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## **Pittsburgh Rogers CAPA 6-8 Choirs Win Grand Championship Trophy At Annual *Fiesta-val* Choral Competition**

PITTSBURGH May 21, 2009 – Students of Pittsburgh Rogers CAPA 6-8 won the Grand Championship Trophy at this year's *Fiesta-val* Choral Competition. The international competition was held in Virginia Beach, Virginia, May 7-10. The Grand Championship Trophy is awarded to the school with the highest combined score of their choirs who rated Superior or Excellent during the competition performances. To win the school's fifth Grand Championship Trophy, Pittsburgh Rogers choirs rated Superior and took 1<sup>st</sup> place in five categories.

From Rogers CAPA, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Treble Choir, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Jazz Choir, 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade Mixed Choir, a cappella Chamber/Madrigal Choir and Gospel Choir competed. All groups were given a Superior rating and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in their categories. The Treble, Jazz and Mixed Choirs also received Championship Trophies for their 1<sup>st</sup> place performances because there was competition from at least one other school. Six schools competed in the Middle/Junior High School division but only Rogers CAPA had a Chamber/Madrigal and Gospel Choir.

In addition to the exceptional group performances, a number of individual awards were received as well. Sixth grader Dillyn Brown won an Outstanding Soloist award for his performance in the Gospel Choir and 10<sup>th</sup> grade Pittsburgh CAPA High School student Michael Warren won an award for Outstanding Achievement for Conducting. As a former student of the Rogers CAPA Vocal Department, he was asked this year to direct the Treble and Mixed Choirs in their performances. Michael was also the piano accompanist for the Gospel Choir. Finally, both Henry L. Biggs, Vocal Teacher and Director at Rogers CAPA, and Dr. Ronald Jones, Rogers CAPA Principal and Conductor of the Mixed Choir, received an Award of Distinction in recognition of their notable contribution to musical excellence.

This outstanding achievement is merely the most recent in a long history of excellent performances by the choirs at Rogers CAPA. The school Vocal Department has participated in the *Fiesta-val* Competition 12 times out of the past 17 years. Its choirs have won five Grand Championship Trophies and eight Championship Trophies, not to mention numerous 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place awards at this competition. The school also participated in the *Music in the Parks* Music Festival at Kennywood Park in 2005 and 2006. At the competition in 2006 their score was the highest of all participating schools in both the chorus and instrumental categories.

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