

Hello Frederica Family,

The Fine Arts Department is humming with activity from Lower School Music, Middle School Band Classes, Art, and Upper School Jam Band. Our music classes are growing! Our students are reading music and getting much better with the instruments they have chosen. Here are a few fun facts about how a music educational program affects students:



* Music majors are the most likely group of college grads to be admitted to medical school.
~Lewis Thomas, Case for Music in the Schools, Phi Delta Kappa, 1994

* Students who participate in school band or orchestra have the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs among any group in our society. ~ H. Con. Res. 266, United States Senate, June 13, 2000

* High school music students have been shown to hold higher grade point averages (GPA) than non-musicians in the same school. ~ National Educational Longitudinal Study of 1988

* 78% of Americans feel learning a musical instrument helps students perform better in other subjects.
~ Gallup Poll, "American Attitudes Toward Music," 2003

* Nine out of ten adults and teenagers who play instruments agree that music making brings the family closer together. ~ Music Making and Our Schools, American Music Conference, 2000

* With music in schools, students connect to each other better-greater camaraderie, fewer fights, less racism and reduced use of hurtful sarcasm. ~ Eric Jensen, Arts with the Brain in Mind, 2001

* 71% of Americans surveyed by the Gallup Poll believe that teenagers who play an instrument are less likely to have disciplinary problems. ~ Gallup Poll, "American Attitudes Toward Music," 2003

* Students who were exposed to music-based lessons scored a full 100% higher on fractions tests than those who learned in the conventional manner. ~ Neurological Research, March 15, 1999

* The schools that produced the highest academic achievement in the United States today are spending 20% to 30% of the day on the arts, with special emphasis on music. ~ International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IAEEA) Test, 1988

* Music enhances the process of learning. The systems they nourish, which include our integrated sensory, attention, cognitive, emotional and motor capacities, are shown to be the driving forces behind all other learning. ~ Konrad, R.R., Empathy, Arts and Social Studies, 2000

* Teaching through the arts motivates children and increases their aptitude for learning. ~ Eric Jensen, Arts with the Brain in Mind, 2001

* During moments of musical euphoria, blood travels through the brain to areas where other stimuli can produce feelings of contentment and joy-and travels away from brain cell areas associated with depression and fear. ~ Dr. Frederick Tims, reported in AMC Music News, June 2, 1999

* 95% of Americans in a 2003 Gallup Poll believe that music is a key component in a child's well-rounded education; three quarters of those surveyed feel that schools should mandate music education. ~ Gallup Poll, "American Attitudes Toward Music," 2003

I am excited about our Fine Arts Program. We love all of our excellent students. Call anytime if you should have any questions.

In Your Service,

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