

ALPHA CHAPTER/PHI BETA MU

Honorary Bandmaster Fraternity

Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Name of nominator DURWARD HOWARD Date Submitted Dec 1995

The information furnished on this form together with any attachments provided by the nominator(s), will be the principal items considered by the Board of Directors. Additional information may be solicited by the Board of Directors.

Name of person nominated La Falco (Corkey) Robinson
Address (if living) 2801 Bowman Avenue
Austin TX 78703
City State Zip

Birth date of nominee 11 Aug 1927 Death date (if applicable) _____

Place of birth Cooper, Texas

Give reasons why nominator feels the nominee is particularly outstanding in the band profession.

Educated in public schools, Cooper, Texas. Entered UT and played in Longhorn Band. He was in the US Navy from 1945-49 and attended the Navy School of Music. Graduated from UT in 1953, Masters degree in 1956. Studied at Eastman School and Royal Academy in London. Began career as an itinerant music teacher in Austin ISD teaching 12 elementary schools. Later moved to O. Henry JHS in Austin where band and orchestra won numerous first divisions and sweepstakes awards. Also served as a Choir Director. In 1961 he transferred to S.F. Austin HS in Austin and remained there until retirement in 1988. Governor John Connally chose the SFA band to represent Texas at the Mardi Gras; SFA Orchestra named 2nd in State in 84-85. His stage band chosen as first Austin musical organization to play for TMEA in 1983. Founding member and former president of TODA; Conductor for 7 musicals at the Zilker Hillside Theatre, Austin. Voted Teacher of the Year for Austin HS in 1979.

LA FALCO (CORKEY) ROBINSON

Born August 11, 1927 in Cooper, Texas where he attended elementary and high school. He learned to play saxophone and was a member of the high school band. When the band director went into the armed services, he became director of the dance band.

Entered the University of Texas at Austin in September 1944. He auditioned for Colonel George E. Hurt and played in the Longhorn Band. He was in the U. S. Navy from 1945-49. He attended the Navy School of Music and was later assigned to a Navy dance band. He toured the Pacific until assigned to the U.S. Navy Training Center in San Diego where he served until his honorable discharge in Fall 1949.

He re-entered U.T. Austin in 1950, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Music in 1953, follow by a Masters in Music Education in 1956. He has since studied at Eastman School of Music in New York and the Royal Academy of Music in London. He was first hired as itinerant music teacher by the Austin Independent School District teaching instrumental music in 12 elementary schools.

He became band and orchestra director at O. Henry Junior High in Austin in 1956. Both band and orchestra won numerous first divisions and sweepstakes awards. He also directed the choir including production of a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta his last year at the school. The choir earned its first 1st Division at UIL that year.

He transferred to Stephen F. Austin High in Austin in 1961 where he was band, orchestra and stage band director until his retirement in 1988. Among accomplishments over the years: The band was chosen by Governor John Connally to represent the state at the Mardi Gras parade; The band, orchestra and stage band have performed for numerous events in the Capitol complex; Played for the dedication of IH 35; Orchestra named 2nd in state 84-85. Stage band chosen as first Austin musical organization to play for TMEA in 1983. Stage Band also chosen to play the opening of Austin's Symphony Square.

Personal accomplishments include membership in the honorary bandmasters fraternity, Phi Beta Mu, a founding member and former president of TODA, Conductor for seven musicals at the Zilker Hillside Theater in Austin. Chosen by TODA as Orchestra Director of the year in 1985. Voted Teacher of the Year for Austin High School in 1979 and was a finalist in the Austin Independent School District competition. Received honorable mention and first place in the TODA composition contest. He was even named an "Admiral in the Texas Navy" by Governor Dolph Briscoe.

Retired in 1988 but has continued to write, substitute teach, judge, clinic and teach private lessons. He has also continued to lead his dance band, "Corkey Robinson and the Keynoters" during retirement. Married for 43 years to Barbara Tramel Robinson and father of two children, Kevin and Beverly. Resides at 2801 Bowman, Austin, Texas 78703.

June 20, 1996
AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR DUWARD -

I WAS INDUCTED INTO THE S.E. AUSTIN
HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY HALL OF HONOR
ON MAY 2, 1996. I THOUGHT THAT
I MIGHT ENCLOSE THESE TWO PAPERS
TO SEE IF THEY MIGHT BE OF INTEREST
TO THE GRAND MASTERS HALL OF FAME.
I HAVE A COLOR 8x10 PHOTO COMING
IN A FEW DAYS - I BELIEVE THAT YOU
HAVE ALREADY ASKED THAT I SEND IT TO
MARGANA LOVETT IN CUBBECK - WILL DO.
- HOPE YOU ARE DOING VERY WELL, AND,
THAT YOU ARE NOT TOO HOT - WE ARE
"BURNING UP" IN AUSTIN.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JULY.
BEST REGARDS -

Clayton Reburn



Hall of Honor

Stephen F. Austin High School

1715 West Cesar Chavez • Austin, Texas 78703-4699 • Telephone 512-474-5951

There is something special about LaFalco Robinson, you pick up on it the moment you lay eyes on him. It is in his smile, his gestures, and the look he gets in his eyes as he recalls the stories and students who have filled his life. For days I have tried to find the words to describe what it is that seems to emit from his soul and touch each person with whom he comes in contact. Passionate, brilliant, dedicated, and absolutely wonderful all come to mind, and yet none seem strong enough. Apparently, we have not yet created a word for a man like Mr. Robinson.

In the last three weeks I have read dozens of letters by students and colleagues who have tried to articulate just what it is that seems to make this man such a great success and guiding force behind their lives. In this time I have come to envy the lucky few who had the opportunity of a lifetime to learn under this truly gifted man. According to one former student, Mr. Robinson's ability to derive great music from his bands and orchestras came from the fact that "he was not merely a teacher but, a fine musician in his own right." She went on to say that he had "the rare ability to communicate with young people, and it was this trait, and the knowledge that he deeply cared for each of his students as individuals that made him so respected."

The recently released movie "Mr. Holland's Opus" tells the story of a man with a similar love and passion for music. The 1961 drum major, Scott Irwin recently wrote to him about this movie. "The story made me laugh, and cry, and feel very glad to have had the opportunity to know you and have you make a very positive influence on my life. I wish I could say that you made a fine musician of me, but we both know that would be stretching the truth beyond repair. However, I do have a very great love and appreciation for music, all kinds of music, and that is directly attributable to you and how you have influenced me. Mr. Holland was a great success and so were you. He is a fictional character but you are the genuine article!" Letters like these are numerous enough to fill an album of their own. They tell the story of a man with a rare gift for teaching, "who is interested in his fellow man and the maximum development of each student he encounters, both as a musician and as a person."

In this short tribute I cannot adequately convey to you the type of man we honor here today. LaFalco Robinson: musician, conductor, composer, but first, last, and always a teacher.

O'Kelley Higdon
May 2, 1996
Dedication Day



(1996) LAFALCO "CORKEY" ROBINSON
BAND AND ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR, 1961-1988



"My principal objective as a teacher is to get students hooked on music," said Lafalco Robinson. And so he did for 37 years in AISD schools beginning in the elementary schools as an itinerant musician. At age 14 he had dedicated his life to music, quietly committing himself to play music, compose it, promote it, sell it, and teach it. He came to SFA in 1961 and for the next 27 years until his retirement he conducted the band, directed the orchestra, organized a stage band, and even directed the choir part-time. In addition to teaching he also composed and performed, playing in local musical ensembles ranging from jazz bands to 40 piece orchestras. His composition, "Spiritual and Hallelujah," won first place in the Texas Orchestra Directors Association Composition Competition. He was not just a teacher of music, he was a musician. His students sensed his love for music and his sincere desire to pass that love along to them. His example and commitment to excellence led his students in 1975 to inscribe a plaque dedicating the band hall to Lafalco Corkey Robinson.



March 1, 1979

Miss Jackie McGee
Stephen F. Austin High School
1715 West 1st Street
Austin, Texas 78701

"Teacher of the Year" Committee
Austin Independent School District

Dear Miss McGee:

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to support the nomination of Mr. La Falco "Corky" Robinson for "Teacher of the Year." I can think of no one more deserving of this honor. He exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism in both his teaching skills and his aesthetic pursuits.

He is devoted to all aspects of artistic endeavor and expression, and strives tirelessly to individualize his instruction to meet the needs of each of his students' unique abilities. He is sincerely interested in every student and makes him feel and know that his part and contribution is important. He is such an inspirational teacher that he enables his students to achieve their maximum potential.

He instills the beauty and understanding of music in all who perform under his baton, and this beauty, understanding and enjoyment is transcended to the audience, thus enriching the cultural environment of the entire community.

