

The Newsletter of the Campolindo Instrumental Music Program

Brought to you by Campo Instrumental Music Boosters

FROM THE PODIUM

by **Johnny Johnson, Music Director**

We've reached that point in the year when we have more days behind us than ahead of us. It's a time to pause and take note of how much progress our students have made, now noticeably more mature, more skilled, and more prepared to face the challenges of life.



Campolindo Instrumental Music was well-represented in the 2017 Contra Costa County Honor Band, held here on our stage just a couple of weeks ago. Congratulations to the following students (our largest group in recent years) for being selected to participate in this very fine ensemble:

1. Carissa Zhu, flute (soph)
2. Isabel Hinchliff, oboe (soph)
3. Anmerlyn Tucker, oboe (senior)
4. Ronin McCobb, bassoon (senior)
5. Andrew Torres, clarinet (soph)
6. Ian Cumming, clarinet, (junior)
7. Emily Marston, clarinet (frosh)
8. Kevin Deng, trumpet (junior)
9. Erica Wilson, horn (senior)
10. Marc Schultz, trombone (junior)
11. Adriana Derksen, tuba (soph) - FIRST CHAIR!
12. Daniel Flaherty, percussion (junior)

It was a remarkable year to be involved with the noteworthy Craig Kirchoff from the University of Michigan conducting. It was certainly a worthwhile endeavor for the players to experience the high-level artistry and musicality of such an accomplished musician. I know they'll remember this experience for many years to come.

We've been diligently preparing to showcase our own students in concerts for the orchestra, band, and jazz programs. Were you at the Jazz Dinner Dance? If you haven't attended one of these before, I highly recommend that you try it at least once! Rather than dinner at a local restaurant, this night includes hours of dining,

dancing, conversation, and the best our jazz program has to offer. This year's event was a notable success thanks to the students' musical preparation and the hard work of Barbara Williams and Stacy Giglio organizing ticket sales, setting up at the hall, and making sure all had an enjoyable and relaxing evening. We heard from our Campo Big Band of course, but also our JV Jazz group and the Combos, allowing individual players a chance to shine.

February 15 is the Orchestra's night out. Our Winter Concerts often feature guest artists and for this occasion we are welcoming a local and popular string group, Musical Heart Strings. This is a vibrant and active collection of professional musicians whose work includes classical, pop, jazz, and other forms. They are in demand for weddings, parties, and formal events throughout the Bay Area, but most importantly, they are wonderful examples of bringing joy to a community through a life-long relationship with music.

We round out the February concerts with the Winter Band Concert on February 23. You'll hear the Concert Band as they continue on their path of musical growth. They're quite the little group! You'll also hear our first foray into the world of the "Wind Ensemble"—a wind band with limited instrumentation, basically one player per part. The students have worked hard, independently learning their parts and then meeting for a very few outside-of-classtime rehearsals. I hope they enjoyed the experience of pushing a little bit to expand into a new area of music making. And finally, you'll hear the big, 75-member Symphonic Band playing an interesting collection of music including a march, a setting of folk songs, music written for a play, a transcription of a quirky organ piece, and a rip-roaring finale.

Again this year, we had the opportunity for the Campo Big Band to be part of the Theater Department's "Campo Night Live" show. This show affords members of two facets of our school's Visual and Performing Arts Department to collaborate and interact, each enhancing the other's value. We appreciate the enormous time commitment this particular event requires, with three rehearsals lasting a couple of hours each, followed by three shows. The payoff came in the form of abundant

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smiles, laughs, and nods during the course of the show's run, and of course the individual growth of each of our players as they model professional musicians doing the same type of work in New York week after week. As an aside, we got to meet one of those professionals—Steve Turre—one morning when he happened to be in town visiting his mom, who lives in Moraga. It was fascinating to hear him tell stories of his experience playing in the Saturday Night Live band and amazing to hear him play!

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Campolindo Instrumental Music Boosters for supporting me in my attendance at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago this past December. I haven't mentioned before what a privilege it is to represent Campolindo High School at this event each year. It is an important developmental experience for me, not to mention inspiring and energizing. I enjoy being able to bring the joy of this experience back to our students and feel the boost that it gives our entire program.

With that in mind, let me offer a general thanks to the Boosters and all parents for your daily devotion to our work as musicians. That includes reminders to practice, reminders to bring instruments home (and back), keeping the instruments in good repair, and keeping the lines of communication open on all ends. We need your support. We depend upon it and thrive because of it. Your work is working. Thank you so much.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Unless otherwise noted, events will be held in the CPAC (Campolindo Performing Arts Center).

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 7:30-9:00 PM

Winter Orchestra Concert — ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND
Open to the public; please invite friends and family
Free of charge (donations gratefully accepted)

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 7:30-9:00 PM

Winter Band Concert — ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND
Open to the public; please invite friends and family
Free of charge (donations gratefully accepted)

Wednesday, March 29, 2017, 7:00-8:00 PM

Moraga Area Orchestra Concert, with 4th-8th graders (*free*)

Thursday, March 30, 2017, 7:00-8:00 PM

Moraga Area Band Concert, with 4th-8th graders (*free*)

Thursday, May 11, 2017, 7:00-9:30 PM

Spring Concert — ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND
Open to the public; please invite friends and family
Free of charge (donations gratefully accepted)

Saturday, May 13, 2017

Campo Big Band at Moraga Community Faire

Friday, June 2, 2017, 6:00-10:00 PM

Jazz Café at Stanley Middle School
Ticket info to be announced closer to the event.

