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Paso Robles High School Student Awarded Prestigious Cuesta College Conservatory Scholarship

Paso Robles, Calif. — Paso Robles High School is proud to announce that junior Christian Serna has been named one of four recipients of the highly competitive Cuesta College Conservatory Award, earning a \$10,000 scholarship to study music at Cuesta College.

Now in its second year, the Conservatory Award recognizes exceptional musical talent across San Luis Obispo County. Serna was selected as one of just seven finalists invited to perform in a live audition concert, competing against a large pool of applicants. Notably, he was one of only two high school students among the finalists—and the only high school student to receive the award.

Serna delivered a standout performance on trombone, accompanied by a student ensemble from the Libretto Conservatory Program, featuring musicians from Paso Robles High School. Serna's ensemble included Emery Teale (piano), Maxwell Toohey-Bergvall (drums), and Kyle Dart (guitar).

What makes Serna's achievement particularly remarkable is his rapid rise as a musician. He began playing trombone as a sophomore and, through dedication and consistent practice, has quickly developed into one of the top high school musicians in the region.

"Christian's success is a powerful reminder that it's never too late to discover a passion and pursue it with excellence," said Humberto Cera, Paso Robles High School Band Director.

Paso Robles Joint Unified School District congratulates Christian on this outstanding achievement and looks forward to his continued success in music and beyond.

About Paso Robles Joint Unified School District

Paso Robles Joint Unified School District serves more than 6,400 students across northern San Luis Obispo County. Guided by its core values of integrity, accountability, collaboration, innovation, compassion, and belonging, PRJUSD is committed to providing a safe, supportive environment where every student feels valued, empowered, and prepared to thrive.

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