He is the most versital musician I know. He is equally at ease and able on the football field, in the concert hall--with band or orchestra, or with jazz ensemble--for either listening or dancing.

Personally, he has been unquestionably the most influential teacher I have ever had. He had a profound impact on my career choice and pursuits. To this day I strive for the lofty goals he instilled in me as a student.

Above all, I believe that La Falco Robinson deserves this award because he is a real, sincere, caring human--devotedly interested in his fellow man and the maximum development of each student he encounters, both as a musician and as a person. Possibly the only award that would be more fitting for him would be "Teacher of the Decade." In my opinion he is a teacher without peer.

Cordially,

Michael D. Sandgarten, PhD.
Conductor of Bands
Assistant Professor of Music

nw

Marilyn E. Eichenbaum
3908 Southwestern
Houston, Texas 77005

Teacher of the Year Committee
Stephen F. Austin High School
1715 West 1st.
Austin, Texas 78703

To Whom it may concern:

My husband, Charles, and I consider it a tremendous honor to write this letter recommending Mr. LaFalco Robinson for Teacher of the Year in the Austin Independent School District. It was our fortune to have had Mr. Robinson as our band and orchestra conductor at Austin High School from 1966 through 1969.

It is difficult to accurately and completely describe the influence this wonderful man has had on our lives. As a teacher of music, there is none better. Mr. Robinson was not merely a teacher, but a fine musician in his own right. Perhaps it was this quality which gave him the ability to derive great music from his bands and orchestras. Certainly, his record of winnings in competition speaks for itself. More importantly, however, Mr. Robinson carefully guided numerous young musicians, many of whom have become gifted teachers and performers themselves. There is no doubt that his delicate handling of these talented youngsters enabled them to later compete successfully in a very difficult field.

Mr. Robinson had a unique ability to communicate with young people. It was this trait and the knowledge that he deeply cared for his students as individuals that made him so respected. It is said that a person must earn respect. If this is true at all, it is true of Mr. Robinson. He worked as hard and harder than his students to produce that beautiful "sound of music." He taught his students what it meant to work together for a common, worthy cause. When we failed, no one felt it deeper than he, and when we succeeded, no one was prouder of us than he.

I am a teacher myself, and I must say that if I ever have half as positive an effect on my students as Mr. Robinson did on so many, then I will be successful. I cannot think of any teacher I have had, or any teacher I presently know that more deserves this high honor. Mr. Robinson is not only "Teacher of the Year," but also, "the Years."

Sincerely Yours,

Marilyn E. Eichenbaum



City of Austin

Founded by Congress, Republic of Texas, 1839

Central Library, 9th and Guadalupe, P.O. Box 2287, Austin, Texas 78768 Telephone 512/472-5433

March 1, 1979

Ms. Jacquelyn McGee, Principal
Teacher of the Year Committee
Austin High School
1715 West First Street
Austin, TX 78703

Dear Committee Members

It is an honor and a privilege to recommend to you Mr. Lafalco "Corky" Robinson as "Teacher of the Year".

I can personally attest to Mr. Robinson's musical ability and integrity. He is a fine musician and teacher. He insists upon the highest standards of performance possible from his students and works long hours with them individually to help them develop to their highest potential. I have seen his influence on my son, David, and witnessed his elation when David qualified for various honors in regional and state competitions. It is this personal interest and concern for his young musicians, so necessary for instrumentalists, which sets him apart as an effective motivator.

He encourages his students to participate in all types of musical experiences, and serves as an example by doing so himself. His devotion to his community, his school and his students is exemplary.

Again, I would appreciate very much your considering Mr. Robinson as "Teacher of the Year".

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely

David Earl Holt
Director of Libraries

18 February 1996

Dear Mr. Robinson,

Greetings from the San Jose area of California. I'll bet you are a bit surprised to hear from me. Well, I just had to sit down and write you a letter about a wonderful experience I had this weekend. Vicki and I went to the movies and saw Mr. Holland's Opus. If you haven't gone to see it, please do. It was written with you as the model for Mr. Holland.

If for no other reason, it was a wonderful story without violence, gratuitous sex, car crashes and no one was shot with an automatic gun! Just a warm tale of a man who dedicated his life to young people, helping them grow up and become contributing members of society. Oh, and by the way, learn to appreciate and play music along the way.

When the principal asked Mr. Holland to form a marching band, it reminded me of when you came to Austin High, and Newton and I worked with you as you learned to plan marching shows for football games.

In the movie, when the boys and girls started to play, I swore they had recordings of some of our efforts. As Mr. Holland was able to turn these awful sounds into beautiful music, I recall your patience and persuasion molding our sounds into something we could all be proud of, as well.

The story made me laugh, and cry and feel very glad to have had the opportunity to know you and have you make a very positive influence on my life. I wish I could say you made a fine musician of me, but we would both agree that was stretching the truth beyond repair. However, I have a very great love and appreciation of music,...all kinds of music, and that is directly attributable to you, and how you influenced me.

Mr. Holland sets out to be a composer of music, and toward the end of the movie, one of his former pupils tells him that all of his students are the notes and melodies of his Opus. I thought that was a very powerful and sweet thought. It is important for you to know the composition you have written, the students you have touched as a teacher, was rich and harmonious and brightens the world with its melody. Mr. Holland was a great success and so were you! He is a fictional character, but you are the genuine article!

All is well with Vicki and me. We continue to work at TANDEM Computers in the Real Estate Department. Our life is very busy with work, but otherwise very mundane. I hope you are enjoying good health and are still doing some traveling. As you see Bob Tull or Mickey Sandgarten, please send them my regards.

Again, please see Mr. Holland. It really is very much about you.

With Best Wishes and Deep Respect,



University Interscholastic League

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to

La Falco Robinson

Presented this 30 Day of May, 1920

In Grateful Recognition of Contributions to the League Program of
Educational Competition in Texas

SERVICE



AWARD

Nelson Pattee
State Contest Director

Bailey Marshall
Director, University Interscholastic League

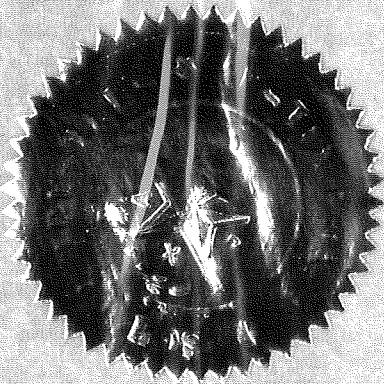
Austin Independent School District

Special Recognition Citation

to

La Falco (Corky) Robinson

This citation is awarded by the Board of School Trustees in recognition and appreciation of your outstanding performance as a teacher. You are commended for your willing dedication of time, interest and effort in achieving this honor, thereby reflecting the highest credit upon yourself and the Public Schools of Austin.



Will D. Davis

Member

Will D. Davis

Member

Manue Navarro

Member

Nan Clayton

Member

Marvin Griffin

President

DeCoursey Kelley

Secretary

John August

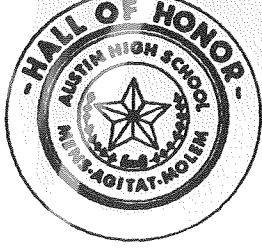
Vice-President

Jack L. Davidson

Superintendent

May 14, 1979

Date of Award



Hall of Honor

Stephen F. Austin High School

1715 West Cesar Chavez • Austin, Texas 78703-4699 • Telephone 512-474-5951

March 21, 1996

Dear Mr. La Falco Robinson,

Congratulations! You have been elected an Honored Faculty of Austin High School as a part of our 1996 Hall of Honor recognition program.

A nomination for you was received several years ago and a biographical and professional file has been developed for you by our Student Steering Committee, and the file has been examined as a part of balloting. The file has been examined by a secret selection committee composed of teacher, students, community leaders, and previously-elected Distinguished Alumni and Honored Faculty resulting in your election. Our sincere congratulations!

We invite you to be on hand at our Lakefront Campus for the Hall Of Honor installation assembly on Thursday, May 2, 1996. Activities begin at 8:30 A.M. at the school, 1715 West Cesar Chavez, 78703, just west of the downtown area. An all-school assembly at 10:30 A.M. and a luncheon will be part of the day. We hope that you will place this event on your calendar for May 2. Please provide a list of names and addresses for whom you would like us to invite. If it is impossible for you to be present, please assist us in forming an official party which could represent you that day. We ask for a response to our invitation by April 1, 1996. Please note that both our address and telephone number have changed since you were on the faculty, but we are still at the same location. Our new telephone number is 414-2550. The principals secretary is Ms. Fairchild.

