

Local bands shine in district assessment

All five of Alachua County Public Schools' high school marching bands earned either superior or excellent ratings at the most recent district assessment of bands.

Bands from Buchholz, Eastside, Gainesville, Newberry and Santa Fe high schools performed at the Florida Bandmasters Association Marching Music Performance Assessment, which was held Saturday, October 28 at Columbia High School. The purpose of the FBA Marching MPA event is to evaluate marching bands in Music, Visual, General Effect, Percussion and Guard. Evaluations are done a certified panel of FBA adjudicators.



This event is not a competition, but an evaluation. It also gives bands the opportunity to see performances by other bands in their FBA district.

Out of 17 bands that participated in the MPA, only six were rated Superior, which is the highest rating. Four of the bands earning the top rating were Alachua County Public School bands, including Buchholz, Gainesville, Eastside and Santa Fe.

The results of the Music Performance Assessment were as follows:

Buchholz HS Golden Regiment - Straight Superior Ratings
Gainesville HS Hurricane Band - Straight Superior Ratings
Eastside HS Ram Band - Overall Superior Rating
Santa Fe Raider Regiment - Overall Superior Rating
Newberry HS Band of Pride - Overall Excellent Rating

Just a week earlier, Gainesville High School's Hurricane Band was named the grand champion at the annual Southern Showcase of Champions, held at Santa Fe High School. Newberry High's Band of Pride took first place in its class at the same event. That same weekend Buchholz High School's Golden Regiment was the grand champion of its division in the annual Crown Jewel Competition, which was held in Vero Beach.

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