



Berkner Area Orchestra Club

Accomplishments just keep on coming....

Mrs. Cies Receives STARS Award

Congratulations to Jody Cies, who recently received one of this year's RISD STARS Teacher Awards. The STARS award is given each year to ten teachers in the district who exemplify the kind of commitment to children which results in high levels of learning and achievement. This is a very big honor and we are proud of you, Mrs. Cies. This is Mrs. Cies' eighth year as Assistant Orchestra Director at Apollo Junior High. She had the privilege of being the assistant director at Apollo when the Apollo Symphony Orchestra was awarded the Honor Orchestra for the state of Texas in 1999, 2001 and 2003. In addition to teaching in Richardson, she has taught in Dallas and Garland. Mrs. Cies is also a violinist with the Richardson Symphony Orchestra, and she is one cool teacher. Way to go, Mrs. Cies!



A letter from the BAOC President...

Dear Parents, Teachers, and Students,

So much has happened in the closing months of this semester! The Berkner orchestras enjoyed a wonderful trip to Corpus Christi, the highlight of which was winning the "Best of Show" award. Fun and good times were had by all.

Casting a backward glance over my shoulder, all I can say is what a wonderful first year it has been with our new director Mr. Craig Needham and assistant director Ms. Janet Paderewski, who, working with Mr. Mark Davenport, have brought tremendous work ethics, energy and creativity to our program, and that is not easy to do, as BAOC schools have a legacy of having some of the best fine arts programs in the area.

Although I think it often, I scarcely say it enough, a huge round of "thank you" to all of the parents and friends of the orchestra for your willingness to volunteer, participate, and attend performances. As many of you know, past changes in school funding

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BAOC Information

President's letter...continued

have put tremendous pressure on activities like those supported by BAOB as well as numerous other activities both extracurricular and in the classroom – especially in districts like R.I.S.D. which are deemed to be wealthy. Although the legislature recently passed a new school funding mechanism, it is not expected to lessen the pressure on these types of activities. The upshot is that your support remains as critical as it has ever been. The value of participation in activities like orchestra cannot be overestimated. Of the top ten students in the graduating class of 2006, seven were in orchestra. And beyond that elite level, numerous of the seniors within orchestra were awarded scholarships for music, academic, and/or athletic reasons.

As you may know, this is my final President's letter. My youngest son is among those in the graduating class of 2006. Amanda and John Aiuvalasit are taking on the roles of Co-presidents for the coming year. Please extend to them the strength of your support as you did during my tenure. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve within this wonderful organization and community. And, as the poet said,

"Adieu, adieu, parting is such sweet sorrow."

Happy listening,

Beverly Beach

BAOB Immediate Past President

Did you know???

Seven of the top ten students in the graduating class of 2006 are in Orchestra!! The BAOB sends a crescendo of congratulations to the following Seniors of '06 for their outstanding academic achievements.

1. Alex Lu (orchestra)
2. William Vijverberg
3. Amelia Moore
4. James Kershaw (orchestra)
5. Jonathan Kershaw (orchestra)
6. Katherine Liang (orchestra)
7. Judy Huang (orchestra)
8. Jason Ma (orchestra)
9. Marie Lawrence
10. Samuel Wu (orchestra)

We wish each of you and the entire 2006 graduating class all the best as you go out and *take on the world.....*

A letter from a BAOB parent...



THANK YOU BAOB MEMBERS

My son, John Macari, plays the bass in the Intermediate Orchestra at Liberty Junior High under the direction of Mr. Cook. On January 12, 2006 our home was destroyed by a fire and your organization was instrumental for our recovery by donating a generous amount of money. My son and I want to express our gratitude to all of those that contributed in such a thoughtful manner. Please let them know that we appreciate their prayers and caring attitude. It meant a lot to us knowing that so many people were willing to help us get through such a difficult time.

Thank you again, and may God continue to shower all of you with blessings, so you can keep helping others as much as you helped us.

