

Tucker named to Hall of Fame

Larry Tucker, a former Arkadelphia resident and graduate of the Arkadelphia High School and Henderson State University, has been named to the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

Tucker is a retired director of bands and executive director of fine arts and special academic services, Plano Independent School District, Plano, Texas. He was voted into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame at the Texas Music Educators Association convention in San Antonio. The official induction will be held at the Texas Bandmasters convention in San Antonio, Texas, on July 27.

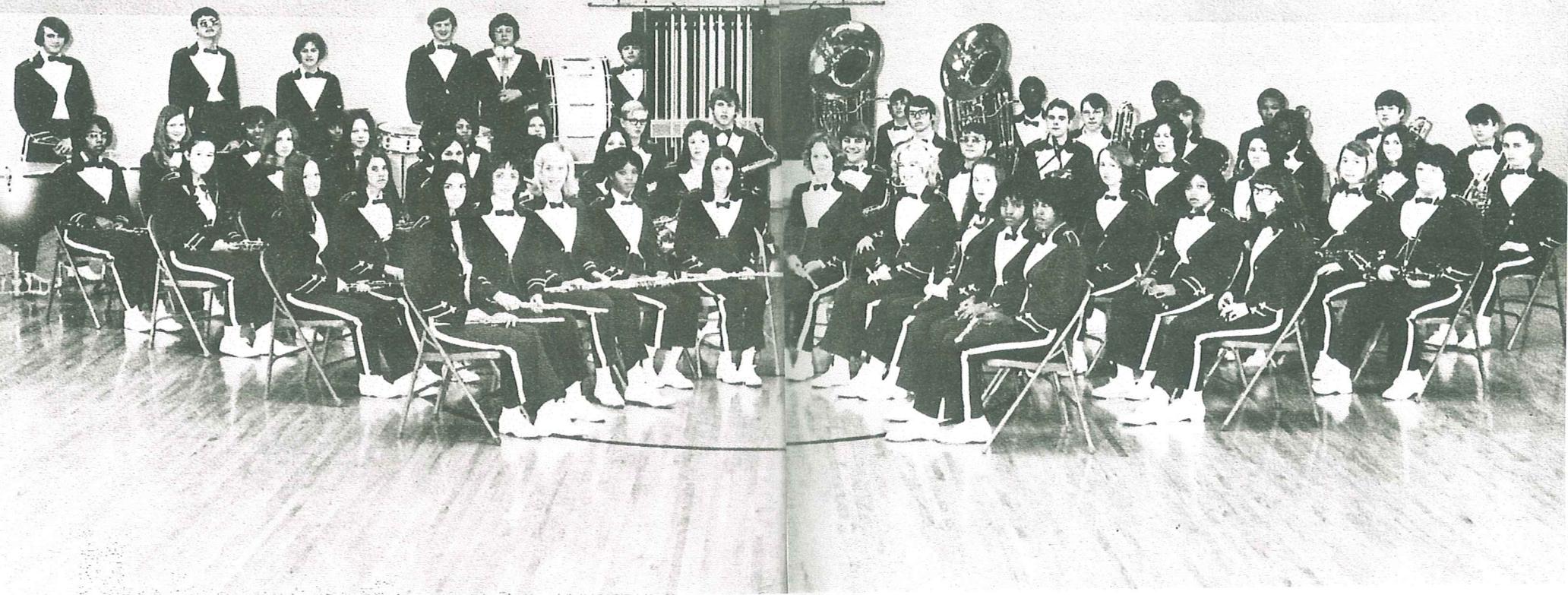
Larry's mother, Mary Tucker, resides in Caddo Valley, and his father was the late Wilson Tucker. His mother-in-law, Naomi Jean Jenkins, resides in Arkadelphia and his father-in-law, Jack Brown, resides in Dawson Springs, Ken.