Student escorts for the day will be provided from the Hall of Honor Steering Committee. A contact with you will be provided from the Hall of Honor Steering Committee. A member of the Hall of Honor Steering Committee will contact you by telephone on e week prior to the installation to confirm your plans and to arrange for the Escort Party to meet you. We look forward to seeing you!

Loyal Forever,

Austin McWilliams, '96

Senior Leader,

Austin High School Hall of Honor

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT



February 26, 1979

Austin Independent School District
Teacher of the Year Committee

To the Committee:

When the conversation swings around to music and music education in Austin, the name that everyone recognizes immediately is LaFalco (Corky) Robinson. If anyone deserves the title "Mr. Music", it is Corky! He literally lives, breathes, walks, talks and sleeps music. The same for his students, he spends more time with them than he does with his own wife. She has told me on several occasions that she threatened moving his bed to the band hall. This, of course, was said with great fondness and appreciation for "Mr. Music".

Corky has been teaching music and teaching young people to love music for 26 years. He was an AISD itinerant music teacher for two years, band and orchestra director at O. Henry Junior High School for six (6) years and has held the same position at Austin High School for the last eighteen (18) years.

Because of Corky, Austin High School is one of the few comprehensive high schools in the state that has a complete music program: Marching Band; Symphonic and Concert Bands and Orchestras; Chamber ensembles; Stage Bands and small Combos; plus he helps all who are interested in music theory and music composition!

Corky the man has as much depth as Corky the teacher. He is one of the most sincere and appreciative human beings that I have ever known.

It has been my pleasure to have known "Mr. Music" for many years, both as a fellow music teacher and as an administrator. His reputation state-wide has been of the highest degree and he has maintained it over a long period of time. Corky Robinson is a true teacher among teachers!

Sincerely,

John H. Pearson
Coordinator, Instrumental Music

Stephen F. Austin High School

1715 WEST FIRST STREET / AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701 / 474-5951

Office Of The Principal

March 1, 1979

Teacher of the Year Committee
Austin Independent School District

To Whom It May Concern:

It was a thrill for me when the faculty of S. F. Austin High School nominated Lafalco "Corky" Robinson "Teacher of the Year" for 1978-79 school year. His nomination seems a fitting way for us to honor a fine human being who has dedicated the greater part of his life to teaching.

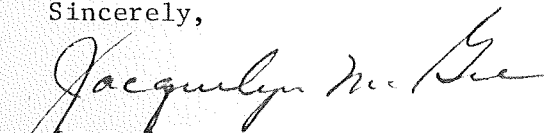
Corky has always impressed me with the amazing way he helps students successfully develop their own talents and skills and especially the way he instills an abiding love and appreciation of music in each of these students. In almost every youngster's school career there will be one, maybe two, teachers that the student will remember all his life with very special feelings. For countless students, such a teacher is Corky Robinson. His students, too, have always been very special persons to him. They have not been just faces, or numbers, or instruments! There is no way to describe adequately the amount of time this man has spent outside the regular school day teaching and encouraging his students or to enumerate his countless other personal sacrifices. He has a genuine concern for all individuals and handles each with sensitivity, compassion, understanding and love.

Mr. Robinson also has a rare talent for recognizing the potential of a student and for developing and nurturing this talent. I am convinced that the music-related experiences that he provides his students are absolutely unexcelled in any high school anywhere in the country. Mr. Robinson's students not only play instruments, they compose, arrange, and score! They also plan half-time shows for many of Austin High's football games, shows which on occasion feature the compositions and arrangements of Austin High students. In Mr. Robinson's programs, there is truly something for everyone!

In addition to his teaching, Mr. Robinson is actively involved in community activities in an enthusiastic and quality way. His contributions are widely recognized and his name is a household word in the Austin music and theatre community. Each activity benefits in a significant and quality way from Corkey's participation.

Mr. Robinson's nomination has the solid support of all Austin High students, parents, faculty and staff! We feel that AISD could not find a better person to recognize and honor as "Teacher of the Year".

Sincerely,


Jacquelyn McGee
Principal

Estrellitas
by LaFalco Robinson
A Kealing Orchestra
World Premier

Kealing Fine Arts Showcase Concert
Tuesday May 10, 7:30
Kealing Symphonic Orchestra with the Kealing Chamber Orchestra

Tuesday May 10, 1994 The Kealing Symphonic Orchestra along with the Kealing Chamber Orchestra will be performing an original composition by Mr. LaFalco Robinson of Austin, Texas. The work, entitled *Estrellitas*, or "Little Stars," was commissioned by director Kate McLellan-Kirk and composed especially for the Kealing Symphonic and Chamber Orchestras. Mr. Robinson, former band, orchestra and jazz band director at Austin High School and O. Henry Middle School has been a teacher in AISD for 37 years. Besides a full-time composer, he currently performs in Austin as a freelance musician and musician contractor. Mr. Robinson will be present at the performance May 10 and we are honored to be performing this world premier of one of his works.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SOLOISTS

Allison Lince-Bentley..... Flute
Chris Guenthner.....Trumpet I
Julia Decker.....Trumpet II
Nancy Hwang..... Cello I
Evan McArthur..... Cello II

Dedication Day

Dedication Day, observed today, marks the anniversary of the "dedication" of the Lakefront Campus of Austin High on Sunday, May 2, 1976, when the Austin Public Schools officially "accepted" the new lakeside campus in a public ceremony.

As the years have passed, we have observed the school's official birthday on Dedication Day. This year we mark the one hundred fifteenth year of the operation of Austin High School. More than 36,000 students have graduated from the school since it opened on September 12, 1881.

The assembly today is planned and presented by students from a number of groups. We expect to have many visitors with us for the event, including many alumni. We extend a special welcome to those who were faculty and alumni twenty-one years ago when the lakeside campus opened.

Honored Faculty Elected for 1996

LaFalco "Corkey" Robinson - Band and Orchestra Director - 1961-1988

"My principal objective as a teacher is to get students hooked on music," said LaFalco Robinson. And so he did for 37 years in AISD schools beginning in the elementary schools as an itinerant musician. At age 14 he had dedicated his life to music, quietly committing himself to play music, compose it, promote it, sell it, and teach it. He came to SFA in 1961 and for the next 27 years until his retirement he conducted the band, directed the orchestra, organized a stage band, and even directed the choir part-time. In addition to teaching he also composed and performed, playing in local musical ensembles ranging from jazz bands to 40 piece orchestras. His composition, "Spiritual and Hallelujah", won first place in the Texas Orchestra Director's Association Composition Competition. He was not just a teacher of music, he was a musician. His students sensed his love for music and his sincere desire to pass that love along to them. His example and commitment to excellence led his students in 1975 to inscribe a plaque dedicating the band hall to LaFalco Corkey Robinson.

Melba Cox - Teacher, Coach, Mentor - 1962-1983

Although she was an English major, Melba Cox's first love was coaching. Through coaching she was able to touch young people's lives by teaching the virtues of honesty, dedication, leadership, sportsmanship, and fair play. Her one strength of character and persevering work ethic guided her in pioneering women's UIL athletic program at Austin High. She championed women's athletics at Austin High and fought for quality programs that allowed young girls to participate in the sport of their choice. She coached tennis and taught physical education in addition to establishing the women's volleyball and basketball programs. She was the only coach in AISD ever to be selected "Coach of the Year" in both volleyball and basketball. Through her singular efforts women's sports gained an equality with men's sports that they had not enjoyed previously. She was the standard-bearer, blazing the way through her commitment, her integrity, her character, and her own fighting spirit. Young women today who participate in female sports owe this privilege to the perseverance of Coach Melba Cox.

TARRANT EMPLOYMENT

AGENCY

"Talent Scouts for Management"

For 30 Years

122-123 PERRY-BROOKS BLDG.

477-5737

AUSTIN, TEXAS

78701

March 10, 1978

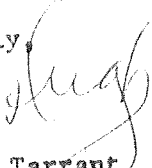
Mr. Corky Robinson
Stephen F. Austin High School
1715 West 1st
Austin, Texas 78703

Dear Corky,

For some forty years I have produced shows for the Lions Club. Frankly, I do not believe I have ever received such enthusiastic appreciation from the membership as evidenced for your show yesterday. Once again, Corky, our sincere gratitude.

Enclosed is clipping from the Austin Citizens, a story by Carolyn Bengtson, which I thought you would like to have.

Sincerely,


C. Hugh Tarrant

CHT/s

Enclosure



CONSTRUCTIVE

CONSIDERATE

CONFIDENTIAL

A musical treat is in store for members of the Downtown Lions Club on Thursday, when the Stephen F. Austin High Stage Band performs at lunch in the Stephen F. Austin Hotel.



