



# PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release  
September 21, 2017

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## **Three Poway Unified Students Chosen for All-National Honor Ensembles:**

***Valerie Chen, John Lettang, and Jessica Trost will perform in Orlando, Florida***

The Poway Unified School District is pleased to announce that three of its students have been selected for the prestigious National Association for Music Education's (NAfME) All-National Honor Ensembles on November 26-29, 2017, at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

The All-National Honor Ensembles consist of a concert band, symphony orchestra, mixed choir, and jazz ensemble. **Valerie Chen**, a senior at Del Norte High School, will play the cello for the symphony orchestra. **John Lettang**, a senior at Poway High School, will sing Bass 2 for the mixed choir. **Jessica Trost**, a senior at Del Norte High School, will sing Soprano 2 for the mixed choir.

They will join the "best of the best" student musicians in the country, chosen through an audition process. The concert band and symphony orchestra will each have 155 and 152 instrumentalists respectively, the jazz ensemble 20 instrumentalists, and the mixed choir 281 vocalists. Eligible students have qualified for their state-level honor ensemble program and competed against top students for a spot in these national honor ensembles.

Selected students will be rehearsing a challenging repertoire in preparation for performing under the baton of [five of the most prominent conductors in the United States](#): Dr. Z. Randall Stroope (Mixed Choir); Dr. Margery Deutsch (Symphony Orchestra); Dr. T. André Feagin (Concert Band); and Todd Stoll with Lauren Sevia (Jazz Ensemble). All conductors have

received top honors in their field and will spend several days rehearsing with students before the concert.

Names, schools and states, as well as music directors, of all 608 2017 All-National Honor Ensemble students is available at this website: <https://nafme.org/programs/all-national-honor-ensembles/>.

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The 2016 NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles Choir performs at the Gaylord Resort and Convention Center in Dallas, TX.

*National Association for Music Education, among the world's largest arts education organizations, is the only association that addresses all aspects of music education. NAFME advocates at the local, state, and national levels; provides resources for teachers, parents, and administrators; hosts professional development events; and offers a variety of opportunities for students and teachers. The Association orchestrates success for millions of students nationwide and has supported music educators at all teaching levels for more than a century. With more than 60,000 members, the organization is the national voice of music education in the United States. For additional information, contact Catherina Hurlburt at [catherinah@nafme.org](mailto:catherinah@nafme.org) or 703-860-4000, ext. 216.*