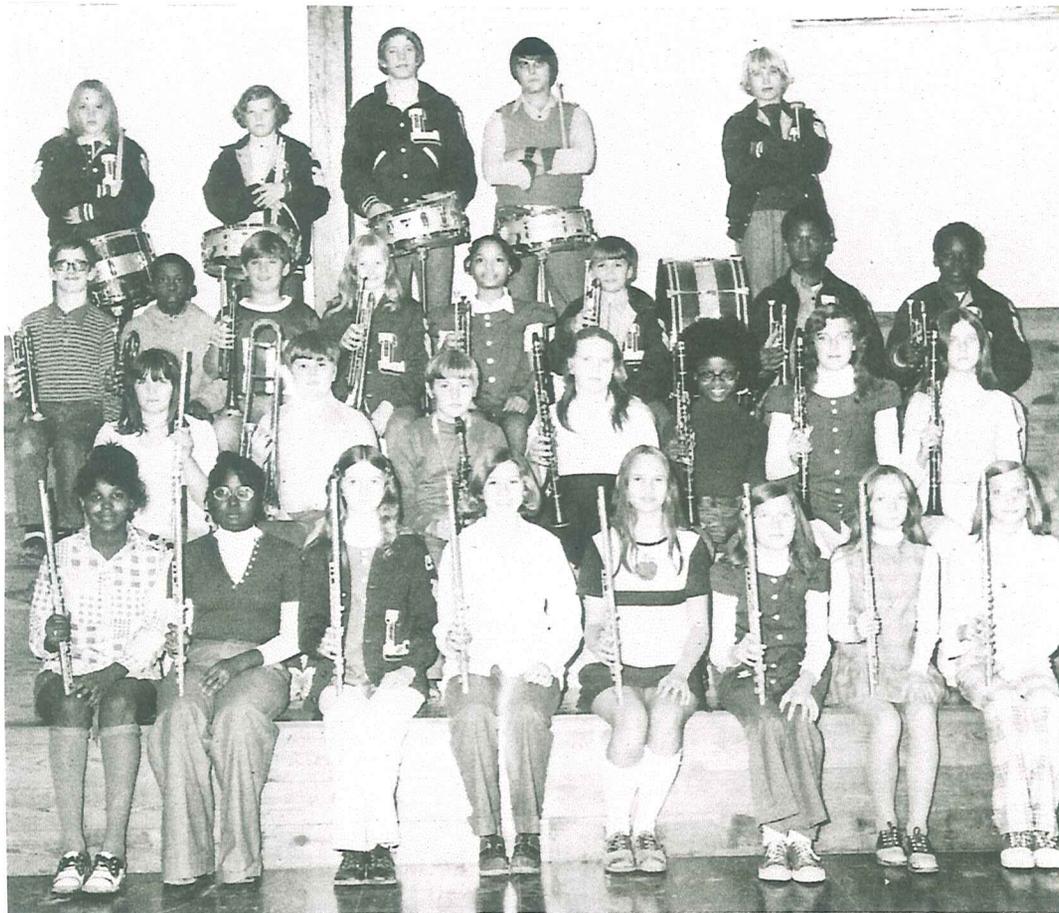
He is a 1968 graduate of Arkadelphia High School and a 1972 graduate of Henderson State University. His wife, Marion Brown Tucker, is also a 1969 graduate of AHS and a 1973 graduate of HSU.

He attributes any successes in his career to their mentorship over the years and to the work ethic instilled in him by his father from an early age.



Senior Band—the Music Maker at LHS . . .





JUNIOR BAND directed by Mr. Larry Tucker.

Jr. and Beginner Bands Look to the Future

BEGINNER BAND directed by Mr. Larry Tucker.



Stage Band — for the fun of it



First row: Sandra Horton, Mark Schafer, Nina Breece, Keith Donelly, Dorine Gatewood. Second row: Kent Donnelly, Neil Schafer, Billy Mathis, Mike Horton. Third row: Rhonda Tullos, David Hood, Billy Hall, Eddie Pennington, David Laster, and Taylor Pinkerton.