Monica C. Vazquez



Berkner Ram Orchestra

Director: Craig Needham / 469-593-7028 / e-mail: craig.needham@risd.org

Assistant Director: Mark Davenport / 469-593-7244 / e-mail: mark.davenport@risd.org

Assistant Director: Janet Paderewski / 469-593-8914 / e-mail: janet.paderewski@risd.org

Berkner Orchestra Office — 469-593-7028

Berkner Ramblings ...

The BHS orchestra students had a wonderful time in Corpus Christi on this year's spring trip to the South Coast Music Festival. We departed bright and early on April 6th, made a 110-person run on an H.E.B. supermarket (you've never seen frozen pizzas disappear so fast!), and had a relaxing evening of dinner, basketball, and swimming at our condos.

Friday morning saw us putting on our uniforms and heading to Flour Bluff High School for our performances. The Combined Philharmonic/Freshman/Chamber Orchestra wowed the judges with "The Delta King" by Keuning and "Three Slavonic Dances" by Dvorak. The Symphony Orchestra won the coveted "Best in Class" trophy for their rendition of "Voyage for String Orchestra" by Corigliano and the Finale from the "Serenade for Strings" by Tschai-kowsky.

Fresh from that victory, we returned to the condos for an afternoon at the beach or the pool. In the evening, the orchestra officers prepared a tasty dinner on the barbecue grill. Hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, and soda disappeared at an unbelievable rate of speed while all of us spent a lovely evening together.

We took a sunset cruise in Corpus Christi Bay on Friday evening. There were a few "landlubbers" on the excursion, but most of the passengers were our students. Watching a sunset on the Gulf Coast is something everyone should experience, and we had a terrific time.

Students had a choice between two sightseeing opportunities on Saturday morning. Some students took a self-guided tour of the U.S.S. Lexington, a decommissioned battleship the size of a small town. Others went through the Texas World Aquarium and got to pet such diverse creatures as snakes and stingrays.

There was pool and beach time galore upon our return. Every condo created a dish to bring to that night's pot-luck dinner, where Mr. Needham announced the awards from the contest and was presented with lovely gifts from the orchestra officers. Somehow, the photo of those lovely gifts has vanished from the computer.

Sunday morning we checked out of the condos and bid farewell to the Gulf of Mexico as we headed back for the sunny skies of Richardson.

Berkner Ramblings continued on page 4...

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This trip would not have been possible without the parents who gave up a weekend's worth of sleep to chaperone the orchestra students. A thousand heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Beach, Mrs. Lue, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Ngo, Mrs. Parsonault, Mrs. Sneed, and Mr. & Mrs. Witherspoon. Extra-special thanks go to BHS Assistant Principal Bill Gallo for being such a supportive and enthusiastic administrator.



BHS holds a Student Recognition Breakfast every semester. This semester's Orchestra honorees were Michael El-Dabaghi, Michael Jacobs, and Anthony Nguyen. Congratulations to these fine students!



The BHS Grand Finale concert was a rousing success! Five groups performed on Monday, May 1st: the combined Elementary Orchestra, the Intermediate Orchestra, the Advanced Orchestra, the combined Philharmonic/Freshman/Chamber Orchestra, and the Symphony Orchestra. The music was fast-paced and fun, and everyone enjoyed performing and listening. After the concert, the traditional slide show of seniors' baby and graduation pictures was presented and we bid a formal farewell to the Orchestra Class of 2006.



Auditions for the 2006-07 BHS Orchestras were held May 9-12. All violinists auditioned for Mr. Needham, all violists for Mr. Davenport, and cello/bass/harp players auditioned for Ms. Paderewski.

The following students were not required to audition: freshmen (unless they were auditioning for the Symphony Orchestra), 9th-11th graders wishing to be placed in the Chamber Orchestra, and those students who made the All-State Orchestra in 2006.



Summer music camps are a wonderful way to keep your skills up and make new friends. If you are interested, please contact your director. Scholarships for tuition are available upon your acceptance to a camp.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER...

THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR !!!



