The Mission of the Cedar Rapids Community School District Music Teachers is to foster lifelong learners and consumers of music by providing high quality music programs that promote essential opportunities for all students, teach the whole child, develop 21st Century Skills, and instill a love and joy for music.

Washington’s Jim Miller
Selected for Karl King Award

The Karl King Distinguished Service Awards are given to members of the Northeast district who have made significant contributions to the Northeast Iowa Bandmasters Association, Iowa Bandmasters Association, and to school band programs in general. The namesake of this award, Karl King, was one of the world’s greatest composers and bandleaders, and he happened to spend most of his life and career here in Iowa. The recipients of this award will have their names submitted to the Iowa Bandmasters Association, and they will be our district’s candidates for the state level Karl King Service award. The Iowa Bandmasters Association presents this award to one active member and one retired member each year. This year’s recipient is Jim Miller of Washington High School!

Jim Miller has nearly 40 years’ experience in instrumental music education, having taught in Iowa, Wisconsin and Colorado. He returned to Iowa in 2001 to lead the band program at Cedar Rapids Washington High School. Jim directs the Wind Symphony, and is responsible for the Warrior Marching Band.

Under Jim’s direction, the Wind Symphony has been selected five times to perform at the IBA Conference, with those honors coming in 2003, 2005, 2006, 2009, and 2014. Under Jim’s direction, the Wind Symphony has received the IBA Outstanding Wind Symphony Award in 2005, 2006, and 2009.

Under Jim’s direction, the Warrior Marching Band has received the IBA Outstanding Marching Band Award in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2014.

Jim Miller has been a member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association for 20 years, and has served as the state president for the last 10 years. Jim is a member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association’s Hall of Fame.

Jim Miller is a life member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association and has been a member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association for 20 years. Jim has been a member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association’s Hall of Fame.

Jim Miller is the 2015 recipient of the Karl King Distinguished Service Award.

Continued on page 2
Jim Miller wins Karl King Award, continued from page 1

2007, 2010, 2014 and 2015. In 2008 the Wind Symphony was selected to perform at the National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Wind Symphony has twice been invited to the University of Northern Iowa to participate in the Wind band clinic.

Jim began his career in Montezuma, Iowa, and then moved to Bellevue. Following his years at Bellevue, Jim was Director of Bands at D.C. Everest High School in Schofield, Wisconsin, teaching several concert bands, jazz band and marching band. He spent six years on the horn staff with the Colts Drum and Bugle Corps, where he met his wife Pam.

In 1989 Jim accepted the position of Director of Bands and Fine Arts Department Head for Ponderosa High School (Parker, Colorado) in suburban Denver, investing 12 years in the highly competitive program. The Ponderosa Marching Band consistently earned a top-3 standing and was state champion several times. It was also the featured United States marching band in the 1999 St. Patrick’s Day parade in Dublin, Ireland, and was the Best in Show at the Limerick (Ireland) International Band Festival in 1999. The marching band made numerous appearances at Mile High Stadium as the featured half time band for the Denver Broncos.

Jim is a past President of the North East Iowa Bandmasters Association. He has been honored by NEIBA receiving the Phillip Sehmann Excellence in Teaching award in 2007 and the Karl King Distinguished Service Active Award in 2010 and 2011. He earned his BME from Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, and holds an MA from Adams State College, Alamosa, Colorado. Jim grew up in northeast Iowa, learning trombone while playing in his father’s band, John Miller in Dysart. He was named an Outstanding Teacher of Instrumental Music in the Douglas County School District (Colorado) for three consecutive years. Jim is active as a clinician and judge throughout Iowa. He is currently or was previously a member of the Wisconsin Bandmasters Association, Music Educators National Conference, the Colorado Bandmasters Association, and the Iowa Bandmasters Association.

NEISTA Honor Orchestra
The following students were selected for the Northeast Iowa String Teachers’ Association (NEISTA) Honor Orchestra. The NEISTA festival took place on January 6 in Waverly.

**Middle School NEISTA Participants**
Franklin: Grace Wolle, violin; Harding: Ben Sopousek, violin; Taft: Megan Bumpus, violin

**High School NEISTA Participants**
Kennedy: Hannah Andersen, violin; Abigail Pape, viola
Washington: Brooks Papendick, violin; Emma Prostine, Violin; Josephine Norris, Viola; Leroy Karns, Cello; Jalen Peterson, Cello; Lee Prostine, Cello; Seth Moore, Bass; Travell Wright, Bass

UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED:

**May 13:** DISTRICT BAND & ORCHESTRA REGISTRATION FOR 5th GRADE—ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLS, 6:30 PM

