

2007–2008 WMEA All–States offer opportunities to over 1,600 students



Backstage with WMEA All-State enables participants to get an in–depth look at the events.

The All-State “season” kicked-off on October 20 in Olympia with the West Junior All-State Band, Orchestra and Choir presenting their concert in the Washington Center for the Performing Arts. The next Saturday the East Junior All-State Band, Orchestra and Choir performed at Lewis and Clark High School in Spokane.



For many students, especially those from small schools, participating in honor groups of this size and quality is a new experience. One student said, “The thing I will remember most is when we first walked out onto the stage. It was an automatic adrenaline rush. This was the biggest audience I have ever performed for.”

Though they all commented on how hard they worked, the young musicians found it to be very rewarding. One wrote, “I thought the concert was AWESOME! We sounded great, and I think the

crowd agreed. This program should go on forever because it helps students get better and allows them to meet new people. It is the coolest program ever!”

WMEA’s Young Musicians Excelling fund was able to lower the cost of participation for all students and to provide additional assistance to the most needy students.



WMEA makes no profit from All-State.



Andrea Peterson, who teaches elementary music in Granite Falls, talks about her experiences as 2007 National Teacher of the Year at the SunDome Backstage event. She said she has told countless audiences that students learn 21st century workforce readiness skills in their music classes: critical thinking, hardwork ethic/discipline, teamwork, concentration/focus and leadership.



Two young performers clap their hands and stomp their feet to the tune of Johnson Boys.

The 150-voice Youth Honor Chorus performed at the Capitol Theatre in Yakima as part of WMEA’s conference in February. Sixty-one schools were represented by the fifth- and sixth-graders who made up the chorus. The younger students echoed the sentiments of the students in the junior and high school honor groups saying that it was an “awesome experience.” Teachers have called this a “never-to-be-forgotten experience and a treasured memory for all.”

WMEA and the Young Musicians Excelling fund invite you to contribute to these marvelous events.

Your support of these students offers them the opportunity to reach beyond the level possible in a regular school setting. They all go back to their schools inspired by what they have accomplished and serve as leaders in their own school music programs.

The WMEA Youth Honor Chorus and WMEA All-State Band, Orchestra and Choir, as well as the All-Northwest Honor Groups, will be in Spokane in February 2009 in conjunction with the MENC Northwest Conference. WMEA Junior All-States will be held in March 2009, one on each side of the state.

If you would like more information about WMEA or YME, please visit our website: www.wmea.org or contact our office: office@wmea.org, or 800-324-WMEA.



The Jazz Band and Jazz Choir presented their concert on Saturday night at the WMEA conference in Yakima in February. Forty-six musicians performed in the jazz groups; they represented 29 high schools throughout the state.

The All-State Capitol Theatre Gala Concert featured the smaller groups: Treble Choir (157), Wind Ensemble (58), Chamber Orchestra (72) and Wind Symphony (63).

The SunDome Gala Concert included the larger groups: Concert Band (113), Symphonic Choir (306) and Symphony Orchestra (138).



“The whole All-State experience is unforgettable. I’ll always remember the friends I made, and I will never forget the wonderful music and the amazing sound we produced at the concert.”

