



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PLANO ISD'S NICOLE BROWN NAMED
ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR OF DISTINCTION**

PLANO, TX , March 4, 2022 – Nicole Brown, orchestra director at Plano ISD's Armstrong Middle School, is being honored as the Orchestra Director of Distinction by the Texas Orchestra Directors Association (TODA). Established in 2019, this award honors a Texas orchestra director with 10-plus years of experience who has exemplified outstanding achievement in lifetime services and leadership in Texas schools.

A music educator since 2001, Ms. Brown started her teaching career with Irving Independent School District where she doubled her program's size and students earned top awards. In 2008, she joined McKinney Independent School District where she accomplished similar successes for students before joining Plano ISD in the 2020-2021 school year. Under her leadership, music students have earned all-region orchestra honors in addition to other distinctions, received top ratings at solo and ensemble festivals, and have gone on to become professional musicians and educators. Ms. Brown is also an active member of several professional organizations, including TODA, the American String Teachers Association and the Texas Music Adjudicators Association where she has served as host, judge, organizer, clinician and board member amongst other contributions.

This is Ms. Brown's second statewide recognition. In 2005, the Texas chapter of the American String Teachers Association (TexASTA) honored her as the Young String Teacher of the Year.

This year's honor will be presented at the TODA conference in July.

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About Plano Independent School District

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) (www.pisd.edu) endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. Plano ISD is located 20 miles north of Dallas, Texas and serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County, including 66 square miles in the city of Plano, northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson and parts of the cities of Allen, Parker and Murphy. Plano ISD employs more than 7,000 staff members who serve more than 50,000 students in 72 schools and 11 service facilities. Mission: Our Plano ISD learning community will educate, inspire and empower every student to activate their unique potential in a dynamic world.