

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS

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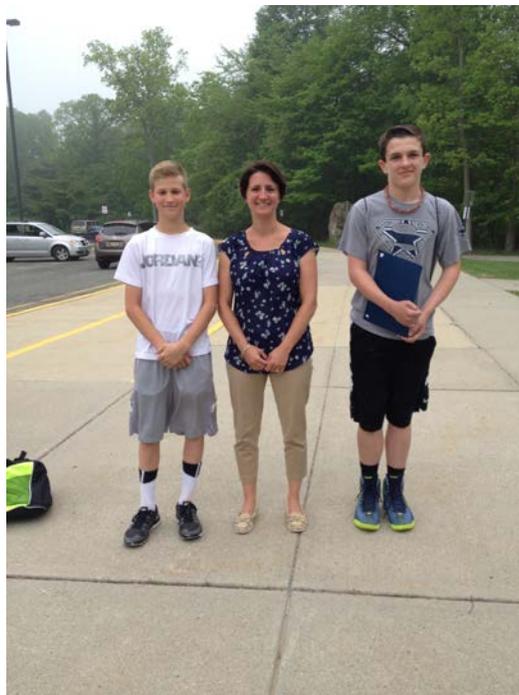
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 24, 2015

**Hopatcong, NJ - "Hopatcong Music Students Earn High Honors"**

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

On Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 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 TiME Student Music Technology Expo at Rutgers University. The 45 middle school music students were amongst five other high 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 electronic 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 students works in the 'Original Composition' and 'Covers, Remixes & Loop-based Projects' categories. Of the 70+ projects submitted from across New Jersey, Hopatcong Middle School Students received 3 Bronze ratings, 1 Silver ratings, and 2 Gold Ratings. The first Gold Rating went to Madison Davidow for her piece, "I Just Can't Think of Anything," which was composed using GarageBand and included an original chorus written by the student. The second Gold Rating went to Carter Swanson for his original composition, "The Pilot's Dream" which was composed for solo trumpet and piano accompaniment. Carter Swanson also earned "Best in Show" for the Intermediate Level. Harrison Hadowanetz was voted "Overall Best in Show" at the North Expo for his piece "The Champions" while going up against all of the high school-level projects! Overall, the students enjoyed an enriching day showcasing their works and experimenting with new ways to apply technology to music!



Left to right: Carter Swanson, Mrs. Shawna Longo, Harrison Hadowanetz