The full event Calendar for 2016-17 is available on our website: www.campomusic.org/upcoming-events

MUSIC BOOSTERS BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Vice President: Erika Pringsheim-Moore

Treasurer: Bill Doherty

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Homecoming Concessions: Sandra Harris,
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Hospitality (Band): Christine Swihart, Deborah Slaby,
Stacie Coates

Hospitality (Orchestra): Cathy Schultz, Reena Malhotra

Jazz Dinner Dance: Barbara Williams, Stacy Giglio

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STUDENT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC COUNCIL

Co-Presidents:

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Kevin Deng (band)

Co-Vice Presidents:

Lola Takhirov (orchestra)

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CAMPOLINDO HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Principal: John Walker

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Associate Principal: Jon Drury

Administrative Assistant: Carolyn Daughton

Lead Counselor: Amardeep Dhaliwal

FROM OUR MUSIC BOOSTER PRESIDENTS MARILYN & JEFF HUNT

Dear Students, Families, and Friends of Campo Music,

Hope you are appreciating a wonderful winter season of Campo Music. As our students work hard to hone their skills together, we have relished in their accomplishments including the Fall concert and Campo Night Live. In enjoying these performances, I was struck thinking about all the positive ways being part of Campo music impacts our students. Rather than sharing my own observations, let's take note from several of our students and hear the ways in which Campo music has impacted their lives.

Chase Giglio (9th Grade, Concert Band): "Music has impacted my experience at Campo in many ways, all of which have been positive. Campo music was immediately very open, and happy to bring all of us freshman into the program. The moment I joined I felt like Mr. Johnson was adamantly happy to have us in the program. For Concert Band, we have band 4th period, which for me is after my hardest class. Band always has the ability to put me in a good mood going into lunch no matter what my day has been like. Band is my favorite class and is what I most look forward to in my day, and I am very thankful I could be in Campolindo Concert Band."

Michael Gilmour (10th Grade, Jazz and Symphonic bands): "For me, the Campo Jazz Band has had a large influence on my everyday mood and has encouraged me to expand outside my comfort zone. It's hard to feel tired or stressed while starting every day with music and such a welcoming group of people. The jazz band has emboldened me to express the things I like and helped me to be more brave and open to trying things in front of people. Even when I make a mistake or can't quite get a melody down, my trumpet section and the rest of the band keep me from getting discouraged. I've also made friends through jazz that I likely never would have had if I hadn't been in jazz. This has introduced me to new types of music as well as many other things. The music Mr. Johnson gives us is enjoyable and fun to play, yet it still challenges me to improve and grow as a musician, and I've loved growing alongside my friends. The experiences I've had over the last two years in jazz band have helped me grow into the person I am and will always be memorable and important to me."

Natalie Davis (11th grade, Orchestra): "Campo music has allowed me to let out my emotions and has given me an escape from the stress I feel from my academic classes. Music helps me get through the day and no matter what, always brightens my mood. I have met several of my closest friends through Orchestra which has shaped the type of individual I am and the types of

people I hang out with. I am able to easily be myself because everyone in Campo music is so accepting of one another. Without music in my high school experience, I believe I would be more stressed and less comfortable with expressing myself in front of others."

Kaveh Boostanpour (12th Grade, Symphonic band): "Stress from academics and competitive extracurricular activities can seriously overwhelm me so it is important to have an outlet for relaxation. Symphonic Band serves as a therapeutic tool to relieve me of mental pressure. I feel blessed to start my first period at school with band; I can put the double reed of the oboe to my lips and for 50 minutes, I can forget about upcoming projects and exams; I am at peace. The piercing yet delicate sounds of the woodwinds intersect with the deep, thick sounds of the brass to reenact the emotions of the music piece. Consequently, the music I produce with my oboe serves as a temporary escape from a harsh, stressful reality, ridding me of negative emotions and giving me a closer connection with fellow peers."

When we think of the benefits of learning an instrument, we may ponder only things like accomplishing a goal, or building a new skill. As our students have shared, the benefits are far greater. These include personal expression, stress release, new friendships, encouragement, enjoyment, acceptance, and fun! A special thank you to Mr. Johnson for creating an environment where all of this can flourish.

Thanks also to the many volunteers who help keep the Booster community running like a finely-tuned instrument. Specifically, thank you to Cathy Schultz who stepped up at the last minute to cover and coordinate the honor band dinner. Thank you also to Barbara Williams and Stacey Giglio for organizing the Jazz Dinner Dance. Thank you to all volunteers who put in ongoing work to keep our organization running.

Thank you to all members for supporting Campolindo's Instrumental Music program. We greatly appreciate your financial support at any level, and are also thankful for MEF funding. If you have not yet donated, please visit www.campomusic.org and download the donation form. Some of the ways your Booster dollars are at work include master classes, rehearsals and performances with professional guest artists, music festival performances, individual student lessons, instrument purchase and repair, and partial expense coverage for travelling performances.

As we have seen here, Campo music consistently lifts the spirits of students and audience members alike, regardless of personal circumstance. Thanks again for supporting our valuable programs.