

## KPAS AWARDS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

**KERRVILLE, TX – May 15, 2011.** When the 2011-2012 school year begins this September, two local music students will begin pursuing a career in the performing arts at the college of their choice with financial assistance provided by the Kerrville Performing Arts Society (KPAS). While KPAS is known throughout the Texas Hill Country as the presenter of first-class performing arts, this non-profit organization has awarded students scholarships since its inception in 1984. To date, over 64 students have received scholarship funds from KPAS. In turn, these students have embarked on careers as music performers and music teachers.



**DOC SEVERINSEN AND THE SAN MIGUEL FIVE** met with KPAS' 2011 Scholarship Winners and Representatives of the KPAS Board of Directors following two exhilarating performances by these world-class musicians at the closing concert of KPAS' 27<sup>th</sup> season. Pictured backstage (left to right) in the front row are scholarship winners: Steven Vogel and Travis Houy. In the back row are band members Charlie Bisharat (violin), Kevin Thomas (Bass), Jimmy Branly (Percussion), Doc Severinsen, Tom Murray (KPAS President), Barbara Cordova (KPAS Education/Scholarship Chairperson), and Gil Gutierrez (guitar). The Kerrville Performing Arts Society has provided unmatched outreach and scholarship opportunities for the youth of the Texas Hill Country, and the opportunity for these scholarship winners to be one-on-one with the musicians of Doc Severinsen's band was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the two young men.

Barbara Cordova, Education/Scholarship Chairperson for KPAS, organized the 2011 Scholarship Auditions that involved students from the Texas Hill Country. The three local performing arts professionals who adjudicated this year's scholarship auditions include: Fred Klaerner, Rick Burgess, and Tamara Raatz. In addition to the actual audition, students completed an application form and had two letters of recommendation on file including one from their music instructor.

The first place award, The Charles Browning Memorial Scholarship, in the amount of \$2500, was awarded to trombonist Steven Vogel. Steven, son of Jeff and Kim Vogel, is a student at Tivy High School planning to attend Texas State University with a major in Music Education. In addition to playing trombone, Steven also plays piano and guitar. High School Honors include: TMEA All-State Band (2011), TMEA All-Area Band (2009-2011), and TMEA All-Region Band (2008-2011). Steven is a member of the Tivy Gold Tones Jazz Band, Tivy Principals' Team, and was named Outstanding Musician at the Cen-Tex and Texas State Jazz Festivals.

Travis Houy, marimba player from Fredericksburg, was awarded the second place award in the amount of \$2000. The son of Dennis and Kim Houy, Travis plans to attend Abilene Christian University majoring in Music Education with a concentration in Percussion. Travis attends Fredericksburg High School and has been a member of the National Honor Society (Grades 11-12) and received an Academic Excellence Award for Pre-AP World History (Grade 10). Travis has received numerous First Division Ratings on mallet solos and percussion ensemble during his tenure at Fredericksburg High School. Travis plays the piano in addition to percussion.

KPAS' commitment to the youth of the Texas Hill Country includes scholarships, outreach programs, master classes, and the opportunity to provide pre-concert lobby music prior to their events. Over the past eight seasons, KPAS has impacted over 20,000 students through KPAS opportunities.

For additional information, visit [www.kpas.org](http://www.kpas.org).