**May 14:** Orchestra Concert, Harding MS, 7:00 PM

**May 14:** Orchestra Concert, McKinley MS, 6:30 PM

**May 14:** Band Concerts, Taft MS, 7th at 6:30, 8th at 7:30 PM

**May 14:** Truman musical, “Kid Flix,” 3rd grade at 6:00, 4th/5th at 7:00 PM

**May 14:** Madison 4th/5th “Disney on Stage,” 7:00 PM

**May 16:** Viola Gibson Kindergarten program, bed-time theme, 6:30 PM

**May 17:** Orchestra Concert, Kennedy HS, 6:00 PM

**May 20:** Choir Concert, Washington HS, 7:00 PM

**May 20:** Choir Concerts, Harding MS, 6:00 PM

**May 20:** Cleveland 4th/5th “Disney on Stage,” 3:00 & 6:00 PM

**May 21:** Spring Sing, Franklin MS, 6:00 PM

**May 21:** Choir Concerts, McKinley MS, 6th at 6:00, 7th at 6:45, 8th at 7:30 PM

**May 21:** 7th-8th Band Concerts, Harding MS, 7:00 PM

**May 21:** 6th Grade Band Concert, Taft MS, 6:30 PM

**May 21:** Hiawatha Highlights Show Choir Concert, 9:30 AM, 2:00 and 7:00 PM

**May 23:** Choir Concerts, Harding MS, 5:30 PM

**May 28:** Band Concerts, Franklin MS, 6th at 6:00, 7th/8th at 7:00 PM

**May 30:** 6th Grade Choir Concert, Taft MS, 6:30 PM

**June 3:** Choir Concerts, Taft MS, 7th at 6:30, 8th at 7:30 PM
Washington Revolutionists Win 2nd Place at 17th Consecutive Jazz Championship Appearance

Washington High School capped off their competitive jazz band season with a 1st place finish at the NEIBA Jazz Band Festival in Waterloo on March 2, and an invitation to the Iowa Jazz Championships. Washington performed at the Iowa Jazz Championships on April 2, which showcases the 15 finest groups from each of the four Iowa high school classifications. The Revolutionists were awarded 2nd Place following the evening finals round. Vivian Shanley, bass, was awarded an Outstanding Performer award. The Washington Revolutionists are under the direction of Joel Nagel.

Franklin Middle School Jazz Band 1 Ends Season on a High Note

Franklin Middle School’s Jazz Band 1 completed their competitive season with a 3rd Place Finish in the Middle School Division at the Coe College Jazz Summit on February 22. The group also received “Superior” ratings from both judges at the NEIBA Jazz Band Festival in Waterloo on March 2. Phillip Perea was awarded the “Outstanding Soloist” of the festival for his improvised solos on vibes and drum set, with Miles Lapointe, guitar, receiving an honorable mention. Franklin Jazz Band 1 is under the direction of Beth Davies.

Cedar Rapids Students Selected for All-State Jazz Band

Two Cedar Rapids Washington students were selected for the All-State Jazz Band: Vivian Shanley (left) on bass and Grant Lapointe (right) on piano. Students must submit recordings to be considered for selection to this elite group. They will perform in Des Moines as part of the Iowa Bandmasters Association convention in May. Rufaro Muskwe, baritone saxophone, Kennedy High School, was selected as an alternate for the group.
CRCSD Show Choirs: Season Review

Jefferson High School
“West Side Delegation” Varsity Show Choir
Directed by Nick Oswald

Muscatine River City Showcase: 3rd Place, Best Female Soloist: Alexandria Kline
Anamosa Sadie Street Showcase: 1st Place, Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Band
Wahlert Catholic Key City Classic: 3rd Place, Best Male Soloist: Prince Wonten
Fort Atkinson Showcase: 4th Place
Cedar Rapids Kennedy Raise the Roof: 2nd Place, Best Choreography, Best Male Soloist: Prince Wonten

“Ovation” Prep Show Choir
Directed by Patrick Fagan

Muscatine River City Showcase, 3rd Place (Prep Division)
Anamosa Sadie Street Showcase, 1st Place (Prep Division)
Wahlert Catholic Key City Classic, 1st Place, Best Vocals, Best Choreography (Prep Division)
Fort Atkinson Showcase, 3rd Place (Prep Division)
Cedar Rapids Kennedy Raise the Roof, 3rd Place (Prep Division)

Kennedy High School
“Happiness” Varsity Show Choir
Directed by Storm Ziegler

Linn Mar Supernova: 3rd Place, Best Band, Best Male Soloist: Brayden Remerowski
Prairie Premiere: 2nd Place
Cedar Rapids Washington Mo Show: 4th Place, Best Use of Props
Cedar Rapids Jefferson Show Choir Invitational: 1st Place, Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Band

