

Michael Tai plays on alto sax for national concert band

HANOVER TWP. - Whippany Park High School senior Michael Tai was selected to perform with the 2013 National Association for Music Educator's (NAfME) All-National Concert Band in Nashville, Tenn., in October.

The All-National Band represents the top performing high school musicians in the United States. Tai is one of a seven students from New Jersey, and one of only five alto saxophonists in the nation, to be chosen for the band. He had previously been selected to Area Band, Region Band, and All-State Band.

This is the first time a student from Whippany Park High School has been selected for the All-National Band.

Band directors Carl Sabatino and Peter Sciaino said they were thrilled to learn of Tai's selection to the NAfME All-National Band.

According to Sabatino, "Michael Tai is one of the most hard working, dedicated musicians I've ever come across in my twenty plus years of teaching. His innate natural musicianship is extraordinarily high, and coupled with his intense desire to succeed and sheer determination to improve, he is quite unique. He has made an indelible mark on our program which will last for years to come."

Sciaino went on to state, "Michael is supremely talented, yet humble enough to practice diligently. It takes that combination of skill and dedication to get to such a high level. Sure, he is wonderfully talented, but he is also amongst the hardest working student musicians that we've had. That's what it takes



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In order to be eligible for the 2013 NAfME All-National Concert Band, students must be chosen for All-State Band, be a

member of his or her school's band, and receive endorsement from his or her band director. Additionally, students must prepare a two-minute audition

piece.

Those selected to the band traveled to Nashville, Tenn., and performed Oct. 27 to 30 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort.