

# World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles



wasbe.org

August 2, 2017

Michael Boitz, Conductor  
Jason Shiuan, Associate Conductor  
Saratoga High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Dear Michael and Jason,

On Thursday, July 20, the Saratoga High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble performed a concert at the International Conference of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) in the Great Hall Tivoli Vredenburg in Utrecht, The Netherlands. I know I speak for the large crowd in attendance when I tell you that your ensemble's performance was nothing short of stunning and inspirational, as evidenced by the huge ovation they received.

For the past two years, I have served as president of WASBE and I know I speak for all those in attendance, as well as the entire WASBE organization when I say thanks for sharing your gifts with all of us. Personally, I was very moved, not only by the magnificent musical product you and your players created, but also the great love and integrity all of you demonstrated in your performance. With your inspired conducting, the whirlwind of color and brilliance you achieved in the Maslanka, as well as the Stephenson was extraordinary. The sonorous grandeur with which you played the Shimizu will long be remembered.

As a Californian, I can tell you that I was profoundly impressed and deeply proud.

With Admiration,

William V. Johnson  
Immediate Past President

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**WASBE Office**

Markus Mauderer  
WASBE Executive Director  
Kolpingstr. 2  
76456 Kuppenheim  
Germany  
office@wasbe.org