

Retamoza named to ATSSB two years running

By Sofia Maciel
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FABENS – Azul Retamoza, a Fabens High School senior, has been selected to perform in the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) 4A All-State Symphonic Band for the second consecutive year.

The ATSSB All-State selection process is highly competitive, requiring multiple levels of auditions – including region, area, and state. Only the top student musicians from Texas small schools classified as 1A through 4A earn All-State recognition.

“Azul is an exceptional musician and a strong leader within our band program,” said Miguel Soto, Director of Bands at Fabens High School. “Her work ethic, consistency, and commitment to excellence set a high standard for our students. She represents Fabens High School and the Fabens community with great pride.”

Reflecting on her achievement, Azul shared, “I am very proud of how much I’ve grown as a musician and of the journey it took to get here. Going to state for the second year in a row is an exciting opportunity. I would like to thank God for guiding me and blessing me with the gift of music, my director, Mr. Soto, for helping me develop my skills, and my family for their endless love, patience, and support. I could not have done this without them.” In addition to her musical accomplishments, Azul has demonstrated strong leadership within the Fabens High School Band program, serving as Assistant Drum Major.

The ATSSB 4A All-State Symphonic Band will perform at the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Convention



– Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

Azul Retamoza

in San Antonio on February 14 at 9:40 a.m. at the Lila Cockrell Theatre. It represents the culmination of months of auditions and preparation by the state’s top high school musicians. The performance is recognized as one of the highest achievements for student musicians in Texas and takes place alongside other All-State ensembles from across the state.