

Miller choirs earn UIL Region 18 honors in Kyle



Two UIL Choirs from Miller Middle School participated in the Region 18 UIL Choir Competition in Kyle at the Hays PAC on Friday April 19. The Men's Choir earned a 1 in Concert and a 2 in Sight Reading, and the Women's Choir earned a 2 in Concert and straight 1s in Sight Reading. The UIL men shown above left are Sam Muniz, Kyle Frugoni, Daniel Pearson, Matthew Sambrano, Director Mario Contreras, Mihai Lowe, Ian Perez, Leeland Batts, Hatta Misra, Eian Alvarado, Osarobarjima Goya and Miguel. Not pictured are Brandon Alvarado, Matthew Campos, Carlos Hernandez, Eddie Hernandez, Josiah Reyes,



Joshua Soliz, Reed Underwood, Jeremiah Vezza and Weston Watson. UIL women shown above right are Destinie Fonseca, Sara Cadena, Mary Jane Hall, Aleyah Castro, Emma Reinhuber, Sophie Schneider, Contreras, Athena Castro, Renelle Cruz, Abigail Holder and Gabrielle Garza. Not pictured are Anny Casillas, Kieshon McKinney, Kim Brooks, Darby Fitzgerald, Jezmine Harris, Cassandra Hernandez, Madison Weaver, Sarah Weaver, Sarah Storch, Ashley Storch and Jessica Reyes-Rojas.

Del Castillo to headline Thursday's KSMB finale

Del Castillo brings their unique sound to the Keep San Marcos Beautiful Spring Concert Series on Thursday at San Marcos Plaza Park, 401 E. Hopkins.

The band will close out the concert series accompanied by Vallejo and Justin Murray beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The event will have an array of local eco and art vendors. Fans will also have the opportunity to visit the Whole Foods Market Food Truck at the event, which will provide a selection of natural and organic foods.

The concert series is a family-friendly, free event and alcohol is permitted in the event area.

This event is made possible by support from Texas Commission on the Arts, Hill Country Humidor, SM Night Life, Whole Foods Market, Root Cellar Café and booking agent Tres Hefter.

For questions or vendor information, please contact Jennifer Shaw, Special Events Coordinator, at 512.393.8413 or by email at jshaw@sanmarcostx.gov.

About Del Castillo:

Del Castillo began as a CD project for family back in the winter of 2000 and has become a symbol of the cross-cultural power of music with their eclectic blend

of Flamenco, Rock, Latin, Blues and World music.

Between the release of their first CD, "Brothers of the Castle" in 2001 and their 2006 release, "Brotherhood," Del Castillo has received 18 awards including SXSW/Austin Music "Album of the Year" Awards

for "Vida" (2002) and "Brotherhood" (2006), "Band of the Year (2003)," ASCAP's "Best Independent Group of the Year (2005)," and Austin Music Pundits "Best Live Act (2004)." "Rolling Stone" calls Del Castillo "tumbling brilliance on nylon-string classical guitars" with "eruptions of technique and taste (that) conjure images of Eddie Van Halen fronting early Santana (with an assist from the Gipsy Kings)."

Film Director Robert Rodriguez enlisted the group to contribute music to the soundtracks of several of his movies, such as "Spy Kids 3D," "Once Upon a Time in Mexico," "Sin City," and "GRINDHOUSE." Rodriguez was so impressed with Del Castillo that he wanted to record with them, so together, they formed CHINGON and recorded the electric rendition of the Mexican classic song, "Malaguena Salerosa" that appeared at the end of Quentin Tarantino's "Kill Bill Vol. II."

Area gasoline prices drop 2.7 cents a gallon

Average retail gasoline prices in the Austin area have fallen 2.7 cents a gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.28 a gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 830 gas outlets in Austin.

This compares with the national average that has fallen 1.6 cents a gallon in the last week to \$3.49 a gallon, according to GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices during the past week, prices were 40.8 cents a gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 17.5 cents a gallon lower than a month ago.

The national average has decreased 13.3 cents a gallon during the last month and

stands 32.2 cents a gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"The party at the pump with the seasonally lower prices may be temporarily over," GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan said. "We've seen situations unfold that have caused a reversal in the downward trend, and those situations are multiplying across portions of the U.S. and Canada. Along the West Coast, supply has grown tight and will lead to likely increases, and in the Great Lakes prices may spike 10-20 cents a gallon in the next two days in over a half dozen states as a result of a similar situation."

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