

Instrumental Music Newsletter

Upcoming Dates

November 8th

Fall Jazz Concert with California Jazz Alliance and Stanley Messengers

November 17th

Jazz Festival at College of San Mateo

December 7th

Winter Concert

January 27th

Folsom Jazz Festival

Sat, February 10th

Homestead Orch Festival

Sat, March 23rd

CMEA Festival

At A Glance

Review [Handbook](#) and [Calendar](#)

Birthdays This Month

14th Leo Wang
17th Ben Kokel
20th Noah Frankel
22nd Sia Orman
23rd Avery DeMent

Thank you...



TRAVEL, CONCERTS AND FESTIVALS

Director's Report

It's been a busy month of pops music, travel, pep band and submissions of All-State/Honor Band and Orchestra Materials! As we prepare for our November and December performances, it's important to reflect on the **why** of what we do. I am a band and orchestra teacher because my high school music teachers made me feel like I belonged.

They taught me it's really fun to be good. They taught me "to be clear is to be kind" before Brene Brown was a thing. They taught me the power of a kind smile and eye contact. In short, my high school band directors created an environment where excellence and community were upheld equally- where they were not mutually exclusive. We cannot make great music without there being a sense of respect, connection and trust in one another. That's the recipe for success.

I am so proud of our Acalanes students for staying committed to these values of community and excellence- and for trusting in me and in each other!

On the upbeat,
Edwin Cordoba

JAZZ CONCERT



Acalanes
**JAZZ
CONCERT**
8 November 2023

Starting at
7:00 PM

Acalanes High School
Performing Arts Center

Special guests

- Stanley Messengers
- California Jazz Conservatory

Our Jazz Ensemble and combo will be having their Fall Jazz Concert this Wednesday at 7 in the PAC!

If you are able to help by donating snacks for the reception or helping with reception set up/tear down, please sign up using this [sign up genius](#). You can drop treats and beverages between 6:15 and 6:45! Thanks!

SOCAL TOUR

The SoCal Trip was a huge success this year! The students recieved great feedback from chaperones, bus drivers, tour guides and the recording session conductor- and the students were professional throughout. We are so proud of our instrumental students! SoCal Trip pictures can be found [HERE](#).

Recording session videos can be found [HERE](#)

COMMUNITY MUSIC CLUB

The Community Music Club have been performing regularly at Merrill Garden's Alzheimer's home every Sunday at 4 p.m. On Sunday, November 5th, the club had their Local Kitchens fundraiser- they performed outside Local Kitchens! A percentage of all meals purchased those hours were proceeded to the Alzheimer's Association.



CMEA AND HOMESTEAD ON SATURDAYS!

Mark your calendars: the entire music program is set to perform at CMEA on Saturday, March 23rd. CMEA is a cumulative, rated festival. Each group will prepare 3 pieces and then be given a brand new piece of music to "Sight Read"- and then be given assigned a rating! It is an important part of our process!

The orchestra is also required to perform at the Homestead Orchestra Festival on Saturday, February 10th.

PROGRAM FUNDING NEEDS

We are in need of donations to support students' out-of-the-classroom activities! Did you know ONE bus to a music festival costs \$1,700? Did you know festival fees total to almost \$2,000? All donations are tax deductible! Donate [HERE](#)

JAZZ FESTIVAL 11/17

Our jazz ensemble is performing at this year's College of San Mateo Jazz Festival on Friday, November 17th. Thank you to those parents that have volunteered to carpool! As of now we still need one more parent driver that can take 4 students to have a complete caravan- if you are able to do so, please contact Rashmi Vrajmohan vrajmohans@yahoo.com.

If you are a jazz student, be sure to turn in your permission slip this week!

Friday, November 17th

7:30- Final "Zero" Period Rehearsal
 11:20- Report to band room during 5th
 12:00 Depart for College of San Mateo
 1:00 Arrive at College of San Mateo
 1:45- Walk to Warm Up
 1:55 Warm Up
 2:30- Perform
 3:15 Drive Back to Acalanes

What are students wearing? Jazz Concert Attire

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"

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

For his Eagle Scout project, Naoto Watanabe recruited peer musicians from Acalanes (Scarlet, Rohan, Aya and Koto) and from other schools to develop and present music workshops for a non-profit organization called the Bay Area Music Project. Collaborating with the beneficiary officers, Naoto created an agenda featuring engaging activities, performances, instrument-specific section practices, and a Q&A. Through leadership, he assigned roles to peer musicians and conducted rehearsals to ensure the quality and interactive workshop for the children. In the workshop, the team players performed Avenger theme. Then they worked with each sections, practiced parts, and played Eine Kleine Nachtmusik all together at the end. Congrats, Naoto and friends for your leadership and initiative!



CODA DECEMBER HONOR ORCHESTRA (STRING AND BAND)

Congratulations to Nathan Feng for being accepted to the CODA String Orchestra! We are very proud of Nathan's hard work!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: STEVE TURRE

Steve Turre (AHS Class of '66) is a critically acclaimed trombonist (and seashell player!) who has been performing in the Saturday Night Live house band for nearly 40 years. He is a multiple award-winning musician, having received the distinction of best trombonist by JazzTimes, Down Beat, and Jazziz, as well as a prolific recording artist with 20 albums (and over 200 with others) under his belt. Steve has had an exciting professional music career, including touring with Ray Charles in the 1970s and performing with jazz legends, Dizzy Gillespie, J.J. Johnson, Herbie Hancock, as well as Carlos Santana and Van Morrison. Growing up in Lafayette, Steve attended Lafayette Elementary School, where he picked up and fell in love with the trombone in the 4th grade. In the 5th grade, Steve's parents brought him to a Duke Ellington concert featuring Ella Fitzgerald as a guest artist. Inspired by the performance and his parents' love for jazz, he joined the Stanley Middle School jazz band, where he decided he would become a professional jazz musician. At Acalanes, Steve was part of the AHS Concert and Stage Bands (the then-names of the wind ensemble and jazz/big band, directed by Mr. Elvo D'Amante, and later Mr. Leroy Roach) and was selected for the California All-State Honor Band. After graduating high school, Steve continued to study music at Sacramento State University and North Texas State University. In addition to his illustrious performing career, he taught jazz performance for 10 years at Julliard and for 18 years (and counting) at Manhattan School of Music, where he also holds a Master's degree. Steve describes his time at Acalanes as being formative to his musical development. He has fond memories of Mr. D'Amante, whom he describes as, "a wonderful teacher who inspired and challenged us with great material." On his periodic returns to the Bay Area, Steve has found ways to give back to the Lafayette community, including helping out with the Stanley jazz band. Steve believes in the importance of legacy, naming trombonist J.J. Johnson as the most influential musician in his life. Steve's two children have followed in his musical footsteps as professional musicians, a drummer son and jazz vocalist daughter, and his latest album, Generations, features three generations of musicians (including son Orion), with the intent to emphasize the importance of continuum in the jazz world.



YPSO CONCERT

On Saturday, November 4th, various Acalanes musicians performed with the Young People's Symphony Orchestra, where they performed a challenging set of new and standard full orchestra repertoire. We are very proud of our students!

Missing from the picture: Aya Watanabe.



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

PEP BAND THANK YOU

The pep band had their final pep band performance on Friday, November 3rd in the game against Campolindo. We were fortunate to have some of the 8th grade Stanley Musicians Join us! Thank you so very much to all of the parents that helped pick up/deliver food and helped in the stands!

Of course a huge thank you to all of the students for their work and PEPPINESS!



AT ACALANES, YOU BELONG...

We are proud to represent many organizations on campus in our instrumental music program!

