

## Greyhound choral program making history

By SBCISD STAFF

The San Benito High School and San Benito Veterans Memorial Academy Greyhound Chorale recently achieved historical accomplishments.

Last month, the Greyhound Chorale participated in this year's University Interscholastic League (UIL) Region 28 Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation held at the Harlingen Performing Arts Center. A total of 5 Greyhound choirs registered.

At the end of the evaluation, each of the 5 choirs had received a Division 1 "Superior" rating in both their concert and sight-reading performances. In doing so, they received the coveted "Sweepstakes" award.

The San Benito choral programs also received more Sweepstakes awards than any other District 6A high schools in the entire region, spanning from Brownsville to Donna. This achievement was a historical first for San Benito.

Instrumental to the success

of the award-winning choral program are Director of Choirs Eradio Martinez and Assistant Choir Directors Anna Garcia and Berta Guerra.

Martinez explains that when a musical ensemble receives a Division 1 rating in both concert and sight-reading, the ensemble receives a "Sweepstakes" trophy – the highest honor that a musical ensemble can receive at the UIL evaluation process.

The Sweepstakes honor is essentially only given to the most distinguished ensembles

that perform and sight-read at a superior level.

"As a San Benito High School alumnus, I am absolutely honored to lead these students to success and instill the essence of Greyhound pride in my students through the use of choral music," says Martinez.

Historically, it has been over three years since the high school choral program has received a single award at the annual UIL evaluation. In the course of one year, the Greyhound choirs managed to

receive 5 awards.

"These accomplishments validate that a prestigious choral program has been established in San Benito. The San Benito Greyhound Chorale has cultivated a reputation of success in our region, and the program is advancing at a rapid rate," says Martinez.

Martinez and his staff look forward to the continuous growth of the program and are committed to sustaining the now established competitive culture for years to come.

The award-winning Greyhound choirs are under the leadership and direction of, from left, Assistant Director Berta Guerra, Director of Choirs Eradio Martinez, and Assistant Director Anna Garcia.



Sub Non-Varsity Treble Choir



Varsity Mixed Choir



Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir



Varsity Treble Choir



Non-Varsity Treble Choir

## Congratulations, student artists

By SBCISD STAFF

Numerous Fred Booth Elementary students received sweepstakes honors for their participation in the 2019 Texas Independence Day Art Contest sponsored by the Texas Heritage & Independence Celebration Association (THICA). Honorees include the following students: Kinder – Daphne Trejo and Mila Villanueva, First Grade – Genesis Alcantara; Second Grade – Sophia Velasquez and Kimberly Rincon; Third Grade – Krystal Camarillo and Carlos Salazar; and Fourth Grade – Lauren Portillo, Arielle Hernandez, Guillermo Olalde Jr., Hunter Coronado, Christopher Vargas, and Ariel De Leon.

THICA's mission is to educate and celebrate Texas culture and to encourage participation by promoting the history of our state through symposiums and community events that recreate this area's rich and colorful history.