Apollo Junior High Panthers

Director: Lynne Thornton/469-593-8015/e-mail: lynne.thornton@risd.org
Assistant Director: Jody Cies/469-593-8016/e-mail: jody.cies@risd.org

Apollo Orchestra News :

UIL results— UIL Middle School Orchestra Concert and Sight-reading Contest was held on March 30th at North Garland HS. Apollo received first division ratings from all judges resulting in the orchestra being awarded a **Sweepstakes Trophy**. Congratulations students! After the contest the orchestra members and their chaperones enjoyed dinner at the Golden Corral restaurant in Richardson.

Sandy Lake—The Apollo and Liberty combined Intermediate Orchestras performed at the Sandy Lake Orchestra Funfest at Sandy Lake Park in Carrollton, TX on Thursday, May 11. They played Calypso Capers by Eliot Del Borgo and Fiddles Out West by Mark Williams. The judges were very complimentary in their comments and awarded the orchestra **all first division ratings**. Liberty and Apollo are sharing the trophy!

The combined Apollo feeder elementaries of Big Springs, Yale, Dartmouth, and Mark Twain competed at the Sandy Lake Orchestra Funfest on Friday May 12. The orchestra performed Cinnamon by Stoutamire and Henderson and Clog Dance by Del Borgo. **Once again, the judges gave lots of favorable comments and awarded the orchestra all first division ratings. The trophy is making the rounds of all four elementary schools.**

The weather was beautiful for the two days at Sandy Lake. The students had plenty of time to ride the rides, eat food from the concession stands, and play and visit with their orchestra friends.

Today I wander off to play
My little violin I pray.
I hope no squeaks will leave my strings.
And to all my friends I hope no-thing
Will happen upon the ride,
No matter which one I should decide.
A perfect score I hope we make,
When we all go toSandy Lake!

Penned by Loretta Porter for her son,
Hunter Porter, at Dartmouth Elementary,
May 12, 2006.

Peak Music Festival—What a wonderful day it was on Wednesday, May 3rd, as our Symphony Orchestra performed in the beautiful Murchison Performing Arts Center at UNT in Denton. We received a 1st division trophy, a best in class trophy, and our harpist, our 1st violins, and our violas received certificates of merit.

Mrs. Thornton and Mrs. Cies would like to thank all the graduating 8th grade orchestra parents who have worked so hard to support the students and teachers of the Apollo orchestra this year. Special thanks go to **Mrs. Lupita Villarreal** and **Mrs. Ellen Parsonault** who have given extraordinary amounts of time and energy supporting the Apollo orchestras the last couple of years!



....and the Panthers play on



Liberty Junior High Patriots

Director: David Cook/ 469-593-7836 /e-mail: david.cook@risd.org



Sixth Grade Orchestra News—Liberty Cluster:

It has been a busy spring! The combined classes from the Liberty cluster elementary schools performed with the Apollo cluster schools on the annual **BAOC Finale Concert** at Berkner on Monday, May 1st. The orchestra performed "Clog Dance" and "Cinnamon".

On Tuesday, May 9th, the Liberty Cluster 6th Grade Orchestra competed at the 2006 **Sandy Lake Funfest**. The orchestra performed "Clog Dance" and "Bow-Regard's Parade". The orchestra was awarded a **First Division Trophy** for their excellent efforts.

The Liberty Cluster 6th Grade Orchestra performed at the **Liberty Spring Concert** on May 17th. The orchestra performed "Clog Dance", "Cinnamon" and "Bow-Regard's Parade".

Several of the Liberty Elementary Orchestras performed for their school's **May PTA meetings**. In addition, O'Henry and Springridge performed for their Sixth Grade Graduation Ceremony.

Liberty Orchestra News:

The Intermediate and Advanced Orchestras combined with the Apollo Orchestras to perform on the annual **BAOC Finale Concert** on May 1st. The Intermediate Orchestra performed "Fiddles Out West" and "Calypso Capers". The Advanced Orchestra performed "Free Flight" and "You Raise Me Up" featuring Liberty violinist **Bryan Chen** on electric violin.

The Intermediate Orchestra combined with the Apollo Intermediate Orchestra for a competition at the **Sandy Lake Funfest**. The combined orchestra was awarded a **First Division Trophy** for their excellent performance.

The **Liberty Spring Concert** was held on Wednesday, May 17th. The concert featured all the orchestras from the Liberty Cluster. This well attended concert featured music from Handel's "Hornpipe" to rock'n'roll with "Born to Be Wild".

