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**Gladstone High band takes third at State**

The Gladstone High School Symphonic Band brought home the third place trophy in this year's state 4A competition, finishing close behind first place Philomath and second place Mazama.

Band director Seth Arnold credited the ensemble's success to hundreds of hours of practice in class and outside school.

"Students were resilient when facing adversity. After falling short by a point or two in multiple competitions, they worked even harder," Arnold said. "We worked especially hard on developing our sight reading, where you play a new piece with no practice before hand. This led to the band receiving the highest sight reading score in the 4A division."

Following the state competition, the band joined the school choir on a five-day trip to Southern California that included a visit to the Grammy Museum, the Los Angeles College of Music, UCLA, and Disneyland. These visits included participating in music clinics with professors, attending performances, and recording Disney music in their recording studio.

**PHOTO: The Gladstone High School Symphonic Band captured third place in the state 4A competition.**