Corky Robinson, who has been the music guru at AHS for 17 years will present a program of "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed and Something Blue."

There will be such old favorites as "In the Mood," but the current hit of the show is "You Light Up My Life," with David Holt as the trombone soloist.

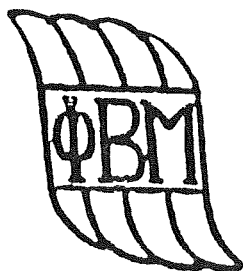
Other soloists include Kenny Riley, Linda Holley, Stacy Davis and Reuben Garcia.

Along with trombones, the stage band features saxophones, trumpets, a flute, a guitar...

While the Lions are enjoying the easy listening, Zeta Tau Alpha alumnae will be entertaining. Some 300 guests are expected at the hospitality coffee to be held at the Zeta house.

Cynthia Eledge and Cynthia Patton are in charge, and they'll be serving miniature quiches and cheesecake and fresh strawberries.

+++



*"Life,
Love
and
Music"*

**PHI BETA MU
ALPHA CHAPTER**

**TEXAS
BANDMASTERS
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION CEREMONY**

**July 22, 1996
2:30 - 4:00 PM
Marriott Riverwalk Hotel
San Antonio, Texas**

To the memory of my twenty-seven years with the Stephen F. Austin High School Orchestra -- 1967-'88. L.R.

Score

Holiday Song and Dance

LaFalco (Corkey) Robinson

Andantino

$\text{♩} = 84$

For String Orchestra

legato

con moto

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

legato

legato

legato

legato

pizz.

A qu

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

divisi

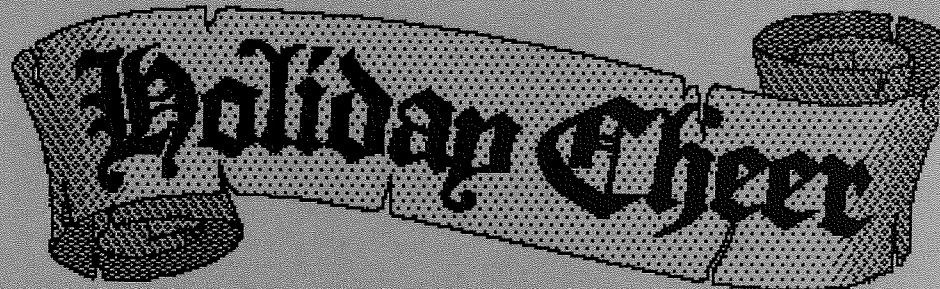
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© 1995 Falcon Music - Austin, Texas



Holiday Concert

featuring

Austin High School Chamber Orchestra
Austin High School Philharmonic Orchestra
O. Henry Honor Orchestra
O. Henry Sixth Grade Orchestra

World Premiere
of

Holiday Song and Dance
by LaFalco "Corkey" Robinson

Thursday, December 7, 1995
Elizabeth Brady & William Dick,
Conductors

La Falco

Robinson

Austin ISD (Retired)

Austin, TX

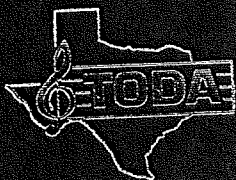
San Antonio

The best time. Every time.



H
O
N
O
R
A
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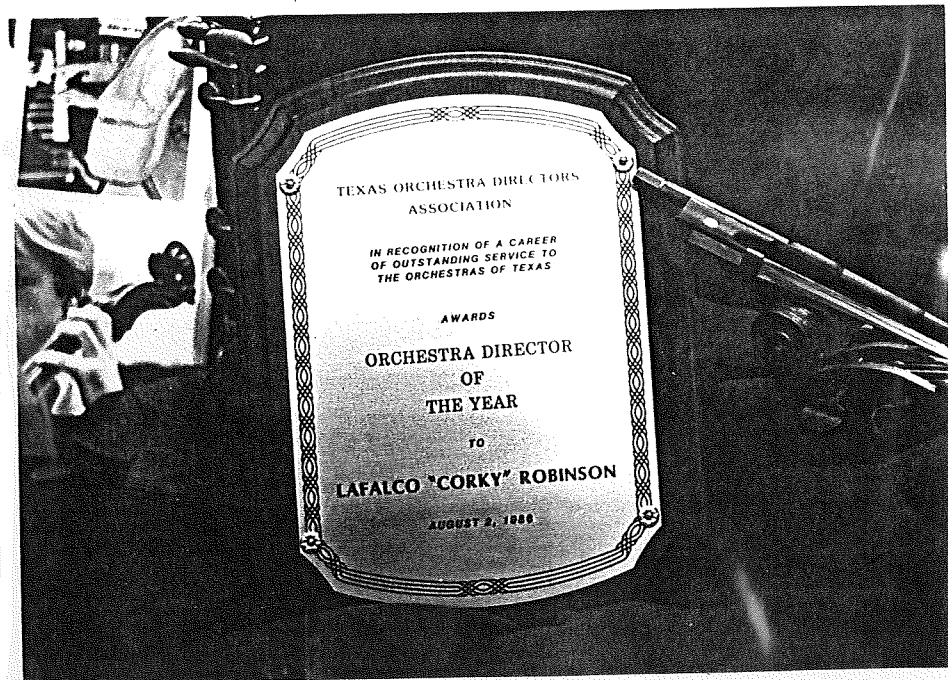
MEMBER

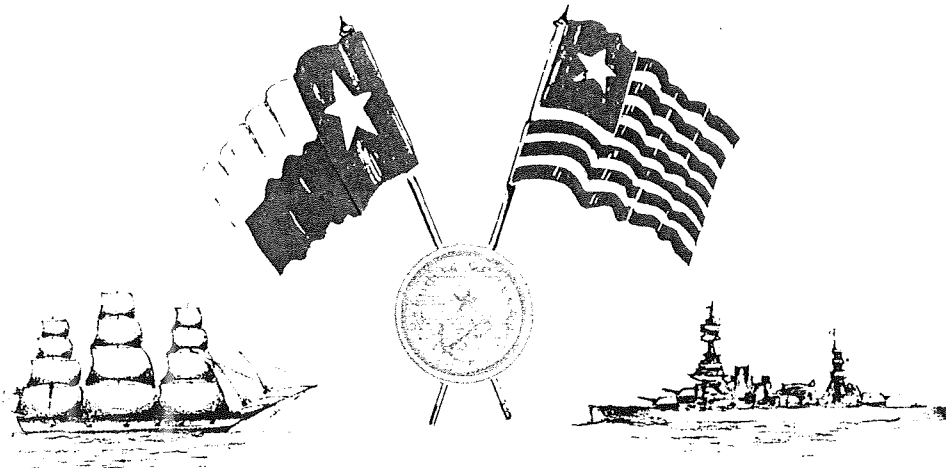


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In the name and by the authority of

