

Three Fine Additions

Halversons, Hamvas To Enter YHS Fine Arts Hall

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Two musicians and a community contributor make up this year's class for the Yankton High School Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Ingrid Halverson, Dr. Lewis Halverson and Carol Hamvas will be inducted as members of the 2012 class during ceremonies beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, in the Commons at Yankton High School.

"These are people who have benefited the fine arts program at Yankton High School — one, a contributor, based on everything she's done for fine arts in Yankton, and the other two for their accomplishments in high school and beyond," said Yankton School District activities director Wally Bosch.

INGRID HALVERSON

For more than 20 years, Ingrid Halverson has been teaching students with a passion ignited by her days at Yankton High School. "I really appreciate the attention, the professionalism and the skill that the teachers at Yankton High School gave me, and many of those were the teachers in the fine arts," Halverson said. "That has been an example for me throughout my teaching career."

During her time at YHS from 1977-1981, Halverson participated in several areas of the fine arts. She performed in seven plays, earning superior ratings at district and state one-act competitions. She participated in oratory, dramatic and duet acting categories for four years, earning superior ratings at district and state oral interpretation competitions. She also participated in chorus, band and orchestra, earning All-State honors in all three, and received superior ratings at district solo and ensemble competitions.

After high school, Halverson continued her involvement with the fine arts with the Yankton College Conservatory of Music Orchestra, the Lewis and Clark Playhouse, the St. John's College theater and choir, Kenyon College theater, La Crosse Choral Union, La Crosse Chamber Chorale and the St. John's United Church of Christ choir.

She was also a Waldorf School teacher, which she said was one of the highlights of her teaching career.

"I was fortunate to write and direct plays for my students, and I don't think I would have been able to do that without the upbringing I had in Yankton," she said.

Halverson currently teaches the first grade at Parkview Elementary School in Socorro, N.M. She continues to be active in the fine arts as a New Mexico Tech Community Choir member, an Epiphany Episcopal Church Choir and Bell Choir member and a Parkview Elementary School after-school music teacher.

She is the sister of Dr. Lewis Halverson, who is also a member of the 2012 Hall of Fame class.

DR. LEWIS HALVERSON

Dr. Lewis Halverson, who is being recognized for his musical achievements as a tuba player, was first introduced to his instrument of choice by way of an accident.

"In fifth grade, I started out playing the cornet, and wasn't very good at it," he said. "The next year, a baseball to the mouth during a pickup game on the YHS practice field knocked out my front four teeth, prompting an emergency visit to Dr. Beilby, and the resultant dental hardware."

The Middle School band director, Jim Piechowski, was a tuba player himself and encouraged a switch to the tuba and its more accommodating mouthpiece.

Lewis went on to become an accomplished tubist and was named to All-State Band three times, won superior awards at regional contests, was nominated to the McDonald's All-American High School Band, played with the United States Armed Forces Bicentennial band and was the recipient of the John Phillip Sousa award as outstanding band member. He participated in the high school marching, pep, jazz and concert bands, as well as the high school orchestra, Yankton



PHOTOS: PHOTOGRAPHY BY JERRY
Ingrid Halverson, Dr. Lewis Halverson and Carol Hamvas will be inducted into the Yankton High School Fine Arts Hall of Fame on Tuesday, May 1, at the YHS Commons.

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