



# Spotswood Public Schools

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND HONORED AT THE ANNUAL FESTIVALS OF MUSIC IN BOSTON

SPOTSWOOD, NJ - This past weekend, the Spotswood High School Concert Band, Honors Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band traveled to Boston, MA to participate in the **Festivals of Music** performance festival, competing against some of the finest instrumental ensembles in North America. The goal of **Festivals of Music**, 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 Boston, MA festival, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Canada were represented.

During Sunday's award ceremony at the Duxbury Performing Arts Center, the SHS Bands earned the following honors:

- Honors Wind Ensemble – Rated “Excellent” and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in Concert Band Class AA

- Jazz Band - Placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Jazz Ensemble Class A; sophomore Andrew Faulkenberry received the medal for “Outstanding Jazz Soloist” for all high school jazz bands
- Concert Band – Rated “Excellent” and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Concert Band Class A

Congratulations to all of our talented students for their hard work in rehearsals and dedication to performance!

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