

Instrumental Music Newsletter



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Director's Report

Welcome back to a new semester and a new year! As we think about our personal resolutions, I encourage us to think about how many of these resolutions involve improving our relationships in our lives. A “decade’s long Harvard study concluded that the key to lifelong health and happiness is good relationships.” [PBS News Hour]

We have a busy month ahead of us: the district band and orchestra festival, the Folsom Jazz Festival, audition submissions for Contra Costa County Jazz Band and audition submissions for Project LPIE 2024. Stay on the lookout for more information!

Here is the updated [Spring Semester Instrumental Calendar](#).

On the upbeat,
Edwin Cordoba

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT FESTIVALS

DISTRICT FESTIVAL I
Thursday, January 25 @ 7pm - Stanley Gym
Combined Elementary Chorus
Stanley Chorus
Acalanes Chorus

DISTRICT FESTIVAL II
Monday, January 29 @ 7pm - Stanley Gym
Burton Valley & Lafayette Elementary Bands
Stanley Cadet Band & Symphonic Band
Acalanes Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble

DISTRICT FESTIVAL III
Tuesday, January 30 @ 7pm - Stanley Gym
Happy Valley & Springhill Elementary Bands
Stanley Bronze Band & Silver Band
Acalanes Wind Ensemble

DISTRICT FESTIVAL IV
Wednesday, January 31 @ 7pm - Stanley Gym
Combined Elementary Strings
Stanley Strings Intermezzo & String Orchestra
Acalanes String Orchestra

Our district festivals are an excellent opportunity for us to create excitement for the middle and elementary school musicians and families around high school music!

JANUARY 2024 Upcoming Dates

January 27th
Folsom Jazz Festival

Jan 23rd
Project LPIE Due

Jan 29th-31st
Lafayette District Music Festivals

Feb 1st-3rd
All State Ensembles Sacramento

Sat, February 10th
Homestead Orch Festival

February 15th-17th
Contra Costa County Honor Band
Rehearsals/Concert

Fri March 15th
Sonoma Invitational

Sat, March 23rd
CMEA Festival

At A Glance

[District Festival Itinerary](#)

[Homestead Festival Itinerary](#)

[Sonoma Itinerary](#)

[Folsom Jazz Itinerary](#)

[Musical Rehearsal Schedule](#)

[CMEA Itinerary COMING SOON](#)

Birthdays This Month

- 7 Dylan Adams
- 9 Lucian Krage Zillas
- 11 Kailee Van Handel
- 12 Ryan Lorge
- 19 Serina Eun
- 26 Scarlett Wells-Feaster
- 27 Rihye Kim
- 31 Felix Perry

Thank you...



MUSICAL PIT ORCHESTRA

This year's musical is the Wizard of Oz. Here is the [rehearsal and performance schedule](#).



CHAMBER MUSIC

Chamber music is a form of classical music that is composed for a small group of instruments- traditionally a group that could fit in a palace chamber or a large room.

Solo and chamber music playing is some of the most important and formative type of playing that a student musician can partake in- it develops independence, listening and overall musicianship!

At the end of the semester, we will be having a Collage Concert where we will feature various Acalanes chamber groups!

PROJECT LPIE

Project LPIE is a project-based competition in 15 categories that allows Acalanes High School students to showcase their skills.

Project LPIE is open to all Acalanes High School students.

There are TWO instrumental categories: Solo and Ensemble.

Cash awards are given in every category.

Visit lpie.org/project-lpie for more information!

Submissions are due Tuesday, January 23rd!

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HONOR JAZZ BAND

Auditions for the Contra Costa County Honor Jazz Band are happening this month!

Visit the [Generations in Jazz Foundation Website](#) for a complete run down.

\$20 Dollar Fee can be [paid here](#).

Recordings/Application can [be found here](#).

Rhythm Section will play the Swing, Ballad, Latin and Improv files. Winds will only play the Swing and Improvisation tracks.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HONOR JAZZ BAND

2024 20th Annual Honor Jazz Band
Sponsored by
Generations in Jazz Foundation- gjif.org
(a non-profit public benefit corporation)

Guest Middle School Director: Nate Sparks
Guest High School Director: Mike Dana

Students who are selected will be required to attend all rehearsals, sound checks, and performances. Please have your students consider all dates. If they cannot commit to 100% attendance they should not participate. See important dates below. Winds will be required to play the CBDA Jazz Swing Etude. Rhythm Section: Swing, Ballad, Latin. Students will also be asked to submit an Improvisation sample with backing track. This is not required to make the band, but preference will be given to those who do.

Winds should audition with swing etude only (link provided to directors via email) Rhythm Section: Swing, Ballad, Latin.