Junior Band—Approaching the top!





OUTSTANDING SERVICE--Mr. Larry Tucker, AHS band director, receives his award for dedication and outstanding service.

Mr. Tucker Receives Plaque

A plaque to recognize Mr. Tucker for his dedication and outstanding service was presented to him Monday, November 10, at a banquet held at the Fish Bowl. The banquet was given by the Band Boosters in honor of the senior band members as well as to recognize the band for its superior per-

formance at the Delta State Marching Contest. After the guests finished their meal, each senior member gave a brief talk on "What band has meant to me." A moment of silence fell then the words "we want Cederic" quickly swept across the room. Cederic Ether-

idge got up from his table, went to the center of the room and struck his famous Charles Atlas pose. The whole band applauded.

For all band members, especially the seniors, it was a dinner they will never forget.

Letters to the Editor

Mr. Tucker,

You fulfill the requirements that any band director is responsible for, but you do very much more.

You treat us with respect that is uncommon in most bands.

You taught us the meaning of what a real band is supposed to be.

You stayed with us when other band directors would have left.

You cared for us when we won, but most of all, you cared for us when we lost.

You gave up your time with your family to be with us.

You have made this band what it is today and we hope you never leave us.

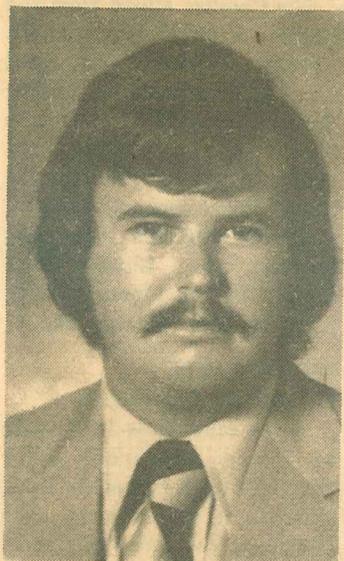
We put this letter in the paper so the public can know how much we really love you.

The Ashdown
High School Band



Directors Travis Smith and Larry Tucker receive a plaque of appreciation from Band Booster president Dr. Jim Cauthron.

AHS Band Director Will Assume Region III Chair



LARRY TUCKER

Larry Tucker, Ashdown High School Band Director, will assume the chairmanship duties of Region III of the Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association in May. Tucker was elected secretary and chairman-elect by a unanimous vote of his fellow band directors at the spring meeting held in May, 1975, in Malvern. He will succeed Larry Aldridge of Arkadelphia.

Region III consists of 27 member schools in Southwest Arkansas.

As chairman of Region III, Tucker will also be a member of the state ASBOA executive board of control. His duties as chairman include organization of festivals and clinics in the Region, hiring of adjudicators, maintaining an accurate check as to eligibility of member

schools and representing the Region at the state level.

In addition to this office, Tucker is active in various other committees including the ASBOA classification committee and the Four States

Bandmasters Association's advisory board. He also maintains active research membership in the Music Educator's National Conference and Phi Mu Alpha, international honorary music fraternity.

Tucker is Elected FSBA President

Recently AHS band director, Larry Tucker was elected president of the FSBA (Four States Bandmasters Association.)

The FSBA is an organization of 70-85 members from the four states involved, not necessarily the four states area. Louisiana members are from as far away as New Orleans, and Arkansas members as far away as Jonesboro and Fayetteville.

