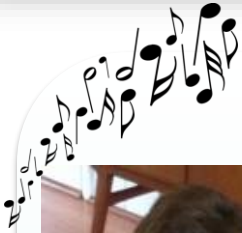




FALL 2021



Director Notes:



"I just missed everybody!" Those words came from one of our Fortissimo students as we gathered together for the first time in over a

year. As I looked around the room the kids were sitting on the floor with open violin cases, in little clusters happily chatting to their friends, so quietly... as if something might disturb the feeling of camaraderie and they would again find themselves back alone in their room staring at a computer screen.

Our teachers, Shannon Yandall and Katelin Ortuno, did a gallant job of keeping them motivated and playing on Zoom, but music is a very social thing. An orchestra is like a team, or like a family, a fraternity where everyone is an important part of a 'whole'. THAT one can't do solo.

So for today, we are thankful for the ability to once again gather together to make music, learn, reach our individual best, not only musically but within families, our school community and our neighborhoods.

Welcome back Fortissimo! It's great to see you again.

~ Carole Beeson



Fortissimo Students Happy to Be Back Together
Please see the "You are Amazing" Project and click on the video

Donor Spotlight

The Kid's College is honored to have been awarded a grant by the Conrad Prebys Foundation for the Fortissimo Program. Their support allows students to be inspired through quality music education.

"The summer 2021 grant cycle is a continuation of our namesake's passion and legacy for philanthropic giving and builds upon our inaugural grant cycle earlier this year," said Erin Decker, director of grantmaking for The Conrad Prebys Foundation. "The Conrad Prebys Foundation is thrilled to support these 102 nonprofit organizations that are each working diligently to incite meaningful change throughout San Diego."

"During his lifetime, Conrad Prebys experienced so much joy when giving to causes he was passionate about," said Tony Cortes, a longtime friend of Conrad Prebys and board chair of The Conrad Prebys Foundation. "The Foundation board and staff hope these gifts will inspire others in the community to experience that same joy by giving to the causes and organizations that matter most to them."

For more information on Fortissimo's Programs
Call 760-798-4064 or visit www.thekidscollege.org

CLICK THIS BUTTON TO DONATE
TO THE FORTISSIMO PROGRAM
AND MAKE A LASTING IMPACT IN
CHILDREN'S LIVES



Meet Our New Instructors



Trina Nielsen is delighted to join the Fortissimo teaching team! She grew up in learning to play the cello in middle school. She took private lessons and played in several North County youth orchestras. Trina received her Bachelor of Music and Entrepreneurship from SDSU.

Currently she is a cellist for the Temecula Valley Symphony as well as Palomar Symphony Orchestra in San Marcos. She also works as a tutor for special needs students in Temecula High School.

Trina is so excited to meet, learn and grow with our Fortissimo students as we begin to make music ...in person!



Catherine Allen holds a BA in Music, California teaching credentials in music and multiple subjects, and an MA in Humanities. She has spent thousands of hours instructing music students of all ages and abilities in San Diego County for 35 years. An accomplished violinist, Catherine has performed with many San Diego Orchestras including San Diego Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. Her approach to teaching offers sensitivity to the needs and abilities of each student.

“You are Amazing” Project



Fortissimo is thrilled to have our students participate in the “You are Amazing Project 2021”. Inspired by SDYS’ 75th Anniversary commissioned work from composer Brian

Balmages, “You Are Amazing” is a reaffirmation of the importance of music and music education for our young people. In response, the members of San Diego’s music education community are coming together to send our young people, and the broader community, a message of hope and resilience as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please see the video by clicking [here](#) or visiting YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10yj1EoJMg>

Farewell to Maestro Mario



We are sad to say farewell to Maestro Mario. His students, their parents as well as his teaching colleagues will miss him. He is now teaching special needs children in Los Angeles.

For the last year and a half Mario has worked as a music instructor as well as earning his California teaching credential. Congratulations! What a fete! Your students are very fortunate.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING:

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