



# JUSD NEWS



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## **Rubidoux High Student to Perform During Grammy Week** *Senior Jonathan Flores Chosen for the Grammy Student Showcase*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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JURUPA VALLEY, CA -- A Rubidoux High School musician will be among those taking the stage to perform during Grammy Week.

Senior Jonathan Flores, an accomplished musician and songwriter, will play with his band The Sneezers and also will perform his original song "Confessions" as part of the Grammy Student Showcase, which takes place at the Clive Davis Theater in Los Angeles on Saturday, January 25. The event will be attended by music industry executives as well as family, friends, and RHS Instrumental Music Director Sarah Choi.

Ms. Choi encouraged Jonathan, who also plays tuba in the Rubidoux High band, to send in an audition video.

"She told me about the opportunity and I thought it was cool, so I did it," Jonathan said during an interview at the Rubidoux High School Concert Hall. "I had to sit down on that stage over there and play some guitar... and we submitted it. Through rounds of emails, they told me I got accepted."

"I am so proud of Jonathan," Ms. Choi said. "His hard work matches his extraordinary talent, and then some."

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Jonathan is looking forward to performing and possibly meeting bands and musicians he admires. "John Mayer is pretty cool. He's really technical with his ability and ...he can replicate other artists' styles which I think is really cool," Jonathan said.

Jonathan started playing guitar when he was 8 after being given a guitar by his grandfather, also a musician. He now plays both acoustic and electric guitar. He is open to more opportunities in the future and hopes his Grammy Week experience will help him to feel more comfortable performing in front of a large live audience.

For his career goal, though, Jonathan hopes to follow in the footsteps of his teacher and become a band director. He also wants to lead his own ensemble.

Ms. Choi said she is happy to show students like Jonathan the possibilities available to them.

"I think one of the most important things we can do as educators is create opportunities and give space for talents and passions to grow and develop while creating structures of accountability and self-discipline. But what is most important for us to do is encourage students to go for what is perceived as impossible for them to achieve. Students are more introverted and self-conscious than ever before, and the greatest service we can do for them as stable, reliable, caring adults in their lives is to believe in them when they are unsure of if they believe in themselves."

You can learn more about Jonathan and the other Grammy Student Showcase performers at: <https://grammymuseum.org/education/student-showcase/>

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## **ABOUT JURUPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*The Jurupa Unified School District is located within Riverside County. JUSD includes 26 schools total; fifteen elementary schools, one TK-6 music academy, one K-8 STEAM academy, three middle schools, three high schools, one continuation school, one adult alternative school, and one Pre-K school readiness center. We have 18 Community School campuses.*