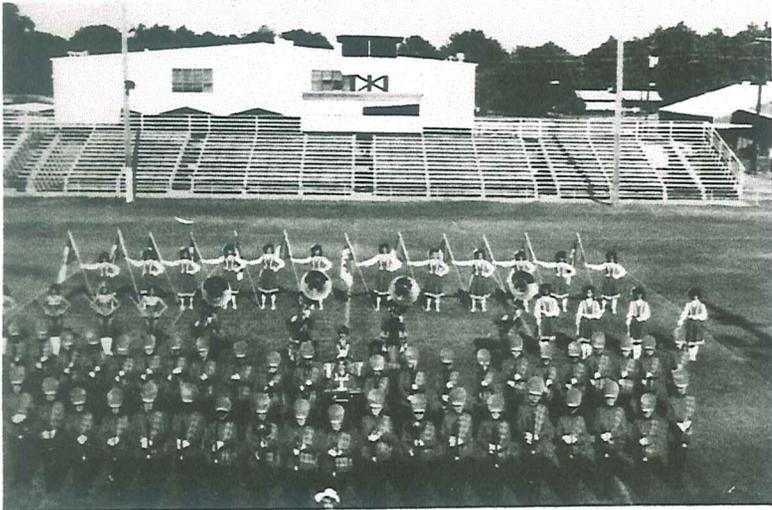
An annual convention is held in January at the Texarkana Holiday Inn with guest appearances of honor bands from one or more of the four states.

The president is nominated by a nominating committee and elected by the membership to a two year term. Larry Tucker was elected by acclamation Saturday, January 8, along with Mr. Bill Goodson as first vice president, from Dangerfield, Texas. The outgoing president is Mr. Charles Herring from Atlanta, Texas.

This is the first time in eight years that a president has been elected from Arkansas.

In addition to this position, Mr. Tucker has also been elected Region III chairman of the Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association and a member of the ASBOA Executive Board in Little Rock.

AHS PURPLE PRIDE



The AHS band began the year off with practices beginning in the second week in August. With the beginning of school the band was busy marching at all the Panther football games and at the Foreman parade. The band attended two marching contests, McClellan Marching Contest and the Ashdown Marching Contest, making all division 1's. In December the band marched in the Christmas parade and had their annual Christmas concert. Ashdown had thirty band members to make all-region and four to make all-state. In March band members attended solo-ensemble contest and region concert contest.



Above-Mr. Larry Tucker and Mr. Travis Smith show-off the trophies the Purple Pride band won at the Ashdown marching contest.

PRACTICE PAYS OFF

After several months of hard practice, the AHS band was awarded three first division trophies for their performances at the Henderson, Ashdown and McClellan Marching Contests. The AHS band received the highest number of points of any band competing at the McClellan Marching Contest.



ASHDOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ashdown, Arkansas

presents

THE ASHDOWN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

Larry Tucker, Conductor

Travis Smith, Associate Conductor

IN CONCERT

8:00 p.m.

April 22, 1980

Broom Auditorium

Delta State University

Cleveland, Mississippi

PROGRAM

Emblem of Unity.....Richards
pub. Barnhouse

Conducted by Dr. William Clark
Delta State University

Prelude to Act III, from the Opera
Kunihild Kistler-Barr
pub. Ludwig

Serenade for a Picket Fence.....Leyden
pub. EMS

Karen Free, xylophone
Bonnie Armstrong, marimba

Conducted by Mr. Travis Smith

Chorale and Shaker Dance.....Zdechlik
pub. KJOS

The Ashdown High School Band consists of 86 musicians. Ashdown High School is a school of 492 students located in southwestern Arkansas. The AHS Band has consistently won Division I awards in competition with awards in the trophy cases dating to 1927. During the past five years, the Purple Pride Marching Band has accumulated eleven consecutive Division I's, the latest being the McClellan Marching Contest in Little Rock where the band also received "Best in Class" and "Highest Point Total" in the contest. In addition, the concert band has won Division I's three of the past four years, always performing music above its required music list. Individual members have won over 700 solo-ensemble medals and placed 223 members in All-Region Bands. Twenty-two have been qualified to All-State, with 11 participating in All-State Bands.