The State of Texas

To all to whom these presents shall come — Greeting:
Know ye, that

LAFALCO ROBINSON

is hereby commissioned

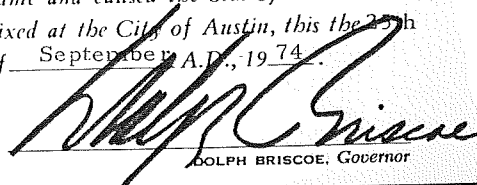
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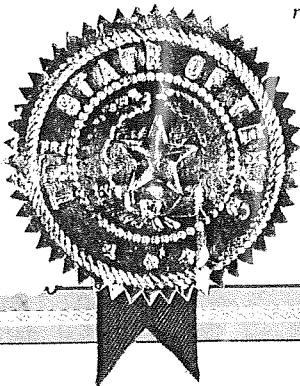
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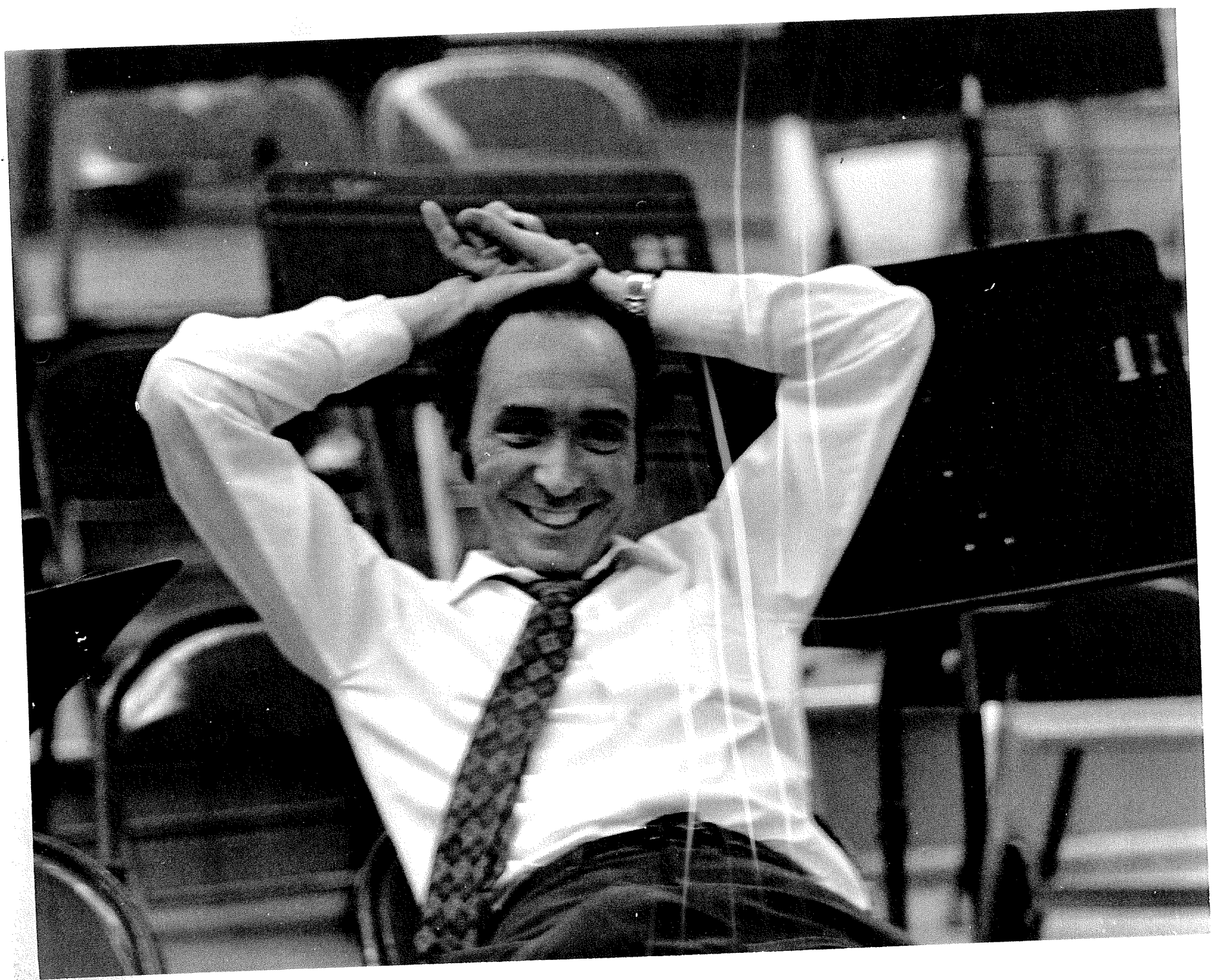
with all rights and privileges appertaining thereto and with the duty of
assisting in the preservation of the history, boundaries, water
resources, and civil defense of the State.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed
my name and caused the Seal of the State to
be affixed at the City of Austin, this the 25th
day of September A.D., 19 74.



DOLPH BRISCOE, Governor





Jazzman-teacher "Corkey" Robins swings on symphonic front



John Bustin

Encore

To many, La Falco "Corkey" Robinson is a gifted teacher, a molder of young talent and an effective influence on how that talent can be used in the future.

For others, especially those in the professional music community here, Mr. Robinson is a top-ranked tenor saxophonist who has graced some of the leading musical groups of the city, including his own band.

Members of the Texas Orchestra Directors Association, on the other hand, know him as an award-winning composer of symphonic music, winner of the grand prize of the statewide group's second annual composition contest.

In fact, Mr. Robinson is all of these things—and a great many more—and has been for the last four

decades.

Corkey, as he is widely known, first made his mark on the local music scene in the late '40s when he was playing in Austin's best dance bands and jazz combos. He was not only a strong section man in those days but an inventive soloist, and when he entered the teaching field in 1951, bandleaders feared they had lost a major sideman. As it turned out, it wasn't even a detour.

Starting as an itinerant instrumental-music teacher in the Austin Independent School District, Mr. Robinson became band and orchestra director for O. Henry Junior High School in 1955, and in his sixth and last year there, he also directed the choir as well.

He then became director of orchestras and bands, including the stage band, at Stephen F. Austin High School, a post he filled for the rest of his public-school teaching career.

Corkey is generally credited with molding the stage band into a hard-swinging aggregation but also with

getting rich sounds out of the regular Maroon Marching Band and the AHS orchestra.

Proof of his success, though, has come not only from the sounds of these organizations but from the fact that many of his students have gone on to notable professional careers themselves.

Among the professionals to come out of Mr. Robinson's regime are Bill Campbell, the bass player with Fleetwood Mac; Megan Meisenbach, the widely known classical flutist; David Montgomery, the music consultant to movie director Martin Scorsese; Ron Brown, former music director for Diana Ross; Rob Lockhart, former Woody Herman tenor saxist; Daryl Fiske Pollard, now a busy cocktail lounge pianist in Washington, D.C.;

Chris Reyes, trumpeter with Maynard Ferguson; Steve Zirkel, bassist and trumpeter prominent in Austin music; and Summer Erickson, tuba player with the Pittsburgh Symphony.

During all this time, Mr. Robinson continued to play his own tenor sax in other people's bands around town and leading his own group, Corkey Robinson and the Keynoters, which can vary in size from a combo to a big band. For the last several years, he has been heard regularly with Clifford Zirkel and the Big Band Sound of Austin.

Mr. Robinson has always enjoyed writing original music and arrangements, but two years ago, recently retired after 37 years under the AISD banner, he wrote a Suite for String Orchestra and entered it in the TODA's first composition competition. It was the first contest



Corkey Robinson, saxist, bandleader and composer.

he had ever entered, and he was almost surprised when his suite won second place, nosed out by a work by a much-publicized California composer.

He then wrote "Spiritual and Hallelulah," a work for full orchestra, and entered it in the second TODA competition. This one was awarded the grand prize and was premiered at

the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. He will study composition and arranging at the Royal Academy of Music in London this summer and no doubt give the Brits a sample of American-style jazz.

He and his wife Barbara, for many years a respected reporter for KTBC radio and television, live at 2801 Bowman Avenue.

the organization's state convention in San Antonio last weekend.

This new fame certainly hasn't changed the veteran musician's easy-going personality. He had already been named "Orchestra Director of the Year" by TODA in 1986, the group's 25th anniversary, and he had served with distinction as its president before that.

He has seen the evolution of music educators' groups from the early '50s to the present, and he has also been impressed with the development of music education itself.

He says he'll probably continue to write symphonic music, but one thing for sure, he won't lay down his tenor sax.

Mr. Robinson earned his bachelor and master's degrees from the University of Texas and studied at



2801 BOWMAN AVE.
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78703

The fact that musicianship and intelligence go together never surprises a music teacher. We've seen too often that the student who excels in music is most often an honors student.

One year, at Austin High, 14 of our 17 Merit Scholars were members of the Band, Orchestra or Stage Band...or all three.

