

## NEWS RELEASE

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### “Music in the Schools” Citywide Contest Kicks Off – Search is on for Top High School Orchestra!

San Antonio, TX – December 21, 2008 – The search is on for San Antonio’s top high school orchestra, as *Music in the Schools* (MITS) kicks off this week. Conceived by local rock and roll artist **Lynette Brehm** as a way to integrate her passion for music with her support of public education, Music In The Schools is a competition between the Bexar County high school orchestra departments to showcase their musical talents for a chance to record on an upcoming nationally-released album.

Competing Bexar county public school orchestras will audition with selections of Brehm’s original music. The winning school will receive a cash award of \$5,000 for their music department, perform at the Winner's Concert on January 31, 2009 at the Lila Cockrell Theater with Lynette and her band. Winners also get the chance to record in a professional studio for her new album.

Several high schools featuring schools from the Northside Independent School District (NISD), Northeast Independent School District (NEISD) and Judson Independent School District (JISD) are confirmed. Winners will be determined based on a 50% judges panel vote and a 50% online community vote.

Judges on the panel include Randy Anderson, Director and on-air personality for KPAC-FM, San Antonio’s Classical Radio station; Eugene Dowdy, Director of the UTSA Orchestra; Cleo Aufderhaar, 34-year veteran of the San Antonio Symphony; Elaine Heinze, retired San Antonio high school orchestra director of 33 years and recipient of over 49 Sweepstakes UIL awards; Aaron Logan, Musical Director and Arranger for the contest audition pieces, graduate of the Berklee College of Music.

**Lynette Brehm** is a rock 'n roll recording artist and native of San Antonio. “I started *Music In The Schools* because I wanted to make a contribution to music programs in public schools. Growing up in San Antonio, music played a significant role in my education, and I would not be who I am today without it. In fact, studies show that schools with music programs have significantly higher math scores, attendance and graduation rates. I believe we all need to do our part to keep the fine arts flourishing in the public schools systems and I feel honored to have the chance to impact students in the community through *Music In The Schools*.” says Brehm.

The contest starts in October and runs through February 2009. More updates and contest rules will be listed on the contest website: [www.musicintheschools.net](http://www.musicintheschools.net). ~

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For interviews and information, call: 210-386-8065 or email [info@musicintheschools.net](mailto:info@musicintheschools.net).