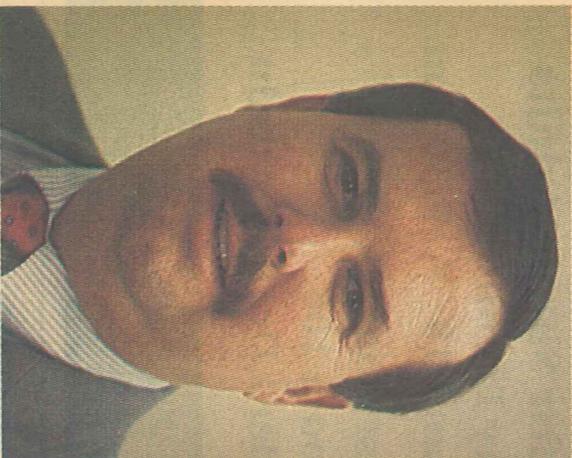
Panthers' band

Rehearsing for the 1981-82 Plano East Senior High Panther football season are the members of the school band, directed by **Larry Tucker**. The band's first halftime performance will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at John Clark Field when the Panthers meet Trinity Christian's Trojans. (Staff photo).

Friday, November 9, 1990

INSIDE PLANO

SNAPSHOT



CHARLES LARRY TUCKER

Occupation: Director of performing arts, Plano Independent School District
Birth date and place: July 19, 1950, in Arkadelphia, Ark.
Family: Wife, Marion; daughter Jennifer, 12; and son Jason, 17
My pets are: Two miniature schnauzers, sisters Meana and Katie
My epitaph should read: He made a difference
My favorite author is: Louis L'Amour
My pet peeve is: Negative people
My favorite kind of music is: All except heavy metal
The biggest honor I've ever received was: Being selected teacher of the year by my colleagues at Plano East and receiving the Ross Perot award for excellence in teaching in 1989
My favorite performer is: Chicago
The last book I read was: *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
My friends like me because: I'm fair
The four guests at my fantasy dinner party would be: My family and my dad
My heroes are: Former students who have become successful adults
Behind my back, people say: I'm a perfectionist
My most valued material possession is: My record and tape collection
My favorite restaurant is: Baby Doe's in Dallas, Caljuns Wharf in Little Rock and Fishmongers in Plano
My favorite president is: Not in office yet
I wish I knew how to: Shave 20 strokes off my golf game
When I'm nervous, I: Hum
I never could: Answer questionnaires intelligently
The person who had the most impact on my life was: My father
My all-time favorite television show is: All old westerns
I'm a sucker for: Young performers giving their best effort
Nobody knows I: Was once a jailer for a county sheriff
I drive a: Dodge Minivan
My teen-age idol was: Bill Clark, my high school band director

MUSIC AT PLANO EAST SENIOR HIGH

The music program at Plano East has something for everyone. The department offers numerous performing as well as non-performing organizations.

The wind instrumental department offers symphonic band, marching band, and stage band. The symphonic band performs four to five major concerts and features a conductor or soloist of national acclaim each year. The marching band performs before an estimated 90,000 fans annually at Plano East football games and the stage band presents two to three concerts each year, as well as appearances occasionally in the PESH Student Center.

The string instrumental department consists of a string orchestra. In addition, winds from the band department are added after school hours to fill out the instrumentation for a full orchestra. Four to five major concerts are scheduled each year at Plano East, other high schools, and area malls.

The vocal music department consists of two concert choirs, Junior and Senior. These choirs perform four to five major concerts each year. In addition, the vocal department offers a jazz choir, complete with accompanying combo, that performs frequently at various functions, as well as a major spring show.

All three performance areas, band-strings-choir, join with the drama department in producing a major musical production each year. Productions to date include: *Oklahoma*, *My Fair Lady*, *Girl Crazy*, and *Grease*.

