



By ALEXIA KENG & YUMI HOSHI

The Triumphant Return! Winners at the 2014 National Music Competition

On March 8, the Kang Chiao Orchestra competed in the National Music Competition and ranked in the first place with an impressive score of 90.3. They were able to perform well even under the most difficult circumstances.

Witty Lin, the head administrator from the music department, described the situation on the day of the competition.

“The weather that day was really disturbing. It was not only cold but also raining, so the students took a considerably long time to warm up their hands and instruments and the teachers also rushed to the convenience stores to get all the students hand-warmers.”

The teachers and the orchestra students had been putting a lot of effort into getting ready for this competition because they believed they had the potential to win back the first place.

Witty Lin said, “In previous years, the winter-intensive practice was only held for three days. This year, the practice was held four days consecutively. Not only that, the



Our Proud First Place Winners at the 2014 National Music Competition

Dylan Tang from 10D has been playing the trombone for about three years and this is her third year in the KCIS orchestra.

About this year’s competition, Dylan exclaimed, “I’m really proud of my team! I wouldn’t say this year’s competition was easier, but we clearly put more effort into practicing.”

won significant awards, including the first place Governmental Music Competition in tenth grade.

This year, Sarah, along with 10A Jeff Kuo and 9E Yoyo Wang, also won the first place in the National Music Competition for piano trio.

“Playing the violin allows me to show my feelings through the music and express myself. I love music a lot and I wish that one day I can make others happy with my music.”

As a leader, she has to make sure that everyone is keeping up with the pace of the orchestra.

“This year, many more newbies attended the competition, and many of them did not know how important it was for us to take the first place, but after many lectures, they finally had the heart put into them!”

Sarah Phan ended her statement by reminding us: “Attitude is everything, and with good attitude, nothing is

impossible.”

Tom Chang, another hard-working senior leader, started playing the violin in kindergarten and also won his first award in grade two.

“My goal is to make people feel happy, play anything I want to express myself.”

He enjoyed the competition this year.

He said, “It was great! Everyone was calm. Those teammates who just joined can still get on track and catch up with others immediately, which made me feel great and amazed. The orchestra team has coherence and it’s just like a big family. Everyone



is close to each other.”

He added that there are some performance arts classes that are more attractive to him, but that he wants to stay in the orchestra team and stay with his teammates. Kang Chiao’s creativity and boldness to try various kinds of repertoires is what make them unique and different from other schools’ orchestra.

The friendly relationship of the students also contributes to its successes. To most of the orchestra team students, orchestra is not just a school club but also a second family at school. The strong connection in the orchestra made it able to overcome any difficulties. Although, the Kang Chiao Orchestra only got the second place at the same competition last year and everyone felt sad and depressed, no one gave up. The students learned from the experience and improved themselves.

This year, they won the first place. To celebrate this remarkable victory, the Kang Chiao Orchestra held a concert on May 12 to share their happiness with everyone else.



students continued to practice in every possible time they have after the school opened.”

She added that individual students had further practice in the music rooms after lunch instead of taking a rest in the homerooms. After school, the students received music lessons from professional instructors. On weekends, the students came up the mountain to practice with the whole orchestra. It is clear that the orchestra really put in a lot of effort to display their best-quality performance on stage this year.

She has won first place in the National Student Music Competition from her very first competition that she attended.

“I hope to be as great as my conductors are, and impress them someday. I will pass on their beliefs and spirit to my future students, and hopefully one day, I can hear them say they’re proud to have had me as their student.”

Sarah Phan from 1002, the leader of the orchestra, started playing the violin when she was four and has been in the KCIS orchestra since third grade. She has



Our Very Own KCMUN 2



A Splashing Good Competition 4



Learning by Doing 5



Head Over Heels for Sculpting 8