

SIMPLY

Sample

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The Kansas Scholastic Press Association held its 38th annual State Contest on May 2, 2009, and 119 schools entered the contest with a total of 1,206 entries. Of those entries, students receiving first places have earned the honor of having their work published in this 16th issue of

Students qualified for the KSPA State Contest by placing at regional contests held throughout the state. The contest offered 18 categories in journalism and judges' comments are published with each entry.

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Judge's
Comments

News Writing

What you have is very well-done, but it could use more.

You had some more stuff to use, including the choir director who disagreed with the cancellation.

Watch for long paragraphs.

Infographics

Header font becomes hard to read.

Great concept, percentages might not be correct but visually pleasing.

More than 25 years of tradition is coming to an end with the cancellation of Sunflower High School's annual senior concert. Administration officials are claiming that student behavior from last year's performance was the main cause of the cancellation, when a significant amount of audience members left before the hour long concert was finished.



Robin Helget • 1A/2A • Onaga High School

“The faculty has been most disappointed at the behavior our students exhibited by walking out of the concert prior to the final song completion,” said SHS Principal, David Sanborn.

Traditionally, the senior concert, which consists of band, orchestra and choirs, is held the day before the graduation ceremony. This caused concerns with the administration because of the amount of time it takes to tear down and set up between the concert and graduations. On top of that, some faculty were worried that because of lack of time commitment by the students and faculty performing and the late start of concert planning in March, the concert would not be of quality.

“People just don’t realize how much practice and planning go into the senior concert. We should have started the planning in September and not March,” said orchestra instructor, Mr. William Katz.

While there are hopes in starting the tradition of a senior concert again next year, this year’s will be missed.

“This concert was the most fun of the whole concert season, and now it won’t be happening,” said Tyler Morganstern. “I’m sad to see another music tradition potentially go down the drain.”

Laura Mushrush • 1A/2A • Chase County High School

Jerri Lyn Billings • 3A/4A • Silver Lake High School

A celebrated musical tradition of more than 25 years at SHS reaches its final note. The SHS administration announced this week plans to cancel the annual senior concert composed of band, orchestra, and choirs. The one-hour concert was originally scheduled for Friday, May 15 in the SHS Auditorium as a preceding program to the graduations exercises on Saturday. While the administration offered up several reasons for the decision, time and concerns with student behavior were the main claims to the cancellations. Concerns were brought to attention that the planning for the concert did not occur far enough in advance. Principal David Sanborn agreed timing was an issue, but said students walking out early was disappointing.

“Time became the key issue along with student behavior. Watching more than half of the audience file out during the final song was truly an embarrassment for all of us,” Sanborn said. “The faculty has been most disappointed at the behavior our students exhibited by walking out of the concert prior to the final song completion.”

With a long-time tradition coming to an end, those involved in the concert were displeased with the decision.

“I’m so annoyed. This concert was the most fun of the whole concert season, and now it won’t be happening. I’m so sad to see another music tradition potentially go down the drain,” said Tyler Morgansstern.

“I think this is a bunch of crap.



Kylie Maddox • 3A/4A • Cimarron High School

News Writing

Nice work.

Definitely have the tools to become a good writer.

Infographics

Font choice could be more thought out.

Stay away from stroke weight.

Hierarchy is well defined.

The administration just didn’t want to deal with the concert,” said band president Jerred Johnston.

Although some students may be showing disappointment about the cancellation, Dr. Carolyn Jones, vocal music director, holds hope for the future.

“Perhaps after a one-year furlough, we can try it again next year,” she said.

Judge's
Comments