Mr. Cook is very excited about the outlook for next year's Liberty Orchestras. The advanced and intermediate orchestras will be the largest in a few years. The new beginner class is building in size as we progress from the Spring semester to August. If you know of anyone who is interested in starting orchestra but has not yet signed up, please let them know that it is not too late.

They should contact Mr.. Cook at: 469-593-7836 or david.cook@risd.org

Mr.. Cook will be monitoring his school phone and email during the summer.

Thanks for a Great BAOC year.

Senior Thoughts

Upon completion of the Senior year, our seniors have earned a space in this newsletter to share their thoughts. The **Orchestra Class of 2006** has 30 seniors and here are their thoughts to our top 10 questions:

Senior Questions:

1. Where are you going to college? Or, if undecided, where have you applied?
2. What are you planning on majoring in?
3. Are you looking into music scholarships at the college of your choice?
4. Will you continue to play if there is an outlet or organization to participate in?
5. What made you want to join orchestra?
6. Why have you stayed in as long as you have?
7. What was the most memorable experience you have had?
8. What advice would you give beginners?
9. What are some of your hobbies?
10. List any activities you have participated in since 9th grade, including honors or scholarships that you have received (NHS, All-Region/State Orch., National Merit Semi-Finalist, etc.) — including outside of school.

DOUG BEACH

1. The University of Missouri—Rolla
2. Double Major: Computer Science and Computer Engineering
3. No
4. Yes
5. The smooth sound of the cello entranced my mind.
6. For the love of performing and music
7. I've played music that professional symphonies played, and sometimes played better than them.
8. You have to truly enjoy music and your instrument or you won't stay with it.
9. Football, lifting weights, reading fantasies, hanging with friends.
10. All Region: 1 yr
Berkner Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Music Festival: 4 yrs
Football: 4 yrs
Mu Alpha Theta: 3 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 yrs
Member of Central Christian Church Youth Group
Scholarship: University of Missouri—Rolla

ANITA CHEUNG

1. The University of Texas at Austin
2. Business
3. No
4. Yes
5. My Asian parents
6. Because I enjoy playing

7. Orchestra trip to Corpus; having Mr. D. as a director
8. Practice!
9. Listening to music, reading, playing basketball
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
Berkner Girls Service Society: 2 yrs
Chamber Music Festival
Key Club
Mu Alpha Theta: 3 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 yrs, Senior Representative
National Spanish Honor Society: 2 yrs; Secretary
Orchestra Officer: 2 yrs
Spanish Club
Student Council
Student Recognition Breakfast
Who's Who Among American High School Students
Member of First Baptist Church of Richardson Choir and Youth Group

CARLEIGH CROCKETT

1. Brookhaven for a year, then transfer to the College for Creative Studies in Detroit
2. Glass or Fine Art
3. If I end up going to a University, yes.
4. Yes
5. I had always wanted to play the harp
6. Seeing the progression from year to year
7. The Colorado trip
8. Stick with it
9. Painting, seeing concerts, running
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
Cross Country
Diving
Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra—Sinfonietta

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BRYSE DAVIS

1. University of North Texas
2. English
3. Not really
4. Yes
5. It was unique, cool, and I've always liked classical music
6. Because I enjoy making music, especially with such great people
7. Getting snowed in at Colorado last year
8. Practice and have fun
9. Playing poker, weightlifting, playing sports
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 AcDec: 1 yr
 All Region: 1 yr
 Billards: 1 yr
 Boy Scouts—1st Class Scout
 French Club: 2 yrs
 Student Recognition Breakfast
 Who's Who Among American High School Students— 2 yrs

MIKE EL-DABAGHI

1. Richland College
2. Medicine
3. Nah
4. No, but I'll play on my own (but you never know where life will take ya)
5. Music! I love it!
6. Love to play, love to learn.
7. Football on the beach
8. Practice and have fun

9. Football, playing instrument, movies
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
 Football
 National Honor Society

