OU Brass Band named 'Grand Champions' at Dublin Festival of Brass

The Oakland University Brass Band recently took top honors at the <u>Dublin Festival of Brass</u>, which took place March 23-25 in Dublin, Ohio.

According to <u>Dr. Kenneth Kroesche</u>, associate professor of music, the OU Brass Band was named the Grand Champions of the festival and awarded the Paul Droste Shield after competing against eight other bands, including the Dublin Silver Band (Ohio), Fillmore Philharmonic Brass Band (Ohio), Chesapeake Brass Band (Delaware), Cincinnati Brass Band (Ohio), Arkansas Musicworks Brass Band (Arkansas), Crossroads Brass Band (Indiana), Eastern Iowa Brass Band (Iowa), and Prairie Brass Band (Illinois).

"For the OU Brass Band to achieve this result at a festival with so many strong bands is no accident," Kroesche said. "Over the past year, the band and its student leaders have really demonstrated a work ethic and team effort that I have seen in very few ensembles I have worked with in the past. Needless to say, I am very proud of the performance they gave on Saturday (March 24)."

In addition to being named Grand Champions, the Oakland University Brass Band also won in the categories of Best March, Best Slow Melody and Best Major Work. Three players were also singled out for their excellent playing during the performance:

- Scott Brickner received the Best Cornet Award;
- Nicole Tremonti won the Best Tenor Horn Award;
- John Andersen earned the Best Baritone Award.

"Such fine musicality in this band," wrote Steven Mead, virtuoso euphonium soloist and adjudicator at the festival. "Outstanding brass band playing."

To learn more about the Oakland University Brass Band, visit oakland.edu/mtd/music.



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