

Busy School Year for BCS Musicians

The Barker Central School Music Department has had a busy start to the school year. In addition to performances off campus, assemblies and concerts for Halloween and the holidays, a trip to the Buffalo Philharmonic for a BPO concert, caroling in the hallways, and preparing for the musical theater production of *Mamma Mia!*, 11 band students received recognition for their solos. Also, several band and chorus students were selected to Area All-State and All-County.

Junior High Area All-State

Five Barker students were selected last spring for Junior High Area All-State. These ensembles consist of students who went to NYSSMA Solo Festival in the Spring of 2018 and received a high enough score to be selected into an Area All-State ensemble. The counties of Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, and Cattaragus comprise the area. On November 2nd and 3rd the following students performed at Akron High School:

- **Concert Band:** Alexander DerSarkissian
- **Mixed Chorus:** Elizabeth Hopkins, Brent Johnson, Lilly Monthony, and Andon Wedekind

Niagara County Solo Festival

On Saturday, December 8th the following Jr./Sr. High School Band students performed a solo in front of a judge at the Niagara County Solo Competition. The students received a score out of 100. Level 1 is of least difficulty and Level 6 is the most challenging. The results were:

- Alexander DerSarkissian: Trumpet Jazz Solo, Level 5 - 91% & Trumpet Classical Solo, Level 5 - 97%
- Ellie Voss: Trombone Jazz Solo, Level 5 - 95% & Trombone Classical Solo, Level 5 - 96%
- Anna Bowerman: Flute, Level 4 - 96%
- Lucas DerSarkissian: Alto Saxophone, Level 4 - 89%
- Mackenzie Dodge: Clarinet, Level 4 - 95%
- Kaitlyn Goodwin: Clarinet, Level 5 - 97%
- Matthew Goodwin: Baritone, Level 4 - 96%
- Catherine Mallon: Xylophone, Level 3 - 92%
- Emily Oliveira: Snare Drum, Level 5 - 99%
- Ariana Peace: Trombone, Level 5 - 96%
- Lillia Peace: Trumpet, Level 4 - 89%



(L-R): Nathan Meza-Ray and Cameron Szafranski perform in center hall prior to winter break.

Niagara County Music Educators Association (NCMEA) All-County Music Ensembles

The following groups of students were selected for music festivals which will take place in February and March:

Festival 1, February 1st and 2nd at Newfane High School:

- **Sr. High Band:** Elinore Voss
- **Jr. High Jazz Ensemble:** Alexander DerSarkissian
- **Elementary Chorus:** Chloe Crafts, Aleena Parfinski, Connor Dwyer, and Shelby Dauphinee

Festival 2, February 8th and 9th at Niagara Falls High School:

- **Elementary All-County Band:** Peyton Bradley, Chloe Crafts, Hailey Dodge, Summer Duchow, Jacie Engert, Luke Fay, Ryan Fisk, Daniel Goodwin, Michael Kalynycz, Meghan Mallon, Caleb Pierce, Keith Schmeelke, Kaylee Stoll, and Aurora Wass
- **Junior High Chorus:** Elizabeth Hopkins, Paris Moffitt, Anna Bowerman, Natalie Brandel, and Tommy Harris

Festival 3, March 1st and 2nd at Lockport High School:

- **Senior High Chorus:** Rachel Parfinski, Elinore Voss, and Kaitlynn Dauphinee
- **Sr. High Jazz Ensemble:** Elinore Voss
- **Jr. High Band:** Xander DerSarkissian, Ariana Peace, Emily Oliveira, Kaitlyn Goodwin, and Matthew Goodwin