

My name is Harrison Lam. I am an 8th grader at Southwood Middle School. I have been accepted to attend New World School of Arts next year. I will be playing the French Horn in their instrumental music division. I started playing the horn in 3rd grade at my elementary school with Mr. Diez. I never thought that I would enjoy playing the horn. I was drawn to its uniqueness of how it looked and how it made me feel special when I was able to play it well.

What I like about playing the horn is that I can play with many different orchestras. I have played with Michael Tilson Thomas and with Grzegorz Nowak. Playing with Mr. Tilson Thomas was a big challenge because he was a perfectionist.

In addition playing the horn well has allowed me to participate in Florida All State in 7th and 8th grade. This was fun because it took place in Tampa, which became sort of like a mini vacation. I got to eat well and play music and not have to attend class.

My little sister also plays the horn and it is fun when we can do duets. My private teacher, Mr. Perry always encourages us to play together and push each other to do better.

Playing music is not my only passion. I also enjoy playing tennis. I have played for many years and because I excel at it, I get to play for my school. This year was great because I won first place in the boy's singles category. Last year I played doubles and won that in first place also. It is hard to say which is my number one passion, horn or tennis?

I hope to continue excelling in both and I know if I practice enough anything is possible.