

Holland Student Performs with Honor Band

Holland Junior, Elizabeth Fritz, participated in the Region 8 Association of Texas Small School Bands Honor Band Clinic and Concert held this past Saturday, January 21, 2012, at Groesbeck High School, Groesbeck, Texas. Following six hours of rehearsal, the honor band performed a public concert on Saturday evening.

Fritz qualified for the honor band at an audition held in December when she was awarded third chair in the trumpet section of the Region 8 Concert Band. The Concert Band's rehearsal and concert were conducted by Jonathan Hooper. Prior to retirement, Hooper served as Director of Bands for twenty five years at Tarlton State University, Stephenville, Texas.

Open to band students from 1A, 2A, and 3A central Texas high schools, the majority of students qualifying for Region 8 ATSSB Honor Band were from 2A and 3A schools. Elizabeth Fritz was one of only ten students from 1A high schools in the Region 8 Concert Honor Band totaling sixty seven students. Also performing on Saturday were two middle school honor bands and the high school symphonic honor band.

Earning 2012 Region 8 Honor Band membership gives Elizabeth Fritz the additional distinction of being the only Holland High School Band student to achieve honor band status in recent years. Fritz, daughter of Dr. David and Sharon Fritz of Holland, Texas, has been an active Holland High School Band member since eighth grade. In addition to performing trumpet solos at University Interscholastic band solo contests, Fritz has also competed in Region 8 UIL vocal solo contests earning "Superior" and "Excellent" ratings for her vocal performances; she is the only Holland High School student ever to earn a "Superior" rating at a UIL vocal solo competition. A student of Mrs. Dotty Kneten of Bartlett, Texas, Fritz is also a talented pianist.

Fritz's honor band performance was supported by the attendance of her mother, Mrs. Sharon Fritz, and her grandmother, Mrs. Joyce Wirgau of Leer, Michigan.

Serving as music coaches for Elizabeth Fritz are Elizabeth Kriczky, Holland High School Band Director, and Garland Kneten, Holland High School Band Assistant Director, who also served as trip sponsor for Fritz at Saturday's honor band clinic and concert.