

## Urbana School District 116

## News Release

Jean F. Burkholder  
Administrative Service Center  
www.usd116.org

Contact Name: Mark Schultz  
217-384-3650  
[mschultz@usd116.org](mailto:mschultz@usd116.org)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Urbana High School Music Students Take Home Awards in State Competition *Students Take Home Individual Awards***

The Urbana High School music department participated in the Illinois High School Association's State Solo and Ensemble Contest held on March 1, 2008 at Villa Grove High School and enjoyed great success. 20 other schools participated in the competition along with Urbana High School.

Urbana High School Music Coordinator Darren Hicks says this contest demanded not only excellent performances by the students, but also strong organizational skills. "This activity was a chance for music students to take on the overall responsibility for their performance. It was up to each student or small group of students to figure out their practice schedule, what needed to be worked on, and who they needed to find to be their accompanist. The music teachers were there as a resource but are not the motivating factor of (the competition)," Hicks says.

During the music contest UHS received 55 "Division 1" (superior) ratings and 12 "Division 2" (excellent) ratings. All Urbana High School competitors scored "Division 1" or "Division 2." In addition to these results, the following students were awarded "Best in Day" for their events:

- Samantha Schwartz, Flute Solo
- Ian Ferguson, French Horn Solo
- Katarina Marjanovic, Piano Solo
- Aaron Schwartz, Violin Solo

For more information about Urbana High School's success in the IHSA State Solo and Ensemble Contest, please contact Hicks at 384-3505.

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Urbana School District • 205 North Race St. • P.O. Box 3039 • Urbana, IL 61803-3039