TAYLOR FOSTER

1. Baylor University
2. Forensic Science
3. No
4. Undecided
5. I went to a wedding when I was little and I was and heard a cello. I've been hooked ever since.
6. I love playing the cello, performing gives me an indescribable feeling.
7. Playing at UIL my junior year. I'd never felt that intense before. I will never forget that feeling for as long as I live.
8. There are going to be both good and bad days, just remember that without the bad days the good days wouldn't be as good.
9. I love to sing and dance.
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 Basketball: 3 yrs
 Berkner Girls Service Society: 2 yrs
 Chamber Music Festival: 6 yrs
 Colorguard: 3 yrs
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes
 Key Club
 National Honor Roll: 2 yrs
 National Honor Society: 5 yrs
 Soccer: 3 yrs
 Softball: 2 yrs

Senior Thoughts

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Student Council: 2 yrs

Students Against Destructive Decisions: 2 yrs

Track: 3 yrs

Volleyball: 3 yrs

Who's Who Among American High School

Students— 2 yrs

Member of First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park

Choir and Stomp Team

Who's Who Among American High School

Students

Scholarships:

Ayn Rand Institute for Fountainhead essay

Comcast Foundation

Richardson Woman's Club

Texas Student Housing Authority

AMY FULBRIGHT

1. University of Texas at Dallas
2. Accounting and Information Management
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Can't blow the recorder — had to do percussion or strings
6. Spring trip & banquet (oh yeah, and the people)
7. Getting kidnapped sophomore year; soph. spring trip to Corpus.
8. Get into private lessons as soon as possible
9. Sudoku, crosswords, jigsaws, reading
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
AcDec: 2 yrs
Chamber Music Festival: 3 yrs
Choir: 1 yr
Girl Scouts: 13 yrs
National Honor Society: Jr. Representative, Publicity Chair
Orchestra Officer
Social Club: 2 yrs
Student Recognition Breakfast: 1 yr
Umoja Tops: 2 years; President

LYLY HOANG

1. University of Texas at Dallas
2. Electrical Engineering
3. No
4. Yes
5. I like the music and to be with my friends
6. I enjoy playing
7. Corpus trip
8. Have fun
9. I like to read, play tennis, take pictures, and build stuff
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
Chamber Music Festival
Key Club
Mu Alpha Theta: 4 yrs
National Honor Roll: 4 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 yrs
Tennis: 1 yr
Who's Who Among American High School
Students
Member of Mother of Perpetual Help Parish Church
Church Choir and Youth Group

Senior Thoughts

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7. What was the most memorable experience you have had?
8. What advice would you give beginners?
9. What are some of your hobbies?
10. List any activities you have participated in since 9th grade, including honors or scholarships that you have received (NHS, All-Region/State Orch., National Merit Semi-Finalist, etc.) — including outside of school.

THOMAS HOANG

1. Northlake Community College, then transferring to UTD
2. Theology and Music
3. Maybe
4. Yes
5. My mother signed me up
6. Fun; loved music
7. White elephant gifts
8. Practice, be sociable, and have fun
9. The place I go to the most is church; I play piano there
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
Member of Mother of Perpetual Help Church Choir
Member of Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Group:
13 yrs

CASEY HODGES

1. Texas A&M University
2. Petroleum Engineering
3. N/A
4. Yes, playing in the band
5. In 6th grade I was afraid of spit
6. Because it is fun being part of one of the best orchestras in the stage
7. When J.L. dropped his bass and it shattered and the subsequent cookie dough fundraiser
8. Even if you don't like it in the early years, stay in because the end result is well worth it.
9. —
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region: 4 yrs
Band: 2 yrs
Boy Scouts—Eagle Scout

Chamber Music Festival: 4 yrs; 3 Honor Awards
Croquet: 2 yrs
Mu Alpha Theta: 2 yrs
Musical: 2 yrs
National Honor Society
Who's Who Among American High School Students

JUDY HUANG

1. Texas A&M University
2. Psychology
3. No. Forgot.
4. Yes
5. I wanted to sit.
6. Can't quit
7. Colorado
8. Stick with it
9. Rock climbing / snow boarding
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region
Chamber Music Festival
Chess Club
Debate Team
French Club
National Honor Roll
National Honor Society
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Orchestra Officer
Peer Tutor
Student Council Officer
Member of DCBC Choir and Youth Group

