

# Bands gear up for battle



BY DOUG HOKE, THE OKLAHOMAN

E.J. Hayes on drums with the band Hollow practices for Saturday's battle of the bands contest.



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Singers Alana Warfel, right, and Katy Carris practice with the band Hollow.

# Students stick with rockin' roots

**By Jesse Olivarez**  
Staff Writer

A number of music legends have grown up in Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Heritage Association wants to make sure they're not forgotten.

On Saturday, six metro-area high school bands will compete in the first OHA Teen Battle of the Bands.

The fundraising event will begin at 5 p.m. at the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum, 1400 Classen Dr.

Erin Page, the association's director of communications, said the event was created to raise awareness about Okla-

homa's rich musical tradition. To help bolster its efforts, the association created a board made up of students to help spread the word.

Students from the Edmond, Midwest City-Del City and Mustang school districts are on the board, as are students from private schools including Bishop McGuinness High School, Heritage Hall, Casady School and Mount St. Mary's School.

Page said the goal is to build a bridge between the state's emerging artists and those from Oklahoma's past.

That point is not lost on Jordan Carris, a member of the rock band Hollow. Carris said his interest in music began as a child. As the son of a preacher, Carris said he and his sister grew up singing in their father's church on weekends. As time went by, the siblings' interest in music sprouted and they formed a band.

Carris said a number of bands have influenced his band's style, but they haven't forgotten their Oklahoma roots.

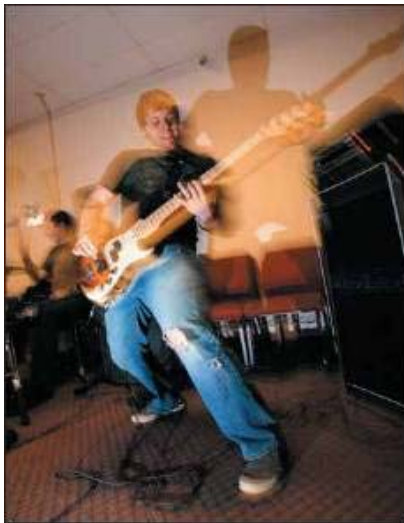
"We feel really blessed," he said.

James Borders, 15, is a member of an alternative rock band called The Transit Message. The six-member group, which consists of students from Bishop McGuinness and the Oakdale School District, has been playing to-

See **BANDS**, Page 2

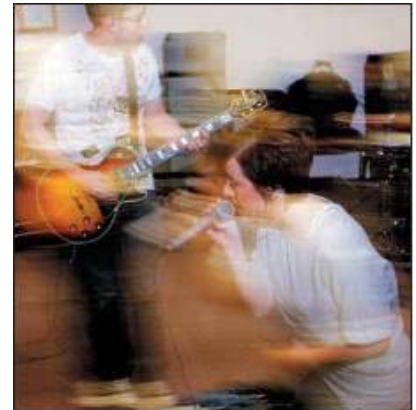
## OHA Teen Battle of the Bands

The Oklahoma Heritage Association is hosting a battle of the bands at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum, 1400 Classen Dr. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Proceeds from the event will benefit association programs. For tickets or more information, call 523-3208 or go to [www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com).



BY DOUG HOKE, THE OKLAHOMAN

Will Warfel, front, plays bass while E.J. Hayes plays drums for the band Hollow.



BY DOUG HOKE, THE OKLAHOMAN

Jordan Carris, left, plays guitar, with Katy Carris on vocals.



# Bands

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Continued from Page 1

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gether for about two years, he said.

A number of bands have influenced his group's style, including local favorites like The Flaming Lips.

He said he looks forward to seeing what his peers are up to.

"This is a great way to showcase Oklahoma's talent," he said. "Hopefully, people will come out and see some great stuff."



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