

## Superintendent's Highlight March 29, 2019

Our POBJFKHS String Orchestra and Marching Band have just returned from a triumphant Disney Performing Arts Experience. These student musicians and their teachers spent time in challenging educational workshops and rehearsals, resulting in two Disney performances that will forever be remembered by all who were there.

Both performing groups participated in a workshop entitled, "You're Instrumental," in which they were rehearsed with an eye for sight-reading, musical integrity, nuance and presentation. During these workshops, guest conductors worked from the rich cinematic catalog of Walt Disney featuring classic soundtracks from films such as "Mulan," "The Little Mermaid," "Pirates of the Caribbean," "Star Wars," "Indiana Jones," "Beauty and the Beast," "Mary Poppins," and "The Nightmare before Christmas." The orchestra performed on the Marketplace Stage in Disney Springs, with a beautiful setting of a lake behind them in an outdoor amphitheater.



Mr. Rubin was also joined by POB alumnus, Stephan LaBelle, Class of 2006, as he guest-conducted one piece for his alma mater. The Marching Band, very proudly wearing their new uniforms, paraded through Main Street, USA, in the Magic Kingdom in front of thousands of people, even despite a little rain! The students had smiles gleaming across their faces, and POB pride was alive and well. Students were excited that they were able to demonstrate how beautifully they had prepared.

A trip of this magnitude took almost two years to plan. Over the course of this time, students engaged in countless fundraisers and efforts to lower the cost to attend. With incredible support from the Music Association of Plainview-Old Bethpage and their Board, they were able to raise the necessary support to help the students on the journey to Florida! A special thank you must be extended to MAPOB, and their president, Janet Herman, for all they did to make this possible!



Tremendous gratitude must also be given to Mr. Michael Rogers, our Director of Music, Mr. Brian Carter and Mr. Glenn Rubin as they worked to turn a vision into a successful reality. From their preparation of the students, to handling all the details of transportation, hotel accommodations, chaperones and instruments, everything went off smoothly. We must also thank the additional 15 chaperones from the District who ensured the students were safely guided the entire time. We look forward to continued success from our Music Department!