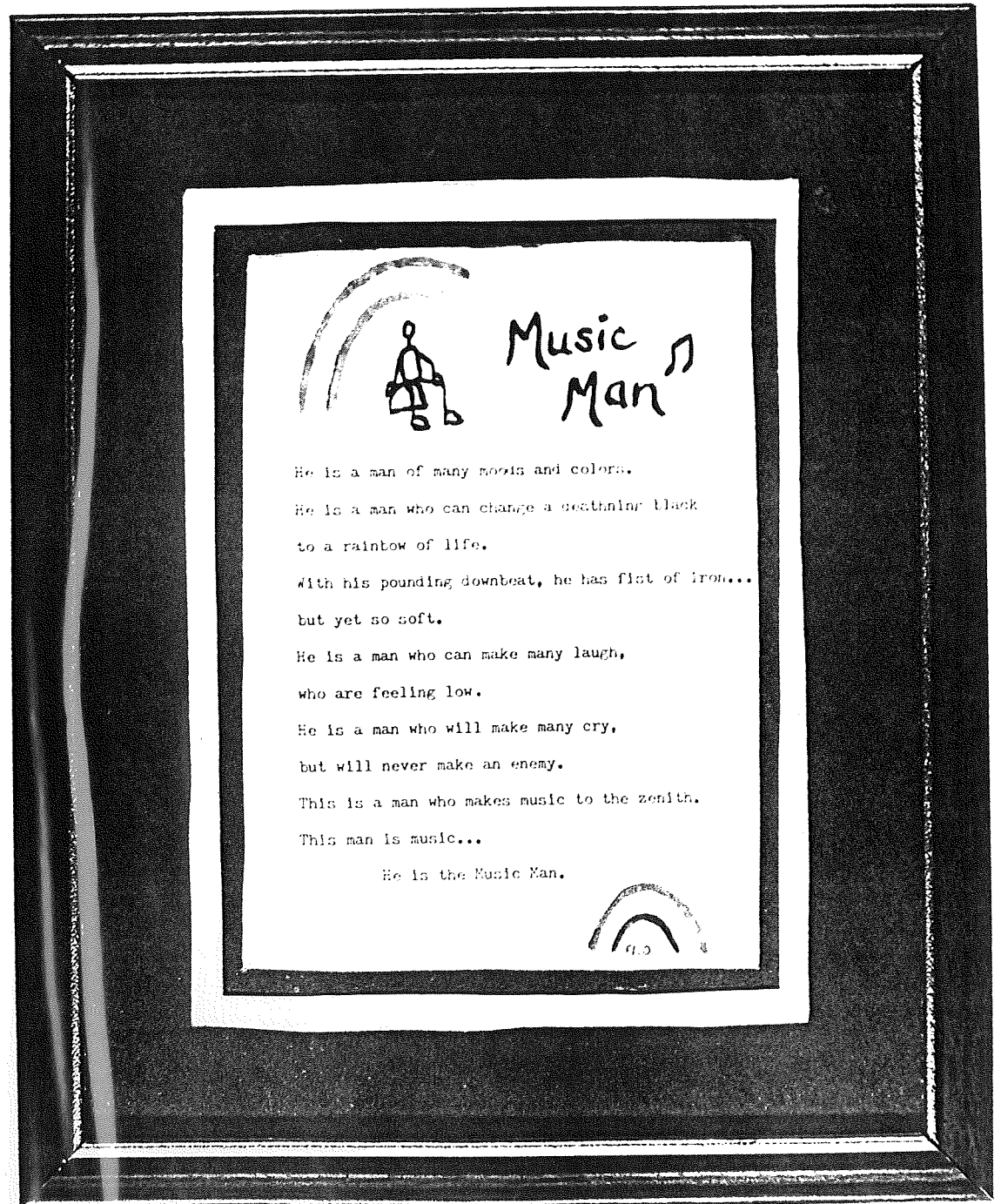
This was long before all the serious studies in recent years showing the strong linkage of musical ability with high I.Q. Now, everyone is beginning to recognize what we music teachers have known all along.

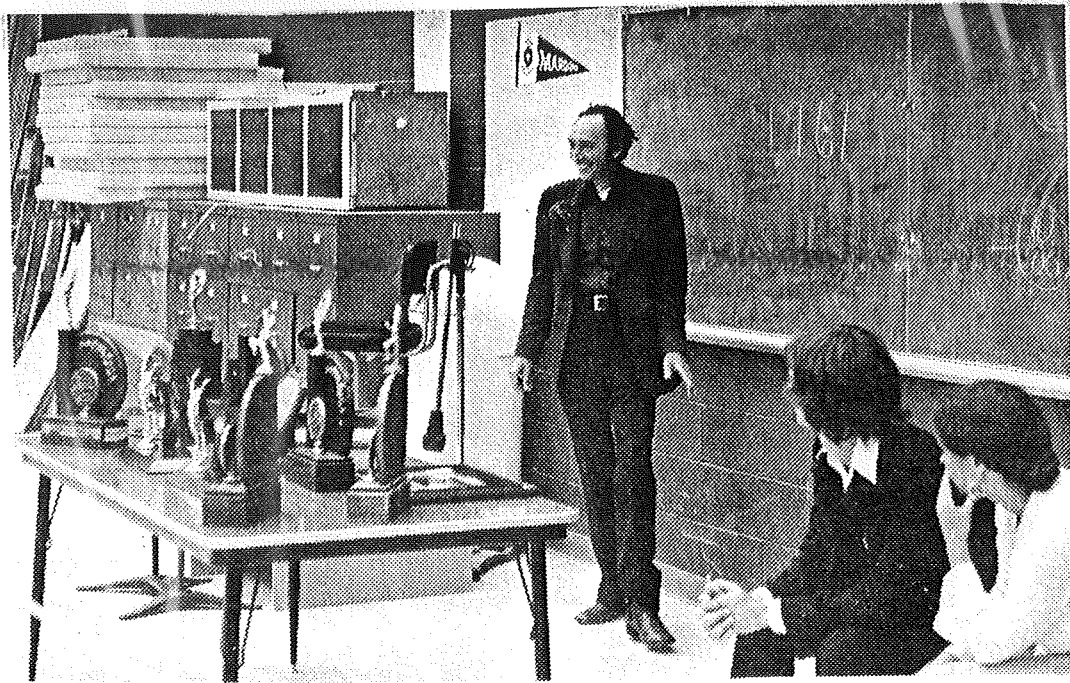
A good musician is often talented in other arts as well.

One day, the art teacher came bouncing into the band hall carrying a picture. It was a charcoal drawing of the stage band in action and every last player was clearly recognizable. These weren't just representative images but portraits of real people.

The Art Department placed the picture on display in one of its exhibits and drew comments from all elements of the school community.

The poem grew out of an English class project and I was lucky enough to get it when the project ended.





Mr. LaFalco Robinson expresses his happiness at a surprise dedication party in the band hall October 25. Looking on are Vince Messbarger and Jenny Middleton, coordinators of the party.

Band Dedicates Room to 'Corky'

A party and ceremony in honor of the dedication of the Instrumental Music Room to Band Director LaFalco Robinson was held Oct. 25.

"My first thought about something like this is how nice it is to do this for someone while he is still alive," commented Director Robinson, "this comes from the hearts and minds of young people."

The main planning of the party was done by Maroon Band president Jenny Middleton and vice-president Vince Messbarger. Jenny and Vince sent out invitations to band directors and teachers throughout the city, and parents of band members supplied refreshments.

A plaque proclaiming: "This band hall is dedicated to LaFalco

'Corky' Robinson for his dedication in instrumental music at Austin High School.—The Austin High School Band, 1975-1976." was presented to Mr. Robinson by Jenny.

A small band, made up of band directors, assistant band directors, and principals played at the dedication.

Up to late October, the instrumental music room has been undergoing "major surgery" as acoustic tiles have been placed on the walls.

Vince suggested a clean-up of the room a day before the dedication, so students showed up to tidy it up, and Mr. Robinson showed up to supervise. Vince then suggested that maybe the speakers in the room could be painted the following day, and again asked the director to come.

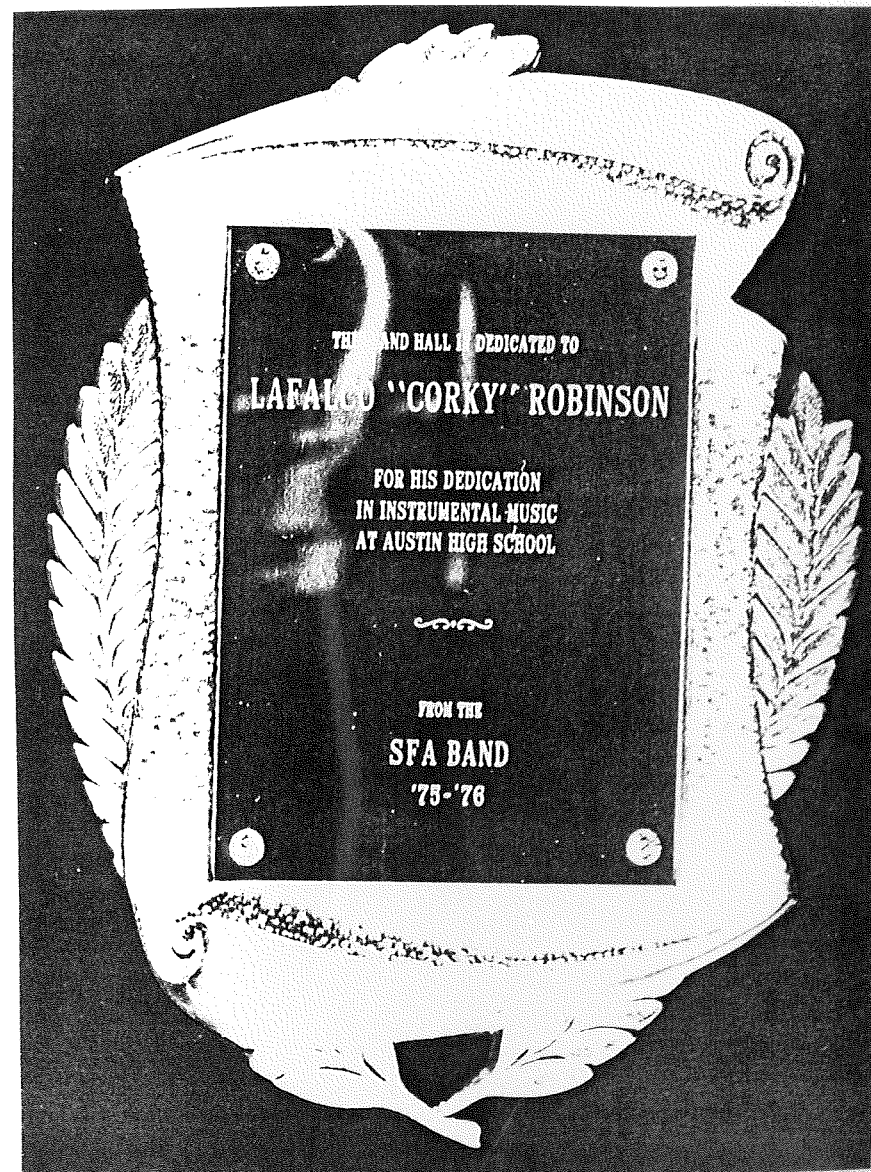
Expecting to find a painting session, the party and dedicating came as a complete surprise to Mr. Robinson.

