

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATORS BERNARD AND LUNEAU AND REPRESENTATIVES COX AND
FIRMONT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Northwestern State University (NSU) Middle Lab School Orchestra upon their outstanding performance at Festival Disney and for their many musical accomplishments.

WHEREAS, the vision and mission of the NSU Middle Lab School is, "Where future leaders flourish and excellence thrives", and the students clearly represented the vision and mission in their performance at the Festival Disney held March 31 through April 1, 2023, in Orlando, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious music festival is a positive and educationally meaningful event for talented middle and high school concert choirs, orchestras, and concert bands; this year it was the premiere international music festival where 51 orchestras, bands, and choirs performed with hopes of winning one of the coveted Mickey Mouse trophies; and

WHEREAS, at this year's competition, the NSU Middle Lab School Orchestra consisted of 61 string orchestra members from sixth through eight grade accompanied by 174 supportive individuals including parents, siblings, and grandparents, under the leadership of the Lab School Orchestra Director Katrice LaCour and Talent Instructor Milovan Paz; and

WHEREAS, the group performed in the Ballroom of the Americas at the Disney's Contemporary Resort and were evaluated by three adjudicators who are distinguished collegiate music educators including: Dr. Kenneth Dye, Director of Bands and Professor of Music at the University of Notre Dame; Dr. Rick Good, Department Chair and Director of Bands at Auburn University; and Professor Gary Langford, Professor Emeritus of Music at the University of Florida; and

WHEREAS, three types of awards were presented at the award ceremony which took place in the Indiana Jones Theater; the awards were presented to ensembles receiving a superior rating (90-100%) or excellent rating (80-89%); and

WHEREAS, the Best in Class award was presented to the highest rated ensemble within their division; and Festival Disney Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards were presented to the three highest superior rated ensembles overall; and

WHEREAS, the NSU Middle Lab School Orchestra impressed judges and earned the Festival Disney Superior Award with a score of 93.5% as well as the Best in Class for the highest score in its division; and

WHEREAS, the group was also awarded the Gold Mickey Mouse Award for the highest score overall; and

WHEREAS, the orchestra is a reflection of the cultural, social, and ethnic diversity of its community achieving a harmony of interest by working towards a common goal.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Northwestern State University Middle Lab School Orchestra for its magnificent performance at Festival Disney in Orlando; does hereby congratulate them on an impressive 2023 performance season; and does hereby express sincere and best wishes for continued individual and group success for band members, Orchestra Director Katrice LaCour, and Talent Instructor Milovan Paz.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Katrice LaCour, Northwestern State University Middle Lab School Orchestra director.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES