

## Fontana Unified School District

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### JURUPA HILLS PLACES IN THEIR FIRST NATIONAL THEATRE COMPETITION

FONTANA, CA – Last weekend, the Jurupa Hills High School Theatre Department embarked on their first adventure in musical theatre competition at the national level when they participated in The Musical Theatre Competitions of America (MTCA) Experience at Fullerton College. Jurupa Hills placed fourth for a duet sung by Arlynn Delgadillo and second place for a group ensemble performed by all eight of the Jurupa Hills participants.

Representing Jurupa Hills in the competition were Arylnn Delgadillo, Luis Zano, Kristen Ramirez, Anthony Lua, Angel Lira, Elizabeth Lopez, Natalia Sanchez and Lucas Greis. During the cattle call Friday night, Elizabeth was selected out of a pool of 750 participants as one of the fifty students to take part in the all-schools showcase closing production number “You Can’t Stop the Beat” from the musical Hairspray.

Saturday was filled with competitions and master class workshops with industry professionals, including current Broadway, television and film stars and directors. “The students were overjoyed with the opportunity to spend time, both one-on-one and in small groups with so many industry professionals who both worked with them and answered questions about technique, getting into the business, and maintaining a successful career,” said Jurupa Hills Counselor Joshua Godinez.

The awards ceremony was held on Sunday in the Fantasyland Theatre at Disneyland. “While I was proud of the efforts of our students and the time and energy we put into their training, I had already prepared myself and them to be gracious for the winners and celebrate what an incredible learning experience this weekend turned out to be,” said Drama Teacher James Griffin, “There were so many students, so many schools, and there wasn’t a bad apple in the bunch. This was our first time here, so it was a bit overwhelming and the competitors were incredibly qualified.”

Mr. Godinez said Jurupa Hills was humbled when they were awarded a fourth place finish for the duet of “Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better,” from Annie Get Your Gun, sung by Arlynn Delgadillo and second place finish for the group ensemble piece from You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown.

“Now that we know what to expect, we can’t wait to start preparing for next year!” said Mr. Griffin.

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