“Protégé” Prep Show Choir
Directed by Scott Muters

Linn Mar Supernova: 4th Place (Prep Division)
Prairie Premiere: 3rd Place (Prep Division)
Cedar Rapids Washington Mo Show: 1st Place (Prep Division), Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Closer, Best Male Soloist Samson Buck
Davenport Great River Show Choir Invitational: 3rd Place (Prep Division)

“Chanteurs”
Women’s Show Choir
Directed by Scott Muters

Prairie Premiere: 1st Place (Women’s Division)
Davenport Great River Show Choir Invitational: 2nd Place (Women’s Division)
Washington 9th Grader Honored in Berklee School of Music Composition Contest

Grant Lapointe, a 9th grader who supplements home school with several Washington classes, was awarded 2nd place in the 2019 Herb Pomeroy Jazz Composition/Arranging Contest, sponsored by Berklee College of Music. This contest is open to high school students enrolled in grades nine through twelve nationwide. Grant will receive a $2,000 tuition scholarship to the Summer Performance Program at Berklee. Grant is currently a pianist and tenor saxophonist in the Washington High School Wind Symphony, Revolutionist Jazz Band, Slice of Jazz, and former member of the Franklin Band program.

Below: Grant Lapointe performing at a local jazz festival and working on one of his compositions

CRCSD Show Choirs: Season Review, Continued

Washington High School

“Momentum”
Varsity Show Choir
Directed by Peter Westphalen

Viterbo 101: 2nd Place, Best Male Soloist Ethan Dix
Linn-Mar Supernova: 2nd Place, Best Female Soloist Grace DeWolf
Prairie Premiere: 3rd Place
Marion Masquerade: First Place, Best Vocals

“Celebration”
Junior Varsity Show Choir
Directed by Amy Farley and Peter Westphalen

Viterbo 101: 4th Place (Prep Division), Best Female Soloist Sofia Burke
Linn-Mar Supernova: 5th Place (Prep Division), Best Female Soloist Sofia Burke
Prairie Premiere: First Place (Prep Division), Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Soloist Sofia Burke
Marion Masquerade: First Place (Prep Division), Best Vocals, Best Choreography, Best Band, Best Male Soloist Ian Wolverton-Weiss, Best Female Soloist Sofia Burke

“Vivace”
Ninth and Tenth Grade Show Choir
Directed by Peter Westphalen

Linn-Mar Supernova: First Place (9th Grade Mixed Division)
Prairie Premiere: First Place (9th Grade Mixed Division)
Marion Masquerade: First Place (9th Grade Mixed Division)
Left: *Franklin Middle School*
"Classic Illumination" Show Choir
Directed by David Griffin

Great River Show Choir Competition:
Grand Champions, Best Choreography, Best Vocals, People’s Choice Award, Best Male Soloist Owen Kilgore, Best Female Soloist Abby Bunker.

Marion Masquerade: Grand Champions, Best Choreography, Best Vocals, Best Male Soloist Owen Kilgore.

Kennedy Raise the Roof: Second Place

Xavier Xtravaganza: Second Place, Best Choreography, Best Male Soloist Owen Kilgore

Below: *McKinley Middle School “Classic Edition”*
Directed by Sally Lange

Jefferson Show Choir Invitational: 3rd Place, People’s Choice, Best Female Soloist Renya Trencamp

Above: *Taft Middle School “Adrenaline” Show Choir*
Directed by Vicky Cichoski

Jefferson Show Choir Invitational: Grand Champion

Above: *Harding Middle School “Neo Classic”*
Directed by Mackenzie Mead

Jefferson Show Choir Invitational: 6th Place

Right: *Harding Middle School “Neo Voce”*
Directed by Mackenzie Mead

Above: *Roosevelt Middle School “Regeneration” Show Choir*
Directed by Jody Nekvinda
Right: Arthur 1st and 2nd graders perform the “Flakes” the musical under the direction of Darren Knipfer

Above: Viola Gibson 5th graders perform “The Nutcracker” under the direction of Jessica Muters

Above: John Tyler leads the bucket drumming group from Jackson Elementary School

Above: The combined choirs from Garfield (Darren Knipfer), Kenwood (Sarah Jones), and Wright (John Tyler) perform at the Washington Cocoa and Carols

Above: Harding Orchestra Director Hannah Van Deusen conducts the 7th grade Orchestra at the Metropolitan Orchestra Festival

Below: Franklin and Taft Orchestra director Nicolle Stern conducts the 8th Grade Orchestra at the Metropolitan Orchestra Festival

Above: Chad Allard conducts the Jefferson High School Concert Band at their winter concert

Right: The Taft 7th Grade Choir under the direction of Vicky Cichoski performs at their winter concert