In addition to the performance areas, the music department also offers two theory I classes and one theory II class. Students from each of the performing areas as well as students with an avid interest in music are enrolled. The second year theory course is actually taught on the college freshman level. The class has a full time instructor who also teaches the Applied Keyboard class. The class, as does music theory, utilizes 18 modular keyboard units for instruction. The applied keyboard class is geared toward the general student with no musical background in piano.

The music department is an integral part of the "Tradition of Excellence" afforded students by the Plano Independent School District.



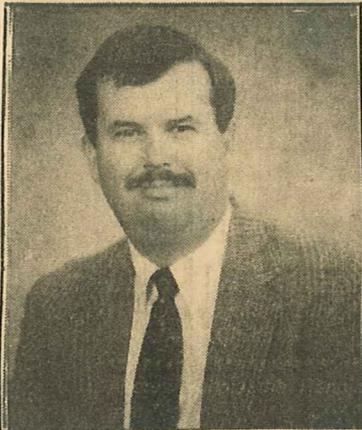
THE PESH BAND in performance
at the PESH-PSHS halftime.
October 11, 1985

Band director receives Teacher of Year award

Government teacher accepts beginning teacher honors

By NICHOLE WELLS

The recipients of Teacher of the Year and Beginning Teacher of the Year awards both believe these are great honors, especially considering the caliber of the teaching staff at Plano East. Larry Tucker and Beth Eidson



Larry Tucker, band director

were recently named Teacher and Beginning Teacher of the Year, respectively.

"I feel very honored," said Tucker, band director. "I felt honored just to be included in the nominations with the outstanding teachers. It would be difficult to find a teaching and administration staff as caring as this staff is."

In order to be nominated for Teacher of the Year, a colleague must anonymously submit the name, and then the nominee is given a packet of materials to complete his nomination, involving essays on his educational philosophy, civic and community contributions, educational background, a basic biography, organizations in which the person is involved and his or her philosophy of teaching.

It all comes to approximately 12-15 pages, according to Tucker who had received a nomination several years ago.

Other nominees for the Teacher of the Year award were Mary Kaye Plemons, commercial foods teacher and Sharon Welch, social studies teacher.

Tucker, who has been

the future."

"I really feel that teaching is one of the most important professions. We're working with students to prepare and develop citizens for the future."
-band director Larry Tucker

involved in the band since he was in the sixth grade, attributes his career and motivation partially to the band director he had then and completely throughout high school.

His parents were also highly in favor of him and his sister obtaining college degrees because education was a priority in his house, he said.

"I really feel that teaching is one of the most important professions," he continued. "We're working with students to prepare and develop citizens for

Plano East Senior High School band director Larry Tucker has been named director of performing arts for the Plano Independent School District, replacing Dick Winters, who retired. In his new position, Mr. Tucker, 38, will supervise secondary music, drama and cheerleading programs. "I'm excited about this position. It has been a career goal of mine for a few years now," he said. In his new job, Mr. Tucker will

be responsible for making budgets, hiring staff and overseeing the administration of performing arts programs. Mr. Tucker has been band director at Plano East since the school opened in 1981 and was chairman of performing arts at the school. He was named 1989 Teacher of the Year at Plano East and received a 1989 Perot Award for Excellence in senior high school teaching. "I know I'm going to miss the

kids," he said. Before coming to Plano, Mr. Tucker was band director and chairman of the fine arts and foreign language departments at Ashdown High School in Ashdown, Ark. He received a bachelor of music education degree from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Ark., in 1973 and a master of music education degree from Henderson, with additional study from the University of Arkansas in 1976.

PESH band director named to district post

And the beat goes on...

Music has long been an integral part of Larry Tucker's life

By **CURTIS HOWELL**
Staff Writer

Most of the students at Plano East Senior High School know Larry Tucker as their band director. To the Plano Independent School District's administration, he is the new director of performing arts. And to some of the residents of Arkadelphia, Ark., he was their jailer.



