all very respectable. After speaking with the evaluators that listened and commented on the submissions – I was glad to hear how much they enjoyed what the directors and their programs were able to do last year."

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Mark of Excellence (page 2)

The Mark of Excellence participants are also given the opportunity, at the adjudicators' discretion, to have their submitted selections included in the Mark of Excellence recording series. This collection of reference recordings will be available for sale to the public in the near future. The proceeds from the Mark of Excellence series will be contributed to the Director's Choice Foundation For Music Education which provides college scholarships for music education majors.

For additional information, please contact:

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Choice Music Events is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing all band, choir, and orchestra students with positive, educational, and enriching performance opportunities while enhancing the music education profession. By offering events ranging from competitive adjudicated festivals to nationally promoted concerts, Choice Music Events is able to provide performance opportunities for ensembles of every age and caliber. Choice Music Events is continually searching for innovative ways to improve and expand its product offerings without losing the ideals that have made current events successful. Choice Music Events is recognized as a 501(c)(3) not-for profit educational organization. Choice Music Events' world headquarters are located in Lubbock, Texas.

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