January 19th School Registration Due by Google Form.
January 31st all payment must be received for audition
Online Payments:
February 1st All auditions due by audio submission

<p><u>Middle School Rehearsals</u></p> <p>Stanley Middle School February 24 11am-1:30pm February 26th 6-8:30pm February 28th 6-8:30pm March 2nd 11am-1:30pm</p>	<p><u>High School Rehearsals</u></p> <p>Las Lomas HS February 24th 11-1:30pm February 28th 6-8:30pm March 2nd 11-1:30pm</p>
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Concert
Los Medanos College
March 3rd
3pm Concert

High School Sound Check 12:45-1:30pm
Middle School Sound Check 1:45-2:30pm

After Auditions, the names of those selected will be emailed to all schools by February 10th
If you have any questions please email kellogg@luhsd.net

Thank you- Lindsay Kellogg Coordinator

FESTIVALS FAQ

What is a festival? In short, it is a learning opportunity for our ensembles where they receive feedback from qualified adjudicators (judges) on a set of prepared pieces (usually 3 pieces of contrasting styles).

What are the different types of festivals? There are different types of festivals. **Ranked festivals** give a group a scored number based on a rubric and then rank the groups based on that score. Groups are ranked against other groups that come from a school of a similar student body size. **Rating festivals** will result in an overall "rating" based on evaluation of criteria (tone, accuracy, balance, blend, etc). Here is an example of a [judge's score sheet](#) from our state rated festival, "CMEA". A CMEA performance results in an overall "Superior", an "Excellent", a "Good" or a "Fair" rating. **"Comments-Only"** festivals result in feedback from adjudicators without there being a rating or a ranking.

What is sight-reading? There is a sight reading component to our state "rated" festival, CMEA. After the stage performance of the three prepared pieces, students are taken to a different room where they are asked to look at a new piece of music that they (nor I, the director) have never seen before! We then have 5 minutes to prepare the piece by talking about the piece, counting through it or singing through it. At the end of the 5 minutes, we are then asked to play through it! It is a test of a group's "literacy"- and the group is then given a rating. Parents are free to be in the room during this process!

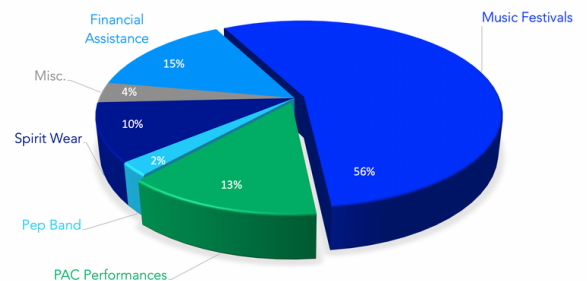
Does the school pay for festivals? No. It costs to register individual groups to festivals and to pay for transportation to festivals. Registration can cost between \$300-450 per group; a charter bus can cost \$1700. This is where we need your contributions to IMB (The Instrumental Music Board) to pay for these expenses.

What are the outcomes: Festivals are a great way for students to reach their musical potential and demonstrate great literacy!

PROGRAM FUNDING NEEDS

We are in need of donations to support students' out-of-the-classroom activities! All donations are tax deductible! Here's a chart showing our 2023-2024 budget allocations. Music Festivals (buses, registration fees) are the biggest item! Financial Assistance includes scholarships for trips. Spirit wear are our shirts. Pep Band includes meals. PAC Performances include program curation and printing, custodial fees and other miscellaneous fees related to our PAC Concerts. You can donate [HERE](#)

Instrumental Music Boosters
2023-24 Support
\$22,000



CMEA AND HOMESTEAD ON SATURDAYS!

CMEA is the most important festival of the year. CMEA stands for the California Music Educator's Association: Concert and Sight-Reading Festival. The date for CMEA is Saturday, March 23rd at San Ramon Valley High School and EVERY ensemble in the program will be required to participate.

Homestead is a new festival for the orchestra. We will take a bus to Cupertino on Saturday, February 10th. Here is the tentative [Homestead Itinerary](#).

What do LPIE and APAB Fund?

LPIE: In the classroom!

- Music Class Sections
- Music Library
- Instruments

APAB: Out of the classroom!

- Festival Entry Fees
- Transportation
- Concert Support
- Scholarships

Donate to LPIE

Donate to APAB

Note "Instrumental Music"

SHIRTS FOR SALE



We have M, S and XS Instrumental Music shirts for sale! Select the size in the paypal page and we will get your shirt delivered via your student.

CARPOOL VOLUNTEERING

If you are interested in being a parent carpooling volunteer, here are the instructions:

1. '[Volunteer Personal Automobile Use](#)' form duly filled.
2. Copy of driver license
3. Copy of Automobile Insurance Coverage Declaration (not a bill)

Please send it to Nicole Singleterry at nsingleterry@auhdschools.org.

HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Feel free to contact me at ecordoba@auhdschools.org