

**Board Recognition**  
**August 22, 2023**

**Two Guyer High School Graduates Named UIL State Solo and Ensemble Outstanding Performers**

Guyer High School graduates Cale Golden and Audrey Lee earned the highest possible honor at the UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest this past May. Both Cale and Audrey were awarded medals as “Outstanding Performers”, meaning in addition to receiving Superior 1 ratings, they were also named the most outstanding performer in the state on their instrument.

Less than 300 students statewide received the honor of Outstanding Performer. Cale’s performance earned him the distinction of Outstanding Performer on Bb clarinet. Audrey’s performance earned her the honor Outstanding Performer on violin.

Cale was a member of the Guyer band, which is directed by Rob Myers and Mikaela Pyle. Audrey was a member of the Guyer orchestra, which is directed by Michelle Hanlon and Sarah Wright.

Solo and ensemble events in band, choir and orchestra are scheduled in all UIL music regions. Students who earn a Division One rating at the region competition are eligible to advance to the UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest, which is traditionally hosted in Austin on Memorial Day weekend.

Both solos and ensembles must be accompanied by piano, recorded accompaniment, electronic accompaniment or other musically appropriate instrument(s).

**Crownover Middle School Student Named to Texas Elementary Honor Choir**

Kennedy Modica, a sixth-grade student at Crownover Middle School, was named to the Texas Choral Directors Association (TCDA) Texas Elementary Honor Choir this past spring.

Kennedy was one of 78 altos selected, and less than 160 students statewide received the honor of being selected to the Texas Elementary Honor Choir. She received this recognition while a fifth-grade student at Hawk Elementary, where Christine Stratton is the music teacher.

In July, Kennedy performed with the Texas Elementary Honor Choir at the TCDA Convention in San Antonio. The choir was under the direction of Elizabeth Shepley, who has spent nearly three decades as a conductor, director and teacher of youth choirs. She has led conferences and festival choirs nationwide, and choirs under her direction have performed across the United States, Canada and Europe.

The TCDA was founded in 1955, and the first two TCDA Conventions were held in Dallas. All Conventions since have been in San Antonio. The mission of TCDA is to promote the art and artistry of choral singing and support the pursuit of excellence within the choral music profession.