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Ipswich School Bands Hit High Note in Fanfare

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan today congratulated the Bremer State High School Stage Band on its selection as the state finalist representing the Moreton area in Fanfare 2004 - Education Queensland's music festival for bands and orchestras from state schools.

The stage band was also named the best secondary school performance in the Moreton area while the Woodcrest College Stage Band was named the best preschool to Year 12 school ensemble. The Mt Crosby State School Concert Band was named the best primary ensemble in the Moreton area.

Ms Nolan and Member for Bundamba Jo-Ann Miller congratulated the schools on their success and wished the students of the Bremer State High School Stage Band and their conductor Bill Redpath all the best as they prepare for the State Festival in August.

"The Bremer State High School Stage Band will be one of 11 finalists to perform in the Fanfare State Festival on 2 – 4 August," Ms Nolan said.

"At the State Festival in Brisbane each ensemble will perform twice with five ensembles being selected to perform in the Grand Final Concert at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre on 4 August.

"I have personally heard the Bremer State High School Stage Band perform and their sound is fantastic," she said.

The most outstanding ensemble of the Grand Final Concert will be awarded the inaugural Erica Brindley Memorial Trophy.

Ms Nolan said the new trophy had been named in honour of Urangan State High School instrumental music teacher Erica Brindley who was tragically killed by a falling tree on an outback music tour with a group of students at Carnarvon Gorge in 2002.

The previous trophy - the Lin Powell Trophy - is on permanent display at Cairns State High School as the Cairns State High School Orchestra is the only multiple winner of the award, having won it four times.

Mrs Miller said more than 15,000 Queensland state school students in almost 600 musical ensembles from across Queensland were participating in Fanfare 2004.

“Fanfare, which is staged every two years, showcases the depth and breadth of musical talent in Queensland state schools,” she said.

“It highlights the achievements of state school students in Education Queensland’s acclaimed instrumental music program and its school-based ensembles, which range from concert bands, orchestras, string orchestras and stage bands to wind, brass and percussion ensembles.”