**Twirlettes Have Outstanding Day at State competition**

Saline High School served as the host for the 2017 National Baton Twirling Association’s State for 2017 on November 12th. The Twirlettes gained 16 state championships, 15 state titles and 23 top placings when the day was done.

Grass Lake 4th grader Hanna Alvarez, was a top winner in the Advanced Juvenile division. Hanna won modeling, strut, solo, 2-baton and the freestyle championship which was every event she entered. Grass Lake 6th grader Haley Alvarez, also won the Pre-teen state championship solo and freestyle title against some top state competitors. Their team mate, Saline Junior Amanda Coy added 7 state championship titles and won every state event she entered. This was the best state championship for Coy to date. All three girls won traveling plaques that they will keep for one year and their name will remain on the plaque for years to come. Zoe Dotts-Brown won the Preteen 3-baton state championship & the duet of Alexis Figueras and Avery St. Lawrence won the Pre-teen duet state championship for the 2nd year in a row.

Hanna, Haley, & Amanda qualified to compete in the National Majorette contest at the National competition. Also, several team mates will join them since they also qualified by placing in the top 8 in their division. In the Junior Division Zoe Dotts- Brown , Grass Lake Freshman, will compete for the first time at this national event along with those in the senior division; Cori Walworth, Chelsea senior , and Saline Junior Kelly Coghlan. It will be the first time for Brown, Walworth and Coghlan and quite an honor to achieve this advanced level and qualify for this national event.

In the Intermediate division, Avery St. Lawrence won the solo division while Alexis Figueras won the pre-teen strut title. Julie Palmer won the Senior Solo& modeling title. Avery placed 2nd in the preteen strut, Aubrey Bukosky, Milan 7th grader 2nd in modeling, and Figueras 3rd in modeling. while in the senior division Coghlan placed 2nd  in strut and modeling while Palmer was 3rd in strutting . Johanna Kegerreis, Jackson Christian freshman, placed 3rd in the junior intermediate solo.

Twirlettes did equally as well in the beginner division. In modeling Johanna Kegerreis and Kaitlyn Kornacki, Milan 8th grader, tied for 2nd in modeling, and Ali Gucwa, Pioneer sophomore won the title in the senior division. In strutting, Aubrey Bukoksy won the pre=teen divison and Elly LeCursi placed 3rd  and Kailtyn Kornacki took home a 2nd in the junior strut event. In the Beginner solo event , Twirlettes won the Pre-teen , Junior and Senior divisons. Aubrey Bukosky took home the Beginner state solo pre-teen title, while Kailtyn Kornacki won the Junior divison and Ali Gucwa won the senior beginner solo title.

Newcomers to competition competed in the novice events. IN solo, East Arbor student, Maggie Smith won the Juvenile solo tile while Saline 6th grader, Jenna Huetteman won the pre-teen solo title. In strutting Maggie placed 2nd while Grass Lake Freshman won the junior title and Ali Gucwa won the senior strutting title. Jady Jackson placed 4th in the preteen novice solo and Erin Huetteman placed 2n din the preteen strut. Team mate Addison Foy of Belleville won 2nd in her junior novice solo.

Competing in their first state competition were Karissa Tandy, Makayla Fargo, Emma and Maddie Finocchiaro. All these girls placed in one event in solo or basic strutting. The team is excited to have these new students enter the competition aspect of twirling.

The Twirlettes are off to a great start to their competition season. They will continue to train for upcoming contest and prepare for their annual appearance in the Saline, Milan and Grass Lake Holiday parades and their Annual Holiday recital. New students are welcome in the new year.

 www. Salinetwirlettes.org for more information.