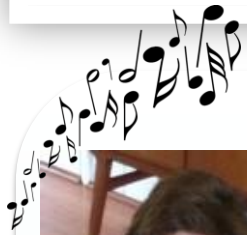




Spring 2017

FORTISSIMO NEWS



Director Notes:



Where to begin to catch you up on all the exciting news for music in our district and Fortissimo in particular?! Our 'Maestra', Anna Piland, is now one of the 6 music teachers

that has been hired in the San Marcos Unified School District this fall! So now she teaches ALL the students at Joli Ann Leichtag Elementary School from Kinder through 5th grade 45 minutes once a week. Fantastic news, since we have not had music in the school day, except what parent clubs have funded for decades.

After school on Tues., and Fri., she teaches Fortissimo to our now combined group of musicians. Together on the stage the sound of 40 strings is impressive! The kids feel it too. Maestro Andrew Waid has his own group in Solano Beach. We miss him and are looking forward to a combined event in the future. We have 34 third grade students who have expressed interest in joining us when we start a new beginner's class at JAL.

We will be notifying of our spring concert schedule soon, which includes, a Side by Side concert with Palomar Symphony Orchestra, Arts Alive in San Marcos, LEGOLAND and perhaps a special 'send off' for our biggest fan, Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Holt, as he retires.

If our funding efforts succeed (we are optimistic) we will begin a new school, and perhaps 2, in 2017 which will bring the grand total of musicians to over 100! That's our plan. And we are busily making it happen and transforming kids' lives.

Stay tuned!

~ Carole Beeson



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

These supporters and donors have helped us reach our financial goals for 2016. We are so happy to have their support and they keep us encouraged and inspired.

- ♪ The Hunter Family Fund at the Ranch Santa Fe Foundation
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- ♪ San Diego Community Reinvestment Grant
- ♪ Classics for Kids
- ♪ Tippet Family Foundation
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From Our Maestra Anna Piland



I am so please to say that this year I have been hired as the full time elementary music teacher at Joli Ann Leightag Elementary. The best thing about

this is I now see my Fortissimo students even more! I love that we can cover more of the theory of music in class and use our rehearsals mostly for playing. We also have a new rehearsal space in the school which is a real delight!

I'm so excited for our incoming students to start and to merge our older two grades in one giant group! It's such a pleasure to see our students continue to grow not only as musicians but great little members of society!

A Word from Anthony Kim Instructor San Diego Youth Symphony

I adore the students from the Kid's College Fortissimo program at San Marcos. It's a joy having them in our orchestras at SDYS and to get to know them individually.

They are so respectful, mature beyond their years, and above all, I enjoy their enthusiasm for music making and learning. I'm seeing lots of progress from all of them--Aaron, Nancy, Lily, etc. It's no accident that these students are excelling in our program. I appreciate and applaud your hard work and also all of the teachers' excellent work at Fortissimo.

Our students in SDYS

Back row: (left to right) Anthony Kim, Jocelynn Sanchez, Karla Garcia, Suzette Cervantes, Jasmine Mendoza,
Front Row: Nancy Sanchez, Lily Covarrubias, Aaron Lopez



Matthew Armstrong SMUSD Visual and Performing arts Coordinator

We are so happy to be working with Matthew Armstrong to further music education within the San Marcos Unified School District. Mr. Armstrong began teaching at San Marcos High School in 2004 and in 2015 accepted the position of Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator for San Marcos Unified. Named San Marcos High School Teacher of the Year, and San Marcos Unified Teacher of the year in 2013, Music Educator of the Year for California Music Educators Association in 2015, he is a highly sought after performer, clinician, composer, arranger and arts advocate. In the community, he chairs the education committee for the North County Arts Network and has established the San Marcos Arts Collaborative as vehicle for coordinating arts efforts through San Marcos. As a performer he freelances throughout San Diego and regularly performs in San Diego Symphony chamber ensembles, has held the position of principal percussionist with the California Chamber Orchestra, and works throughout San Diego in jazz and dixie ensembles. Mr. Armstrong has taken groups to prestigious events all over the world including Japan, England, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Germany, Australia, China and special performances at the Hawaii International Jazz Festival, concerts for U. S. Presidents, the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival and 5 appearances at the National Percussion Ensemble Festival and. Mr. Armstrong is a member of Percussive Arts Society, and the Southern California Band and Orchestra Association, California Music Educators Association and NafME. Mr. Armstrong teaches and performs as an Innovative Percussion Artist.



INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED BY CLASSICS FOR KIDS FOUNDATION, THE SAN MARCOS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT FOUNDATION



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