January Music and Drama News

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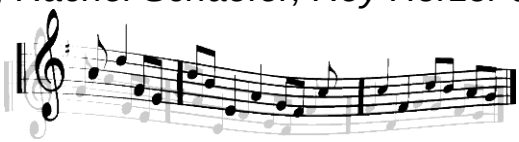

What's happening in the NCA Music and Drama classes?

Kindergarten: The Kindergarten students have thoroughly enjoyed getting to work with Mrs. Jennifer Hanson in preparation for their Christmas musical and throughout the month of January. She has brought to each class her love of music and fun songs for the students to sing. Thank you, Mrs. Hanson. At the end of the semester, we say "Good-bye" to Mrs. Hanson and welcome Mrs. Pam Jackson back to the Kindergarten music position.

1st Grade: These young musicians are focusing on the use of both rhythm instruments and pitched mallet instruments this month. The students have been especially excited about playing the xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels.

2nd Grade: Singing songs from around the world, playing singing and rhythm games, and playing instruments to accompany folks songs have all been a part of the music classes in 2nd grade this month. These eager musicians sing and play with such enthusiasm!

3rd Grade: Preparation is underway for the third graders to spend next quarter learning to play the violin. Parents, be on the lookout for more information coming home soon.

4th Grade: In class, the fourth graders have been working to identify rhythm symbols and to read notes on the staff. They will be putting these skills to good use as they begin their unit on playing recorder. All 4th graders should plan to bring their recorders to school on music days beginning Tuesday, January 25.

5th Grade: All students in Beginning Band, Beginning Strings, and 5th Grade Choir have been busy preparing for the Winter Concert. For the instrumentalists, this will be their first performance of the year. The choir is learning about tone quality and singing in harmony. The string students are learning different kinds of bowing and working to establish a more solid foundation in reading notes. The band instrumentalists are also focusing on tone production, note and rhythm reading. They are excited to be a part of the concert with the Middle School performing groups.

MS Choirs: The 6th Grade Choir can hardly wait to share with you a medley from *The Sound of Music* at the Winter Concert. The students are really enthusiastic about this musical and its songs. The Select Choir will be sharing *Sing for Joy!* and will be telling the story of the Three Blind Mice through song. You won't want to miss this.

MS Orchestra: After a busy December with several performances, these string players are working on building their music reading skills, learning new key signatures and scales, and preparing for the Winter Concert.

MS Bands: All three Middle School bands are in full swing, ready to perform at the Winter Concert. In class, "Chair Wars" encourage students to practice to be able to keep their seat position in their instrument section. Jazz Ensemble students come in to rehearse twice a week BEFORE school. That's dedication!

MS Drama: Hats off to the two drama classes who performed one act plays to packed audiences last week. Both *A Little Princess* and *All I Really Need to Know I Learned by Being in a Bad Play* were a smashing success. The cast of *Fiddler on the Roof* is busily working after school hours to share the traditions of Anatevka with audiences on March 20 & 21. (Parents, Ms. Schaefer is excited to begin working with you on set construction soon!) All NCA family and friends are invited to attend these performances.