Tucker

To most people, Tucker appears immersed in his craft — music education. But the road to his latest promotion led through diverse experience beginning on the family farm in Arkadelphia.

His first job as a farmhand was raking hay at age 6.

"The heavy work schedule and high expectations placed on me by my father instilled values which I maintain in teaching today," Tucker said.

He describes the jailer's job as "the craziest job I've ever done." He was 22 at the time and worked as both jailer and dispatcher for the local sheriff. Despite the experience, Tucker never considered a career in law enforcement.

Tucker came to PISD in 1981 and was director of bands there until his June 12 promotion. In the intervening years, bands under his tutelage have consistently been recognized as some of the best in the region, winning numerous awards and competitions.

"I consider it a tremendous success when one of my students goes on to success in his chosen field," he said.

Tucker's success in his own field

is witnessed by peer recognition as well as successful students. He was named 1989 Teacher of the Year at PESH and received a 1989 Perot Award of Excellence in Senior High School Teaching.

Now that some of his nights are free, Tucker looks forward to playing in bands, possibly the Plano Community Band, rather than directing them.

As to the future of the music and performing arts in PISD, he says he hopes to provide direction for the program into the 21st century.

"The biggest thing is bringing electronic music into the district,"

he said. Tucker called the use of computers exciting. He sees it as a way to expand horizons and involve students who might not have been interested otherwise.

Despite belonging to nine professional organizations, church work, contest judging and business travel, Tucker occasionally has time to himself. As expected, one of his favorite pastimes is listening to music, anything but hard rock. And he loves to read — Western novels by Louis L'Amour.

And if he watches television, his favorite shows are the Sunday Westerns.

— Wednesday, June 14, 1989

Tucker named director of performing arts

Larry Tucker, Plano East Senior High School band director, has been named Plano Independent School District's director of performing arts by Dr. H. Wayne Hendrick, superintendent of schools.

Tucker replaces Dick Winters, who retired after serving as the director of performing arts since 1977.

Since Tucker's appointment as PESH's original band director in 1981, he has seen his bands recognized repeatedly at competitions and events nationwide.

The PESH bands have won six University Interscholastic League sweepstakes awards and received consistently superior ratings in all aspects of musical performance.

In 1989 Tucker was named Teacher of the Year at PESH and received a Perot Award of Excellence in Senior High School Teaching.

He is active in numerous state associations and is an office holder in many of them.

Born July 19, 1950, in Arkadelphia, Ark., Tucker was raised on a farm and learned the value of hard work and education at an early age.

Through elementary school, math and science were his favorite subjects. But he discovered band in junior high — as a tuba player. Tucker went on to get a bachelor's and a master's degree from Henderson State College in his hometown.

Before coming to Plano, Tucker was the band director at two other high schools in Arkansas.

"Moving to Plano was the best decision that my family and I ever made," Tucker said.



PLANO EAST HONOR BAND
GATEWAY MUSIC FESTIVAL
April 22, 1989 ★ St. Louis, MO





PLANO EAST SENIOR HIGH BAND
GATEWAY MUSIC FESTIVAL
April 22, 1989 ★ St. Louis, MO



MEMBERSHIP



CERTIFICATE

Phi Beta Mu

NATIONAL SCHOOL BANDMASTER FRATERNITY

HONORS

Larry Tucker

AS AN *Active* MEMBER

AND IS ENTITLED TO ALL THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES THEREBY CONFERRED



[Signature]

PRESIDENT

[Signature]

SECRETARY

7/1/78

DATE

THE NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

Wishes to Recognize

C. LARRY TUCKER

WHO HAS SERVED THE NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION
WITH DISTINCTION

AS _____ TEXAS _____ STATE CHAIRMAN.



