

Talent Abounds at Middle School

By Ananda Foerch, Reporter | Posted: Thursday, April 6, 2017 11:00 am

Performances, concessions and fun were abounding at Mary Putnam Henck Intermediate School (MPH).

On March 30, students of Rim of the World Unified School District showed off their musical, performance and comedic talents at the MPH Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Talent Show. Among the acts were singers, dancers, a yo-yoist and even a comedian who graced the stage.

The student who took home first place was Anderson Myers for his multiple talents of yo-yo and piano (but not at the same time!). Second place went to Morgan Olson for her dance to Adele's, "Water Under the Bridge." Third place went to Brooklynn Engman for her rendition of "Hey-Ho" by the band, The Lumineers.

The prizes for each student placing were a trophy and a bouquet of flowers. The cash prize for first was \$100, for second was \$50 and for third, \$30.

Judging the talent show were MPH teachers Tim West and Gena Mills and MPH Principal Jennifer Whiteside, and MCing the event was Rim of the World High School Assistant Principal David Nygren. Principal Whiteside said, "The talent show was an opportunity for students to showcase their exceptional talent outside the realm of traditional academics. The benefits are far-reaching, as the event brought an enchantment to the evening, an enthusiasm to the following day and allure for the future."

In attendance was Rim of the World Unified School District's Associate Superintendent, Lawrence King, who said, "We are so excited that the MPH staff has put together a tremendous opportunity for our students to demonstrate their fine arts talents. The arts are an extremely important part of education."

Performers weren't the only attraction at the talent show: A silent auction took place throughout the event. Winners of the silent auction were announced at the end of the show. Community businesses and restaurants donated resources to make the auction happen. Among them were University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Lake Arrowhead Conference Center, Papagayos, Arturo's, Lake Arrowhead Deli and Bill's Villager. All proceeds from the silent auction went toward PBIS funding.

The talent show was a PBIS event and, according to Amanda Wharrie, PBIS coach and coordinator, PBIS is an "evidenced-based, data-driven framework proven to reduce disciplinary incidents, increase a school's sense of safety, and support improved academic outcomes." This is done through events like the talent show, where students can showcase their abilities and receive positive praise for it.



Talent Show

Rim of the World Unified School District students took the stage on March 30 to showcase their talents.