Senior Thoughts

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9. What are some of your hobbies?
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DEBORAH KANG

1. University of Texas at Dallas
2. Pre-dentistry or Business
3. No
4. No, just as a hobby
5. I wanted to be in the band, but I didn't want to march...too lazy :) and of course, because ORCH ROCKS
6. Orchestra trips and the free 100 average
7. The snowball fight in Colorado
8. Have fun
9. I love basketball, football, tennis, and paintballing
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 - All-Region
 - BASA
 - Debate Team
 - Students Against Drink Driving
 - Tennis
 - Umoja Tops
 - Member of Binnerri Presbyterian Church Youth Group

JAMES KERSHAW

1. Brigham Young University
2. Undecided
3. No
4. Yes
5. I enjoy making music
6. It provides a great group of friends where we share a passion for music
7. Being snowed in in Colorado on last year's trip
8. Keep practicing!
9. RSA soccer
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra

10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra

- All-Region: 2 years
- Boy Scouts—Eagle Scout
- Chamber Music Festival: 2 Honor Awards
- Mock Trial
- Mu Alpha Theta
- Musical: Hello Dolly!
- National Honor Roll
- National Honor Society
- Orchestra Officer—Vice President
- Ramblers
- Soccer
- Spanish Honor Society
- Student Recognition Breakfast
- Who's Who Among American High School Students
- Member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Youth Group
- Scholarship: Brigham Young Scholar
- Young Texan of the Year State Finalist

JONATHAN KERSHAW

1. Brigham Young University
2. Undecided
3. No
4. Yes
5. I knew I wanted to play an instrument, my older bro played cello
6. I finish what I start, friends, fun
7. Trips
8. Make friends and have fun
9. Basketball, piano, soccer
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 - All-Region: 2 yrs
 - Bando Bud
 - Boy Scouts—Eagle Scout

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Chamber Music Festival: 3 yrs, Honor Award
 Mu Alpha Theta
 Musical: Hello Dolly
 National Honor Society: 2 yrs
 Orchestra Officer
 Ramblers
 Soccer—Recreational: 13 yrs
 Spanish Honor Society
 Student Recognition Breakfast
 Who's Who Among American High School
 Students
 Member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day
 Saints Youth Group
 Scholarship: Brigham Young Scholar

HENRY LAW

1. Texas A&M University
2. Biochemistry
3. No
4. Yes
5. Ambition
6. Wanted to become a better violinist
7. Practice make perfect
8. Don't give up
9. —
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 All-Region: 4 yrs
 Chamber Music Festival: 4 yrs, 3 Honor Awards
 Mu Alpha Theta: 3 yrs
 National Honor Society: 2 years
 Swim Team: 2 years; Captain
 Member of Grace Chinese Baptist Church Youth
 Group

KATHERINE LIANG

1. The University of California at Berkeley
2. Business
3. No
4. Maybe
5. I wanted to play the violin
6. Amazing people. Amazing music. :)
7. Colorado!
8. Stick with it if you enjoy it. It'll be worth it in the end.
9. Tennis
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 All-Region: 2 yrs
 Asian American Youth Association: 4 yrs
 Berkner Asian Student Association: 2 yrs
 Chamber Music Festival: 7 yrs, 2 Honor Awards
 Eisemann Center Volunteer
 Mu Alpha Theta: 3 yrs
 National Honor Society: 2 years
 National Spanish Honor Society
 South Asian Student Association: 2 yrs; Treasurer
 Spanish Club: 2 yrs
 Tennis: 2 yrs; Varsity
 Texas Music Merit Scholar
 Who's Who Among American High School
 Students

ALEXANDER LUE

1. MIT
2. Biological Engineering
3. No
4. Yes
5. Trip
6. Trip
7. Trip

Senior Thoughts

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8. What advice would you give beginners?
9. What are some of your hobbies?
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8. Stay for trip
9. —
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
AcDec
All-Region: 2 yrs
All-State: 1 yr
Asian American Youth Association
Chamber Music Festival: 4 yrs, Honor Award
Mu Alpha Theta: 4 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 years
National Merit Finalist
South Asian Student Association
Speech Club: 1 yr
Swim Team: 1 yr
Who's Who Among American High School Students

