
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE NIU VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM FOR ITS OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE AMERICAN SCHOOL BAND DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

1 WHEREAS, the arts are vital to student development and are
2 shown to improve academic achievement, including test scores,
3 attitudes, social skills, and critical and creative thinking
4 skills, and higher order thinking skills, including analysis,
5 synthesis, evaluation, and "problem-solving"; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the Niu Valley Middle School Music Program is an
8 integral part of the school's prestigious International
9 Baccalaureate curriculum and philosophy that fosters
10 intercultural awareness, holistic learning, and communication,
11 and holds students to a high standard of self-discipline and
12 musicianship while serving the community through musical
13 performances; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the Niu Valley Middle School Music Program enrolls
16 420 students, or half of the student population, in its band,
17 orchestra, and Polynesian music groups that perform at various
18 musical competitions, where they are judged against National
19 Music Standards and consistently receive superior and excellent
20 ratings; and
21

22 WHEREAS, all students are permitted to participate in the
23 Niu Valley Middle School Music Program regardless of prior
24 knowledge and experience; the Program provides instruments free
25 of charge to all students, organizes field trips for group
26 bonding, and encourages students to pursue other musical
27 endeavors, such as private lessons, the Middle School Select
28 Band, the Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, and the Hawaii Youth
29 Symphony; and



1 WHEREAS, Niu Valley Middle School Music Ensembles have
2 performed for the International Baccalaureate Conference, the
3 United States Assistant Secretary of Education, the Hawaii State
4 Board of Education, the Governor's Inauguration (alongside the
5 Royal Hawaiian Band), the Hawaii Music Educators Association
6 Conference, and at local care homes, elementary schools,
7 shopping centers, and school and community events; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Niu Valley Middle School Music Program also
10 undertakes joint projects with the Visual Arts, Media and
11 Yearbook classes in which music students perform a piece, visual
12 arts students do illustrations to the music, media students
13 compile it and add special effects, and the yearbook students
14 document the process; and
15

16 WHEREAS, over the years, the Niu Valley Middle School Music
17 Program has had many distinguished teachers, notably Mr. Henry
18 Miyamura, Ms. Norma Parado, Mr. Sam Aranio, Mr. Kazu Sunabe, Mr.
19 Sam Fong, Mr. Keith Gushiken, Mr. Derrick Yamane, and Mr. Alan
20 Ing; and
21

22 WHEREAS, since 2007, the Niu Valley Middle School Music
23 Program has been taken to even greater heights by Mr. Kent
24 Miyashiro, International Baccalaureate Coordinator; Mr. Wayne
25 Fanning, Music Department Chair and Band & Orchestra Director;
26 and Mr. Zachary Morita, Band, Polynesian Music and Percussion
27 Ensembles Director; and
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29 WHEREAS, the outstanding reputation of the Niu Valley
30 Middle School Music Program has also resulted in opportunities
31 to perform on the U.S. mainland: the band was showcased at the
32 2011 American School Band Directors Association Conference in
33 Denver, Colorado, the most prominent national gathering of K-12
34 band directors, and the percussion ensemble was featured at the
35 2012 Winter Guard International Competition in Dayton, Ohio; and
36

37 WHEREAS, in 2014, the Niu Valley Middle School Concert Band
38 will perform at the 60th Anniversary American School Band
39 Directors Association Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which
40 will highlight the school's successful educational curriculum
41 that teaches music as a form of artistic expression, and where



1 the band will premiere a piece written by renowned band and
2 orchestra composer Brian Balmages; now, therefore,

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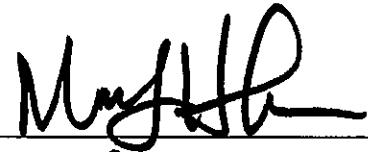
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2014, that this body hereby recognizes and honors the
7 Niu Valley Middle School Music Program for its outstanding
8 student achievement and contributions to the community, and
9 extends to all of the Program's teachers and students its
10 warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in all
11 future endeavors.


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OFFERED BY:





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