

## Director Notes:



Spring is upon us and with it the promise of renewal and the time to see what hard work and effort on our musicians' part blossoms into! I have sat in rehearsal for

months and am astounded at what the kids are learning. Our now advanced Beginners who meet at San Marcos Elementary just got their Beethoven music for the spring concert. The Advanced students are playing the incredibly complex Bach's Brandenburg Concerto for strings. You are in for a treat! The concert schedule is listed on page 2.

Our biggest news is we have begun an additional 30 students who represent 3 of San Marcos Unified School District's Elementary Schools. They are a sharp bunch and learning quickly under the leadership of Angela Xing and co teacher, Shannon Yandall, bringing our numbers to over 100 musicians.

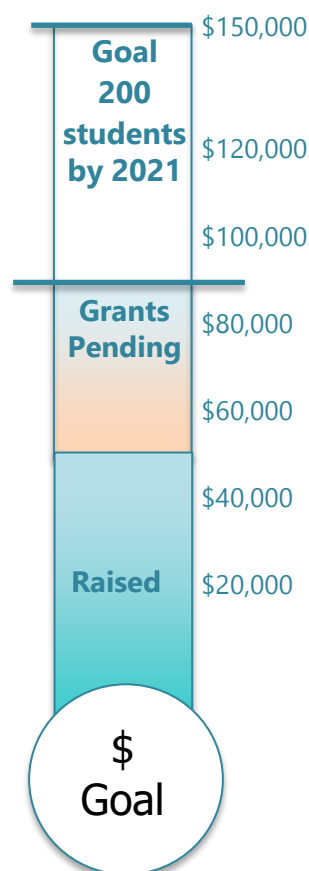
~ Carole Beeson



New Beginning Group with Angela Xing

We have been working closely with Dr. Carmen Garcia, San Marcos new Superintendent, along with the leadership of San Diego Youth Symphony, Dr. Michael Renson, CEO, and Kaitlyn Korogy, Director of Outreach, Dr. Ellen Weller, Director of Music Palomar Community College, and Matt Armstrong, VAPA Coordinator, to see what the future of Fortissimo Orchestra Program will look like in our District's future.

Budget constraints put the major responsibility for funding this life changing program on us. Please help us reach our goal and join the wonderful organizations, foundations, businesses and individuals who believe that music can change a life., and have made it possible for us to continue our work these 4 ½ years. The DONATE button is there below. I thank you on behalf of 100 grateful kids and their families.



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



## From Our Maestra Anna Piland



As our program has grown over the last 4 years we have had to name our now THREE ensembles! In picking the names Shannon Yandall and I wanted to stick with a musical theme but also represent our

students so we went with Spanish (instead of the traditional Italian). Our beginner ensemble is now Preludio (Prelude is a piece usually played as an introduction to a larger work), intermediate is Intermezzo (a piece between to works) and our most advanced, Cadencia (a virtuosic display at the end of a concerto).

## Spotlight on Our New Superintendent Dr. Carmen Garcia



Thank you Dr. Garcia, for taking such an interest in Fortissimo by coming to visit a rehearsal and meeting with our Fortissimo staff on several occasions. We would like our readers to also get to know you.

Dr. Garcia was born in Jalisco, Mexico. She grew up in Escondido and did her undergraduate work at SDSU.

Teaching has always been a driving force in her life. She received her Master's in Education and then began her career as a teacher in Long Beach. Her doctorate came next from USC. She became Lead Principal at the San Diego High School dedicated to putting children in the forefront, making sure their needs are met. She lives in Escondido with her husband and 3 daughters. We're so happy you're at the 'helm'.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING:**



**Rancho Santa Fe  
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Hunter Family Advised Fund



WILLIAM HALL TIPPETT &  
RUTH RATHELL TIPPETT



**MTS  
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Aaron Eighmey  
Memorial

## Concert Schedule Save the Date!

**Saturday, May 11 @ 7:30 PM:**

Palomar Community College

Brubeck Theater

Side by Side Concert. Fortissimo Advanced musicians are joined by Palomar Symphony musicians at Brubeck Theater.

Tickets at box office or call 760-214-9109

**Sunday, May 26 @ 2:00 PM:**

San Marcos High School

Join us as our 100 musicians demonstrate their skills and hard work this year. Concert is free, but we will happily accept donations for the program.

### ***Research Supports Need for Music***

We would like to share with you the **results of a five year study of an El Sistema inspired program** much like ours, from Scotland called The Big Noise. It is what we all instinctively know but so wonderful to have actual proof to share. Thank you Scotland!

Using rigorous methodology and long-term data collection, the researchers affirm the following proven impacts in students:

- Increased confidence, discipline, pride and aspiration
- Improved team-working, communication and leadership
- Enhanced academic skills, including listening, concentration and creativity
- Increased resilience, happiness, sense of belonging/fulfillment
- Strong musical skills development
- Increases in physical activity, healthy eating, and avoidance of damaging behaviors
- Development of positive social groups, peer relationships and cultural engagement