

# Whippany Park Band plays D.C.

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**HANOVER TWP.** – It was a gorgeous spring afternoon in the nation’s capital when the Whippany Park High School Band, “The Pride of Hanover Township,” performed at the Lincoln Memorial.

A large and appreciative crowd of tourists and locals were on hand on Friday, April 17 to enjoy the band’s performance, the “The Beat Goes On,” a retrospective of American popular music. Music from every decade since the 1920’s provided a soundtrack that culminated with popular hits from today. Included in the repertoire were selections from Wilson Pickett, The J. Geils Band, Nine Inch Nails, Metallica, Tupac Shakur, and Bruno Mars.

Senior trombonist Brian Stock, who arranged “Enter Sandman” for one of the band’s selections representing the 1990’s, said, “I actually had the hardest time playing my own arrangement because I couldn’t stop smiling! I really felt honored that we were performing it.”

Whippany Park Band Directors Carl Sabatino and Peter Sciaino, as well as 15 volunteer chaperones, accompanied the 147 students who participated in the trip. “It was an incredible experience for us all. The students performed at a very high level and represented our school and community so very well,” said Sciaino when reflecting on the performance.

The performance was part of The Pride’s bi-annual band trip, which has taken them around the country over the years. The four-day tour included stops at the Smithsonian Museums, the US Marine Corps War Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and Arlington National Cemetery. At Arlington, The Pride was honored to take part in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Four Whippany Park Band members, Alex Bihuniak, Evan Wilson, Natalie Donohue, and Julianna Shatynksi, represented the group during the ceremony.

Donohue stated, “It was intense! I was very proud to represent our school and community.”

Added Sabatino, “Touring a city with such rich educational offerings really brought our nation’s history alive to the students.”

An encore performance of “The Beat Goes On” at Whippany Park High School was performed May 12.



## Whippany Park Band

The Whippany Park High School Band performed at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Friday, April 17.

The Whippany Park Band has performed at places such as Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom and Epcot Center, Universal Studios Florida, Giants Stadium, Cleveland State University, and the University of Pennsylvania. The band was also twice invited to perform on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. and at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City.