



Spotswood Public Schools

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SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BANDS EXCEL AT MUSIC IN THE PARKS

SPOTSWOOD, NJ - This past weekend, the Spotswood High School Concert Band, Honors Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band traveled to Williamsburg, VA to participate in the **Music in the Parks** performance festival, competing against some of the finest instrumental ensembles in North America. The goal of **Music in the Parks**, one of the largest and widespread festival organizations across the United States and Canada, is to provide middle school and high school students with positive and constructive feedback throughout the competition process, all while validating the tremendous amount of hours that go into the preparation for a performance festival. All groups are adjudicated by college professors, professional musicians and clinicians, and are subsequently ranked among each other according to difficulty of music and rated based on numeric score. Comments are digitally recorded by each adjudicator and given to the directors so that students and directors alike can reflect on their performance. At this year's Williamsburg festival, the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York, Maryland, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Ohio, and Vermont were represented.

During Saturday's award ceremony at Busch Gardens, the Spotswood High School Bands earned the following honors:

Honors Wind Ensemble – Rated “Excellent” and placed 1st in Concert Band Class IA

Jazz Band - Rated “Excellent” and placed 1st in Jazz Ensemble Class A; received trophy for “Best Overall Jazz Ensemble”

Concert Band – Rated “Superior” and placed 2nd in Concert Band Class IIA

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