



**For Further Information, contact:**

Steve Massey, Director of Music, Foxboro Public Schools,  
(508) 543-1624; [masseys@foxborough.k12.ma.us](mailto:masseys@foxborough.k12.ma.us)

For additional information about the Foxboro Music Association, please visit [www.foxmusica.org](http://www.foxmusica.org).

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## **FOXBORO HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS EARN TOP SPOTS AT THE SENIOR DISTRICT MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Nineteen music students were selected to participate in the Southeastern Senior District Festival, and of those students, fourteen have qualified to audition for the All-State Festival. Of the instrumentalists, eight were assigned first chair, representing their excellence as musicians within the district. Students from Foxboro's award-winning Jazz Ensemble will fill five of the sixteen slots in the jazz band. Steve Massey, Director of Music for Foxboro Public Schools, notes that entry into the District Festival represents "the discipline and professionalism of these students. Starting in fifth grade, they have dedicated hours and hours to practicing, private lessons, and rehearsals each and every week throughout the year. This hard work, together with the support of our outstanding classroom and private music teachers, has resulted in this level of excellence." Massey further points out that these students truly personify the motto of the high school music program—"Excellence is paying attention to detail and working harder than everyone else."

The purpose of the Senior District Festival, together with the Junior District and All-State Festivals, is two-fold: to provide additional music enrichment opportunities for students, and to provide a chance for musicians from all areas of the state to interact and perform together. The festivals are organized and sponsored by the Massachusetts Music Educators Association. The Southeastern Senior District Festival will be held on January 8-9, 2010, at Oliver Ames High School, North Easton. The Festival Concert will be held at 2:00 p.m. on January 9. Auditions for the All-State Festival will be on January 23, 2010, at Shrewsbury High School. The All-State Conference and Festival will be held at the Boston Seaport Hotel on March 18-20, 2010, with the concert on March 20 at Boston Symphony Hall.

Selected for the District Jazz Band were Ian Ayers, grade 12, Guitar; Christian Lyman, grade 12, Drum Set; Connor Schultze, grade 10, String Bass; Brendan Thomas, grade 11, Tenor Saxophone; and Cooper Vacheron, grade 10, Trombone. District Band members selected include Ashley Conger, grade 12, Oboe; Kevin Eagan, grade 11, French Horn; Rachel Fuller, grade 12, Tenor Saxophone; Sophie Kass, grade 12, Clarinet; Mairead Leahy, grade 10, Bass Clarinet; Rob Mortenson, grade 12, Tuba; and Matthew Muirhead, grade 12, Trumpet. For District Chorus, Victoria McComb, grade 12, Soprano; Kailiegh Riess, grade 10, Soprano; Kathleen Sharpe, grade 11, Soprano; Maureen Sharpe, grade 9, Alto, and Kathryn Shea, grade 10, Soprano, were selected. Finally Anna Opatka, grade 12, Bassoon, and Eric Weiss, grade 11, Violin, will join the District Orchestra.

Students qualifying to audition for the All-State Festival are those with the top scores in each of the 5 district competitions. The Foxboro students who qualified to audition include: Ian Ayers, Kevin Eagan, Rachel Fuller, Sophie Kass, Mairead Leahy, Christian Lyman, Rob Mortenson, Matthew Muirhead, Victoria McComb, Anna Opatka, Kailiegh Riess, Connor Schultze, Brendan Thomas, and Cooper Vacheron.

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