"When I got to the band hall, I looked around and figured that this was just the band hall party we'd planned to have when the room was finished," remembered the director, "But I was really surprised when I found it was a dedication."

"Considering the condition of the room now, I consider the dedication quite an honor," continued Robinson. "It's nice to have had the acoustics remedied by former Maroon french hornist, Charles Boner."

Mr. Robinson has been at Austin High for 14 years, and has noticed a change in the challenge of teaching and leading an organization.

"I used to think the problem was apathy, but now it's more like herding cattle; there are more individual problems within an organization than group problems, and sometimes there just aren't enough





American-Statesman/UPI

MAROON MUSIC — LaFalco Robinson, right, director of the Stephen F. Austin High School band and orchestra, talks over scores with Tom Gibson, Richard Boner and Robert Adams, left to right, in preparation for the annual Spring Concert. Gibson and Adams will be featured

in solo violin work in the orchestral part of the program, Boner plays French horn in both groups. The concert is at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Municipal Auditorium. Admission for adults is \$1, students through high school age 50c.

There are advantages in having a school located in the State Capitol. It gave our band, orchestra and stage band many performing opportunities we could not have experienced anywhere else.

Over the years, student musicians performed in the Capitol Rotunda many times and in other areas in the capitol complex...including the Governor's Mansion.

There were other performance opportunities as well: The ribbon-cutting ceremony opening I-H 35, Playing "Hail To The Chief" for Lyndon Johnson, The stage band playing jazz for the opening of Symphony Square, as well as playing for conventions, civic clubs and similar organizations.

The students not only got to meet well-known people, the various state officials and celebrities almost always approached the students informally even after recognizing and complimenting their performance to the audience in the usual fashion.

Mr. LaFalco Robinson
Stephen F. Austin High School
1715 West First Street
Austin, Texas 78703

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I want to thank you and the Stephen F. Austin High School Stage Band for providing music for our meeting on Monday, January 22. We appreciate your cooperation in working with us.

I want you to know that our audience felt that your group gave a very lively and entertaining performance. Your bands' contribution reflected great credit on the High School's Music Department and on the young people involved in particular.

It's refreshing to see a group of these students perform in such a professional manner. I'm confident the trim appearance and musical proficiency of your high school students did not go unnoticed by our state-wide audience. I also feel this musical method of communication with different audiences should be continued whenever possible in the future.

We are enclosing a check to cover your expenses plus an honorarium to be used as you deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

Marilyn King

Marilyn King
Convention Coordinator

Enclosure

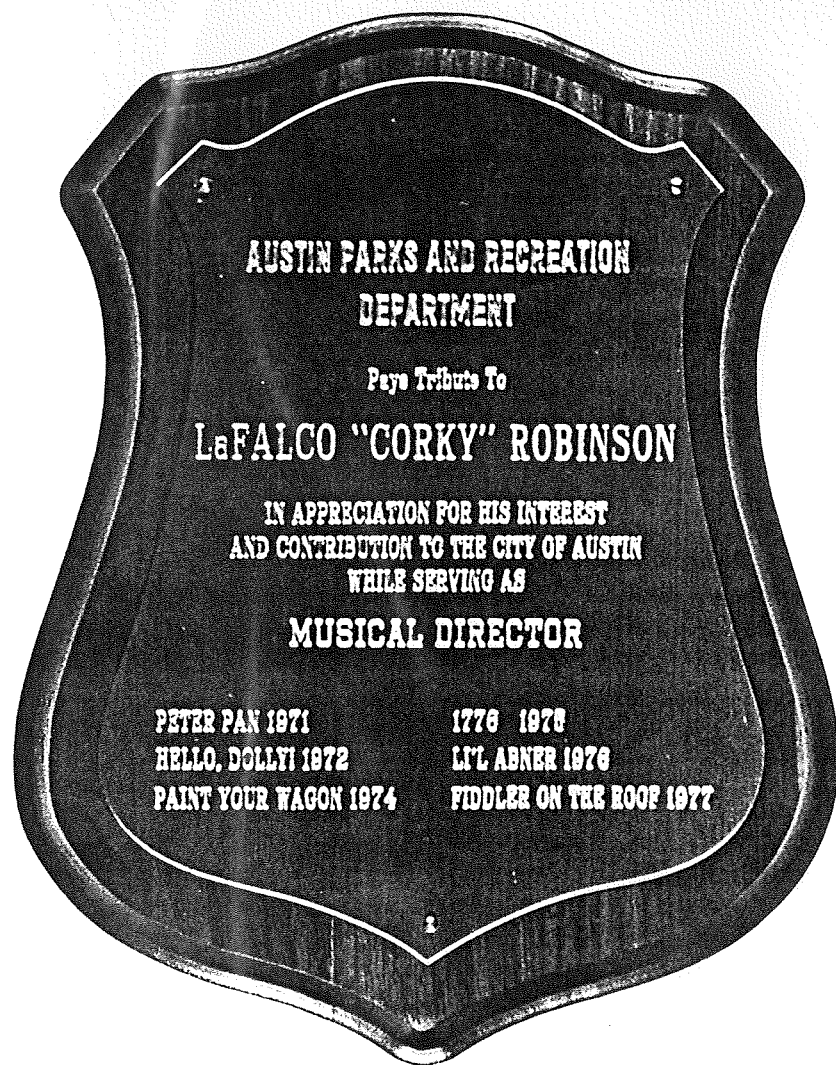
PROGRESS THROUGH UNITY

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MAESTRO MEETS STUDENTS — Donald Vorhees (right), famous conductor of the Bell Telephone Hour orchestra for some 30 years and a nationally noted musician, visits with four members of the Austin High School orchestra during a visit to the school. Sharing the enthusiasm of the maestro and the students

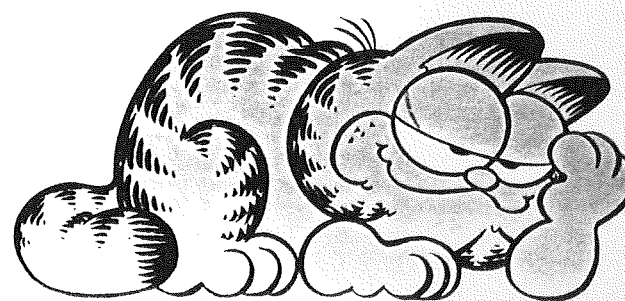
is LaFalco Robinson (second from right), director of the Austin High orchestra and the Maroon Band. Vorhees is in Austin to guest-conduct the Austin Symphony Orchestra at its Saturday night "Promenade" concert in Municipal Auditorium. (Bill Malone Photo)



This represents one of my most potent teaching tools...and you would not believe the number of former students who have greeted me with this formula.

The music students played for numerous school musicals... and this is not easy. I remember after a successful performance of "Carousel", a violinist saying "I didn't think we could do it, but we did." The volunteer orchestras for the annual summer musical were a natural home for young musicians too. Several said the hot weather, mosquitoes and, upon occasion, rain were worth the agony "because you learn so much playing in the pit."

BUT WHAT THE HECK...
I'D LIKE YOU
EVEN IF YOU WERE
SOMEBODY ELSE!



Thanks for all you've done for me! you're such an "unforgettable guy" I'll always remember your famous words ... get the right note, at the right time, in tune, with expression! I love you,
Emily

Suite for String Orchestra

With Affection ♩ = 96

I. Affettuoso

by LaFalco (Corkey) Robinson

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Bass
Piano

mf LH WB UH WB LH } *simile*
mf
mp
mp legato
mp
mp

* LH = Lower Half of bow. WB = Whole bow. UH = Upper half of bow.