President, National Band Association

6-3-72

Date



Texas Music Administrators Conference

TMAC President 1997 – 2000



This Leadership Award is presented to

Larry Tucker

in recognition and appreciation for
your outstanding leadership for the
Music Administrators of Texas

February 12, 2000

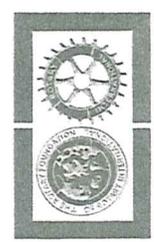
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

LARRY TUCKER

is hereby named a

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.



Chairman, The Rotary Foundation Trustees

President, Rotary International

PRESENTED TO

LARRY TUCKER

TEXAS MUSIC
ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE



ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE YEAR
2006

Orchestra

*Larry Tucker Reception
May 24, 2007*

May 21, 2007

A few years ago, we had the wonderful honor of having Doreen Rao come to work with our Elementary and Secondary staff on a conducting and rehearsal techniques session. Later, after the session was over, we all were invited to attend a dinner in her honor at **On the Border** restaurant. The session and dinner were wonderful, but what I remembered most and will always cherish was the following incident. I was sitting not too far from Larry during dinner and at one point he posed a question to the group on the topic of organizing a fine arts magnet school. With so many notable and knowledgeable people at the dinner table, everyone had an opinion, but when I started stating mine, Larry listened to me with sincere attention. I cannot begin to tell Larry how much that simple gesture on his part made me feel. I felt important because Larry valued what I had to say. That is how he makes everyone feel. I am positive in saying that he did not save this politeness for just his colleagues alone, but also was like this when he was teaching the students himself. He truly has many wonderful gifts and he will be missed for his leadership, and kindness. Plano has really grown under Larry's guidance and we have many wonderful things to thank him for, but most of all his own personal example. My sincere best wishes go to him and his wife on their retirements and I hope that they have many long and happy years ahead of them together. Plano is losing a great leader and friend of the musical arts!

Sincerely,
Jeanie I. Mundy
Bogges Elementary Music Specialists

Orchestra

*Larry Tucker Reception
May 24, 2007*

Larry,

Congratulations on your retirement! I want to thank you for the opportunity you provided me to teach in Plano. These past seven years at Rice and Jasper have been incredibly rewarding. I have learned a great deal and enjoyed wonderful performance experiences with some fantastic students.

The vision and leadership you have provided our Fine Arts programs has been amazing and you are to be commended for the work you have done to help our programs be the best they can be.

Thanks again and please feel free to stop by Jasper anytime.

Jackie Digby



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KARIS JONES

ArtCentre of Plano donors and patrons accept awards at "For the Love of Art."

Plano ArtCentre honors donors, patrons

BY KARIS JONES

The ArtCentre of Plano's staff and board of directors honored donors and patrons of the arts in Plano at "For the Love of Art" May 3.

"We have been considering idea of an arts awards gala for years, and this year we decided 'the time is right, we have to do it,'" said Suzy Jones, executive director of the ArtCentre. "The evening was a

wonderful representation of the variety of arts groups in our area."

A nominations committee chose nominees and, eventually, the recipients. This committee was headed by Bob Drotman, ACP board member, and was made up of community and civic leaders from all over Plano. This group came out of its meetings with six awards and 18 honorees.

"We wanted to make sure that each type of arts group in Plano was represented in the nominations," Drotman said.

Award recipients were Susan and Ralph Stow, presented with the Patron award; Robbie Robinson, Leadership award; City of Plano, Organization award; Gladys Chan, Volunteer award; Jean Newman, Artist award; and Plano ISD, Arts Education award.

The event was at Park Place Lexus Plano. A VIP party, complete with a red carpet, Kobe beef burgers and a string quartet, kicked off the evening. The Jay Gewertz Jazz Trio welcomed patrons into the showroom filled

with gourmet food, luxury auction items and tables adorned with vases made especially for the event by well-known area artists.

Scott Sams, CBS channel 11 news anchor, was the master of ceremonies and presented the awards.

The ArtCentre of Plano is located at the corner of 15th Street and K Avenue in downtown Plano.

Karis Jones is the ArtCentre of Plano exhibition and event coordinator.