



Simsbury Designated One of “Best Communities for Music Education”

SIMSBURY, CT—For the fifth year in a row, Simsbury has been honored with the “Best Communities for Music Education” (BCME) designation from The NAMM Foundation for commitment to and support of music education.

Angela Griffin, K-12 Director of Music & Performing Arts, applied for the designation, which involved a survey developed in partnership with the Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas. Survey questions were aligned with goals for equity and access to music education for all students, and also with national standards for music education. Some factors that were taken into consideration for each district to qualify for the designation included:

- Instruction based on a standards based curriculum
- Adequate and diverse programming
- Opportunity for content-based professional development for music educators
- Access for all students to a quality music education
- Adequate funding for quality music education program
- Certified music teachers delivering classroom music instruction
- Support from school administration, the Board of Education, and the community

Research supports the positive impact of music making and music education, the importance of music at every stage of life, and relationships between music and physical and emotional wellness.

Said Griffin, “The Simsbury Music Department is extremely honored to receive this designation again, but especially at a time when our world needs the power of music to bring solace, peace, and joy. We are so honored to be a part of a district and a school community that supports our students and teachers in making music.”

About The NAMM Foundation

Scientific knowledge about the effects of music and music making is constantly expanding, and The NAMM Foundation has taken a global leadership role in supporting music research. Research expands understanding about the impact of music making and music education, the importance of music at every stage of life, and relationships between music and physical and emotional wellness. Outcomes of music research support NAMM's public relations programs along with public policy and advocacy activity. The NAMM Foundation provides funding for projects such as the work by neurobiologist Nina Kraus, which offers insight into how musical experience affects brain function across the lifespan.

For more information about the NAMM Foundation, please visit www.nammfoundation.org.