JASON MA

1. Carnegie Mellon or University of Texas at Austin
1. Biomedical Engineering
3. No
4. Maybe
5. Friends
6. Friends
7. Colorado
8. Practice
9. Frisbee
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region: 4 yrs
Asian American Youth Association
Chamber Music Festival: 2 yrs
Mu Alpha Theta
National Honor Roll
National Honor Society: 2 years

- Swim Team: 2 yrs
Who's Who Among American High School Students
Member of PCFC Youth Group

JENNY MADRID

1. Stephen F. Austin University
2. Dual Major in International Business and Hospitality Administration
3. No
4. No
5. I wanted to learn how to play fiddle
6. It is fun
7. Colorado trip
8. Stay dedicated
9. —
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
Girl Scouts: Silver Award, Gold Award
Member of St. Paul Youth Group

MICHAEL NAJERA

1. Richland College
2. Undecided
3. No
4. Yes
5. To be able to play cello
6. Friends and playing song after song
7. Every year seeing seniors walk across the stage
8. Don't give up, and care enough to practice
9. Swim team, soccer
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
Orchestra Officer
Swim Team: 3 yrs

Senior Thoughts

Senior Questions:

1. Where are you going to college? Or, if undecided, where have you applied?
2. What are you planning on majoring in?
3. Are you looking into music scholarships at the college of your choice?
4. Will you continue to play if there is an outlet or organization to participate in?
5. What made you want to join orchestra?
6. Why have you stayed in as long as you have?
7. What was the most memorable experience you have had?
8. What advice would you give beginners?
9. What are some of your hobbies?
10. List any activities you have participated in since 9th grade, including honors or scholarships that you have received (NHS, All-Region/State Orch., National Merit Semi-Finalist, etc.) — including outside of school.

JOHN NGO

1. Austin College
2. Biology/Pre-Med
3. No
4. Yes
5. The trips looked exciting and enchanted me
6. To go on trips
7. Skiing in Colorado last year on the orchestra trip
8. Music fixed a bad day
9. Swimming, girls, piano
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region: 2 yrs
City of Richardson Swim Team: 4 yrs
Commended National Merit Scholar
Mu Alpha Theta: 3 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 yrs
Swim Team: 3 yrs
Austin College Presidential Scholar
Who's Who Among American High School Students

DAJIN PARK

1. Army (University of Texas at Austin)
1. Medicine
3. No
4. No
5. Friends
6. I love to be in Orchestra
7. Corpus Christi
8. Have fun, don't stress out!
9. Singing, playing computer, and Judo
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
Chamber Music Festival

- Colorguard
Japanese Club
Key Club
Mu Alpha Theta
National Honor Roll: 4 yrs
National Honor Society: 2 yrs
Tennis
Who's Who Among American High School Students
Member of Hanuri Korean Church Choir and Youth Group

JONATHAN SHEN

1. The University of Texas at Dallas
2. Pre-Med
3. No
4. Maybe
5. My mother forced me to
6. I love my mom, can't let her down
7. Last year's out-of-state trip to Colorado
8. Practice, practice, practice
9. Sleep
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Music Festival
National Honor Society
Who's Who Among American High School Students

AMANDA SU

1. Baylor University
2. Double major in Business and Music with a concentration in violin
3. Yes
4. Yes

Senior Thoughts

Senior Questions:

1. Where are you going to college? Or, if undecided, where have you applied?
2. What are you planning on majoring in?
3. Are you looking into music scholarships at the college of your choice?
4. Will you continue to play if there is an outlet or organization to participate in?
5. What made you want to join orchestra?
6. Why have you stayed in as long as you have?
7. What was the most memorable experience you have had?
8. What advice would you give beginners?
9. What are some of your hobbies?
10. List any activities you have participated in since 9th grade, including honors or scholarships that you have received (NHS, All-Region/State Orch., National Merit Semi-Finalist, etc.) — including outside of school.

