

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 1029, Windsor Avenue

Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Contact: Jamie Walker

Work: 973-770-8863

Email: jwalker@hopatcongschools.org

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**Hopatcong, NJ** – Hopatcong Middle School

**“Hopatcong Music Students Earn Top Ratings”**

**Cynthia Randina, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces -**

On Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a select group of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade music students from the Hopatcong Middle School attended the New Jersey Ti:ME Student Music Technology Expo at Rutgers University. The 32 middle school music students were amongst seven other schools in attendance. The Student Music Technology Expo is a science fair style event, which focuses on student works. The day also included guest presenters, a performance showcase for music ensembles, and hands-on music technology playgrounds. While the Expo is adjudicated, the primary focus of the event is sharing and celebrating students' creative work in a supportive environment. Student projects were submitted in advance and critiqued by professional musicians, composers, and college professors providing individual feedback directly to the students. Amongst the five project categories, Mrs. Shawna Longo, Hopatcong Middle School Music Teacher, submitted five student works in the 'Original Composition' and 'Covers, Remixes & Loop-based Projects' categories. Of the 90+ projects submitted from across New Jersey, Hopatcong Middle School students received 1 Silver rating, and 4 Gold Ratings. Two of the Gold Ratings went to Patrick Terebecke for his piece, "Midnight," and Markus Certo for his piece, "Grandma," which were both composed using GarageBand and included an original chorus written by the student. Markus Certo also received a Gold Rating for his song, which was inspired by Monet's *Water Lilies* painting and written in ternary form. The second Gold Rating went to Nicolas Bozanov for his original composition, "Water Lullaby" which was composed for solo harp and piano accompaniment. Dylan Dixon received a Silver Rating for his song, "Happy Days," which was composed for clarinet and piano. Markus Certo also earned "Best in Category" in the "Covers Remixes & Loop-based Projects" category. Overall, the students enjoyed an enriching day showcasing their works and experimenting with new ways to apply technology to music!



Order of students left to right - Patrick Terebecke, Markus Certo, Dylan Dixon, Nicolas Bozanov