

JANUARY 2023 | ISSUE 5

KEEPING ON BEAT

Official newsletter of SEMS Music Program Boosters

Happy New Year!



Gig Jazz Band Performs at Coaster Holiday Train

SPRING *accelerando*

**The Music Program is picking up the TEMPO
as we head into SPRING!**

Take a deep breath... things in the Music Program are really going to pick up tempo (*accelerando*) until the end of the school year. From Disneyland to Fullerton to Sea World, our musicians are going to be sharing their talents and everything they have worked on this past few months with the community. Workshops in January, pre-competition festivals in February, competitions in March, and even more in April and May. Keep an eye on the calendar as some of these events are quickly approaching.

To kick things off, in January our Advanced Choir and 8th Grade Band Musicians will be participating in the Disney Imagination Campus Performing Arts Workshops Soundtrack Sessions. During this workshop our musicians will sight-read music and work directly with industry professionals to create a truly magical ensemble piece. The experience culminates with a screening of their recorded work set to Disney film (continued on page 3)

JANUARY

Friday 20th
8th Grade
Band Members
Disneyland Trip

Friday 27th
Choir
Disneyland Trip

Saturday 28th
Empress Trombone
Quartet
Mission Hills HS

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 1st
Booster Meeting
6:30pm PAC

Saturday 4th
Solo & Ensemble
Festival



San Elijo Middle School Music Program's Solo & Ensemble Festival Saturday, February 4th 8am-4pm

The Music Program is proud to host the Solo and Ensemble Festival on the SEMS Campus. The festival is open to 7th and 8th grade musicians at SEMS and Double Peak, as well as musicians at SMHS, who selected to build their musicianship and showcase their talents in either solo or ensemble performances. There will be three performance venues: the Performing Arts Center for larger ensembles, the Library for solos and smaller ensembles, and the Gym for vocal groups and solos. Local music educators will be serving as judges for the students to give them comments on their performance. Students also receive written feedback from a judge with a rubric and rating. Each performer is awarded a ribbon based on their rating as a token of their hard work. Top performers are then invited to perform in a recital later in the year as a celebration of their dedication and talents. Mrs. Homes, one of Yamaha Music's "40 under 40" featured Music Educators, authored a wonderful and informative article on the Festival that can be found [here](#). Our music community is invited to come and support our brave musicians throughout the day. Big things can come from small moments and that is what our Solo and Ensemble Festival does for our music program every year.

This amazing event can not be successful without the help from volunteers. This all-day event requires a team to ensure everything runs smoothly, from friendly check-in table workers, to concession stand assistants, to door guards to make sure performances are not interrupted, we need a small army of volunteers to pull it off.

To sign up to volunteer go [here](#) and follow these instructions:

1. Click on the Parents/Students/Members tab.
2. Type Semsband in the "School Code" box.
3. Click Enter Parent Area.
4. Under the "Volunteers" drop down menu, select Volunteer Needs.
5. Select the event "Solo and Ensemble Festival - 02/04/2023."
6. Select a volunteer shift (or shifts!) and provide your contact info.

FEBRUARY

Cont.

Wednesday 15th
Choir Pre-Festival

Wednesday 22nd
Concert Band
Pre-Festival
at Mission Hills HS

Thursday 23rd
Golden Eagle
Band Pre-Festival
at Mission Hills HS

Friday 24th
Wind Symphony
Pre-Festival
at Mission Hills HS

MARCH

Wednesday 1st
Booster Meeting
PAC

Thursday 2nd
Golden Eagle Band to El
Camino Band Festival

Saturday 4th
Fullerton Festival
Wind Symphony

Friday 17th
Coffee Concerts
Beginning Band

Wednesday 22nd
Double Peak Jazz
Festival
All Jazz Bands



(continued "Spring Accelerando" Page 1)
footage. This is a beloved and amazing experience that the younger SEMS musicians look forward to participating in during their 8th grade year.

At the end of the month, the District Directors have arranged a trombone workshop and performance led by the Empress Trombone Quartet at Mission Hills High School. Founded by Karen Marston in 2019, the Empress Trombone Quartet calls on the diverse musical backgrounds of its players, which range from orchestral and chamber music, to commercial and studio playing, to push the boundaries of chamber music. Additional information on the Empress Quartet can be found [here](#). During the all-day event, the quartet will mentor, lead workshops, and perform. If your musician is interested in this event please reach out to our Music Program Directors. This event is provided free of charge for our musicians and paid for by Booster's funds intended to support enriching experiences.



The New Timpani Have Arrived!

Thank you for supporting the SEMS Music Program Holiday Fundraiser. Through your efforts the Music Program was able to purchase a new set of much needed timpani and they started to arrive last month! If you would like to continue your support please go [here](#) to see all the ways you can contribute! It is dedicated parents and guardians like you who keep our Music Program one of the BEST in the County!

Social Media

Facebook: SEMS Band

Twitter: @bandsems

Instagram:

Band: @semsbandofficial

Choir: @semschoirofficial

Mrs. Homes: @mskofmusic

Mrs. McInnis: @mcinnismusic

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Click [here](#) to get in contact with the SEMS Music Program Boosters