5. I was already playing the violin and love playing in Orchestra.
6. I love making music and being able to share it.
7. All-State in San Antonio my senior year
8. Practice makes perfect!
9. Playing chamber music, photography, volleyball
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 All-Region: 6 yrs
 All-State: 2 yrs
 Allen Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra: 2 yrs
 Chamber Music Festival: 6 yrs, Honor awards: 6
 Greater Dallas Youth Orchestras: 9 yrs
 Key Club: 1 yr
 Mu Alpha Theta: 2 yrs
 National Honor Roll: 3 yrs
 National Honor Society: 2 yrs
 Orchestra Officer: 3 yrs
 Social Club: 1 yr
 Who's Who Among American High School Students

TAM TA

1. The University of Texas at Austin
2. Biology
3. No
4. No
5. My sister
6. Because I wanted to
7. Trips
8. Practice
9. —
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
 Key Club
 National Honor Society
 Spanish Club
 South Asian Student Association

ROCHELLE TRACHIER

1. The University of North Texas
2. History
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. I got a free chocolate bar
6. Because I like it
7. Corpus
8. Practice
9. Horseback riding, guitar, listening to music, reading
10. Berkner Philharmonic Orchestra
 AcDec: 2 yrs
 Chamber Music Festival: 6 yrs
 German Club
 Student Recognition Breakfast
 Theatre
 Theatre Club
 Who's Who Among American High School Students
 Member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church Youth Group
 Scholarship: Phi Beta Kappa Essay Scholarship

J.L. WILSON

1. Embry –Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida
2. Aerospace Engineering
3. No
4. Yes
5. The passion to play Bass
6. The overall experience in Orchestra has been such a good one that I cannot fathom leaving
7. Copying essays with Samuel Wu as detentions at Apollo AND Colorado trip.

Senior Thoughts

8. Stick through the hard time because in the end it is all worth it.
9. Texas Longhorns Soccer Club, Super Awesome Team Squad
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region
Comedy Troupe
National Honor Society
Soccer
Spanish Club

ASHLEY WITHERSPOON

1. The University of Texas North Texas
2. Violin Performance
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. My dad ! :)
6. Because I enjoy it, and because I plan on doing it the rest of my life.
7. The orchestra trips, tour of Europe with GDYO
8. Don't give up, the practicing is worth it in the end
9. I've played soccer since I was 4 years old!
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region: 6 yrs
Chamber Music Festival: 6 yrs
Choir: 1 yr
Colorguard: 3 yrs
Girl Scouts: 12 yrs
National Honor Society: 3 yrs
Orchestra Officer: 4 yrs; President
Recreational Soccer: 14 yrs
Student Recognition Breakfast
Who's Who Among American High School Students: 4 yrs
Winterguard: 2 yrs
Member of Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church Youth Group

SAMUEL WU

1. The University of Texas at Austin
2. Business
3. No
4. Yes
5. Brother
6. I like it, and I like playing and the trips.
7. When I made Deborah and Ashley cry the same day
8. Practice like it's your life at stake
9. Tennis, working at the Tennis Center
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
AdDec
All-Region: 6 yrs
Chamber Music Festival, Honor Award
Mu Alpha Theta: 2 yrs
National Honor Society
National Merit Finalist
Orchestra Officer: 1 yr
Spanish Club: 1 yr
Tennis
Student Council: 1 yr
Member of PAC Youth Group

LUYI ZHENG

1. Texas A&M University at Galveston
2. Vertebrate Zoology
3. No
4. Yes
5. Because my best friend, Amanda, played, and I wanted to also.
6. Because I enjoy classical music and the great people in it. The trips are great, too!
7. In 9th grade, I auditioned for All-Region for the first time. I was very scared but at the end, I made it, even though I was last chair.
8. It may be a bit scary to play in front of a lot of people but on stage, you sound really good
9. I love to read and do pencil sketches in my free time.
10. Berkner Symphony Orchestra
All-Region: 4 yrs
Chamber Music Festival, 2 Honor Awards
Key Club: 3 yrs
National Honor Society
Professional Internship Program
Who's Who Among American High School Students: 4 yrs