



Utah State Legislature
 Official Citation
 honoring



Salem Hills High School
 2021 NFHS Performing Arts School of Excellence

Whereas, Salem Hills High School was named the 2021 National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Performing Arts School of Excellence;

Whereas, the NFHS award recognizes eight departments at Salem Hills High School; band, choir, dance, ballroom dance, debate, drama, orchestra, and visual arts;

Whereas, Salem Hills High School has a long fostered excellent performing arts disciplines;

Whereas, the Salem Hills High School debate program coached by Doug Welton has a Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) Class 5A state championship, two state runners-up, 11 region championships, and three Sundance District Sweepstakes titles, three individual Lincoln-Douglas state champions and one Impromptu state champion, 23 Academic All-Americans, National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) 200 Club, NSDA Leading Chapter (2021), NFHS Section Coach of the Year, NSDA Two Diamond Coach, one Sundance Student of the Year as well as many national debate competition qualifiers;

Whereas, the Salem Hills High School drama program directed by Jan Hunsaker and Zac Trotter was awarded a UHSAA State Theatre Competition Sweepstakes championship in 2018-19 and won the Southern Utah University Shakespeare Competition Sweepstakes in 2018, first place for the Ensemble category at the SUU Shakespeare Competition in 2015 and took second place in the Tech Olympics category and third place in Ensemble Scene in 2019. They also placed second in the state and in their region in the 2017-18, third in the state in 2021-21, and third in the region in 2018-19 in One-Act Play in UHSAA State Theatre Competitions;

Whereas, the Salem Hills High School choir department under the direction of Justin Bills has earned several 'superior' ratings at UHSAA Region Choral Festivals and

Utah Music Educators Association Choral Festivals and Mr. Bills has directed many more students in earning similar honors at UHSAA State Solo & Ensemble Festivals.

Whereas, the Salem Hills High School orchestra, led by Paul Wells has accomplished a 10-year streak of 'superior' ratings at the UMEA State Orchestra Festival and the UHSAA State Solo & Ensemble Festival;

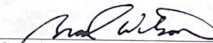
Whereas, the Salem Hills High School band, under direction of former director Mike Larsen and current director Ryan Adair, has demonstrated excellence in winning a marching band state championship in 2013-14 and consistently earns "superior" and "excellent" ratings at the UMEA State Concert Band Festival and State Jazz Band Festival;

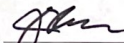
Whereas, the Salem Hills High School dance company directed by Amber Johansen has earned 'superior' or 'excellent' ratings from the Utah Dance Education Organization or the Dance Company Festival Association for seven or the past eight years, earned a 'superior' rating and Utah State Student Choreography Award from the UDEAO in 2019, and earned three DCFA 'superior' ratings over a four-year stretch from 2013 to 2016;

Whereas, Salem Hills High School hosts the only ballroom dance program in the Nebo School District under Lexie Gordon, whose performances are showcased in winter and spring performances as well as at SHHS athletic events;

Whereas, Salem Hills High School fosters an exemplary visual arts program under the leadership of Becky Rosenberg and Sarah Shuler whose student works have been chosen to be part of the All-State High School Art Show and won awards including Jurors Awards;

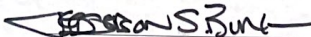
NOW, Therefore, be it known, that the Utah State House of Representatives recognizes Salem Hills High School for their commitment and excellence in the performing arts, in the great state of Utah, today, February 14th, 2022.


 Speaker Brad R. Wilson


 President J. Stuart Adams


 Representative Doug Welton


 Senator Mike McKell


 Representative Jefferson Burton