6
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Cello
Bass
Piano

SO76

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Texas Orchestra Directors Association

July 6, 1993

Mr. LaFalco 'Corkey' Robinson
2801 Bowman
Austin, TX 78703

Dear Corkey,

I just want to take a moment to congratulate you on the behalf of the TODA Board about your piece being selected as Honorable Mention in the 1993 Texas Orchestra Directors Association Composition Contest. We're just so proud of your accomplishment, and the fact that you are a member of our organization makes it even more meaningful.

We certainly hope that you are able to be in attendance at the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, August 4, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 NOON. We would like to honor you during our Composition Contest presentation at that time.

Please let me know by July 25, if you will be unable to attend. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Ruth Kurtis

Ruth Kurtis, President

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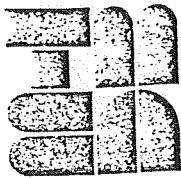
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Texas Music Educators Association

STRING ORCHESTRA
HONOR ORCHESTRA
FINAL RESULTS

JUDGES' SIGNATURES

- 1 Dr. Larry Gebhardt
- 2 Herb Karpicke
- 3 Ida Steadman
- 4 Michael Moores
- 5 Carla Wright

FINAL RANKING	CODE	SCHOOL	DIRECTOR
1	Q	Bellaire (HISD)	Cynthia Latham
2	K	S. F. Austin (Austin ISD)	LaFalco Robinson
3	O	Cooper (Abilene ISD)	Mark Best
4	J	Denton (Denton ISD)	Carold Nunez
5	R	Arlington (Arlington ISD)	Linda Keefer
6	P	North Mesquite (Mesquite ISD)	Weldon Minnick
7	I	Klein (Klein ISD)	Robin Bierschenk
8	L	McAllen (McAllen ISD)	Matthew J. Weber
9	M	Crockett (Austin ISD)	William Dick
10	N	Nimitz (Irving ISD)	Jerry Roe
11	H	Lubbock (Lubbock ISD)	Robert Meinecke
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Texas Music Educators Association

Honor Orchestra Finalist

1st RUNNER-UP STRING ORCHESTRA
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL

Class High School

Year 1984-1985

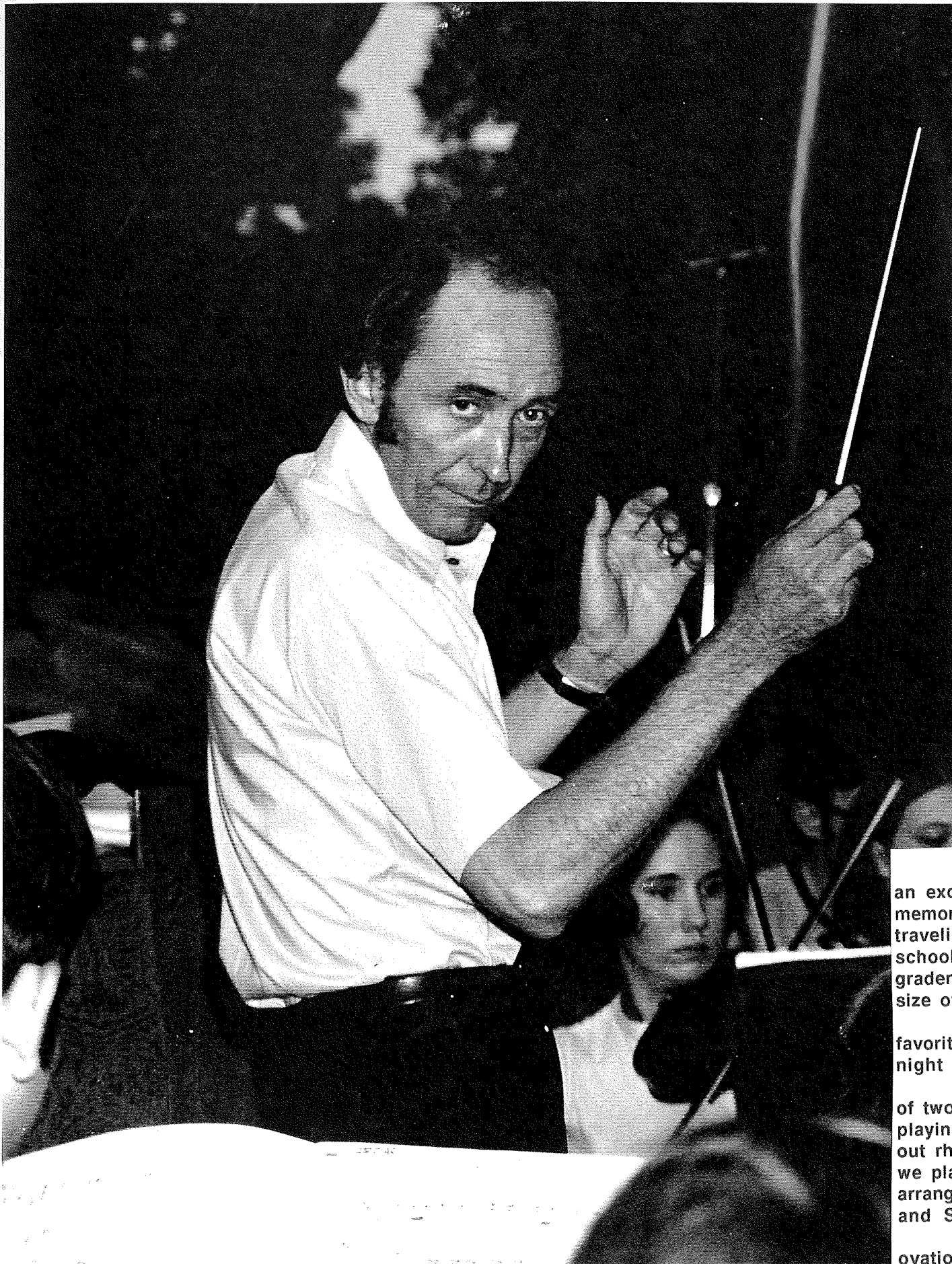
LAFALCO ROBINSON

Director

TMEA commends the group for excellence in musical performance

Suzanne A. Otto
Vice-President/State Division Chairman

M. Karpicke
Date



Teaching music has always been an exciting business! One of my fondest memories dates from the time I was traveling to 12 different elementary schools each week...teaching sixth graders to play an instrument. The size of the classes varied from 5 to 50.

That class of five brings back a favorite memory of the Back To School night concert.

The musical ensemble consisted of two clarinets, two trumpets and a boy playing on a drum pad...plus me pounding out rhythm on the piano. For our concert, we played a simplified (*an extremely simplified*) arrangement of a familiar strain from "Stars and Stripes Forever."

Would you believe we got a standing ovation? Well, of course, the audience were all parents...but a standing ovation is a standing ovation. And I remember that one...even after all the others with much more demanding music and much more advanced students

ATTENTION AUSTIN, TEXAS

ATTENTION AUSTIN, TEXAS

NEPO2050-2/5/67-NEW ORLEANS, LA: Members of the Stephen F Austin Band
of Austin, Tex. parade in the Krew of Mid-City Mardi Gras parade.

UPI TELEPHOTO JF/JF



JOHN CONNALLY
GOVERNOR OF TEXAS
January 23, 1967

Mr. LaFalco Robinson, Director
Austin High School Band
1212 Rio Grande Avenue
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I am delighted to designate the Stephen F. Austin High School Band as representative of our State in the "Greatest Bands in Dixie" contest held during the Mardi Gras Parade in New Orleans on February 5, 1967.

The "Greatest Bands in Dixie" contest has become an important part of the Mardi Gras Season in New Orleans, and I know your band will be a worthy representative of Texas.

Please extend to the members of the band my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable trip.

Sincerely,

John Connally
John Connally

One year, the Stage Band, instead of selling candy, took advantage of an open date in Count Basie's calendar to bring him to Austin High.

It was a highly successful idea. The concert sold out two weeks before Basie got to town. Still, on the night of performance, there was such a demand for seats that the school stage band sold its seats and stood in the wings of the stage for the performance.

And that led to another thrill! Basie's sidemen who had learned every chart backwards...and who had been very nice to the students to begin with...began passing their parts to the young musicians in the wings.

The whole school seemed to go on a Basie binge. A clerk at the local music store even complained a bit... asking to be warned the next time so they could order records in advance. They'd had plenty of rock and country in stock and suddenly found themselves ordering jazz recordings, for heaven's sakes.

Many of the music students recall every moment of that concert to this day.



