



NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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NUSD Drama Programs Win Four Gold Awards at Lenaea Theater Festival

Students also win Silver and Bronze awards for Monologues, Duo Scenes, Musical Theatre and Best Actor in One Act Play

It was a remarkable weekend for both the Marin School of the Arts (MSA) Theatre Program at Novato High school and the drama program at San Marin High School. MSA students won multiple awards at Lenaea Theatre Festival Feb. 6-7 including three Gold Awards. The Novato High School-based arts program earned Gold for its One Act version of Gilbert & Sullivan's **The Mikado**. Also winning Gold were Jordan Ford for his Monologue with Richard III and Haley Skinner and Julian O'Bryne for their Duo Scene from **Angels in America: The Millennium Approaches**.

San Marin's Advanced Drama, part of smARTt (San Marin ARTS and Technical Arts) also earned Gold for a scene from Neil Simon's **Brighton Beach Memoirs** performed by Sam Weber and C.J. Turner. Sam Leonard earned Best Actor in One Act Play for his portrayal of Charly in **Flowers for Algernon** by Daniel Keyes and play by David Rogers. The play was student directed by Coreen Woehl, Aryana Hamzehloo and Maddy Gelleri.

The annual high school festival, celebrating its' 60th year, is designed to advance high school theatre art students' education by providing opportunities to strengthen, promote and share artistic skills within an interactive and supportive educational environment. Fifty-five high schools from across Northern California participate, representing thousands of performing arts students in theatre, musical theatre and dance.

"Our theatre students put in a tremendous number of hours practicing and workshopping their scenes. Rodney Franz prepared them well and it is no wonder they performed so wonderfully at Lenaea," said MSA Director Peter Ornstein.

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San Marin's Drama Director, Linda Kislingbury, added, "Congratulations to the entire San Marin Advanced Drama and Tech Department. It's wonderful to work with such a great team and I'm very proud of them."

MSA Theatre students also won awards in other categories, including Silver awards to Lucy London for Musical Theatre with "Mr. Snow" from **Carousel** and Talia Friedenberg for Monologue with her portrayal of Lady Anne in **Richard III**.

Winning Bronze were Blaize Adler-Ivanbrook and Willow Orthwein for Scenes category in William Shakespeare's **Othello** and Lucy London again in Musical Theatre for her overall work in "Mr. Snow" from **Carousel**.

San Marin's Jackie Perron and Thomas Peterson earned Silver Award for their riveting scene from **Rabbit Hole** by David Lindsay Aباire. Respondents Award Music (most improved performance) went to Jackie Perron for her song **Get Out and Stay Out** by Dolly Parton.

Director, Rodney Franz, enthused, "It was a great weekend. We are very proud of our students. We had so much fun. We saw so many talented performers and we also had a ball working with the respondents and making new friends."

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CAPTIONS:

MSA_Group_Lenaea_2016.jpg: Students from the MSA Theatre Arts and Musical Theatre program at Novato High School celebrate their accomplishments at Lenaea Theatre Festival.

MSA_Group2_Lenaea_2016.jpg: MSA Theatre students gather outside the Lenaea Festival Theatre.

morgan house and lenaea 2016 058: San Marin student winners from left to right Thomas Peterson, Jackie Perron, C.J. Turner, Sam Leonard, Sam Weber

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