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For Immediate Release: March 14, 2006

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## Sen. Frank Barnitz Welcomes Linn High School's Wildcat Jazz Ensemble to the State Capitol

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, last Wednesday welcomed Linn High School's Wildcat Jazz Ensemble to the Missouri State Capitol as part of the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education's Fine Arts Education Day. The band performed on the Capitol steps in the morning, despite of the overcast day and threat of rain.

Sen. Barnitz and members of his staff were able to take a moment and listen to some of the tunes played by the band. "I really enjoyed listening to the jazz group from Linn High," said the Senator. "They sounded great – a good-looking group of kids. I am glad they could spend the day here at the Capitol."

Besides instrumental music performances, Fine Arts Education Day featured student art exhibits and performances in choral music, dance, and theatre. The Missouri Alliance for Arts Education lobbied the General Assembly to support public funding of the Missouri Fine Arts Assessment by requesting legislators' support to appropriate \$545,000 toward the budget of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the use of promoting fine arts education.

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Photo attachment: Senator Frank Barnitz with the Jazz Ensemble and its director, Tom Higgins