



MARCH 2024 | ISSUE 16

# KEEPING ON BEAT

Official newsletter of SEMS Music Program Boosters



Golden Eagle Band Rehearses Before Their Performance at the El Camino HS Band and Orchestra Festival.

## SPRING *accelerando* <<< MONTH IN REVIEW

As the Music Program continues through our Spring Accelerando, our musicians took their amazing prepared pieces on the road! First, each advanced band performed their pieces at the San Marcos Unified School District's Pre-Festival, where the musicians and directors received constructive feedback on their performances. Each group had the chance to refine their pieces based on the feedback they received and then prepared for their competition festivals.

Next, the groups traveled to their competition festivals to compare their talents and teamwork with other groups in the Region and State. First to leave the nest was the Golden Eagle Band, who headed to the El Camino High School Festival in Oceanside. At the festival, our musicians got a chance to listen to other middle school bands perform before they headed to the warm-up room. In the warm-up room, they performed their pieces one last time and worked on any areas the musicians needed additional time with before they headed to the stage. Our Golden Eagle Band did a tremendous job performing their two pieces. Once their performance was over, they moved into the sight reading clinic where our musicians were given a piece of music they had never seen before. They had 2 minutes to discuss the piece with their instrument section, and then spent 3 minutes discussing the piece with their director. They then performed the piece for the judge who was able to

### MARCH

#### Saturday 9th

Wind Symphony  
San Diego Winds  
Composer Festival  
at Mission Hills HS  
8:15am to 10:30am

#### Wednesday 13th

ALL JAZZ BANDS  
Double Peak School  
Jazz Festival  
Partial Day Field Trip  
1pm to 6pm  
Students Need to be  
Picked Up from Double  
Peak!

#### Friday 15th

Beginning Band and  
Choir Coffee Concerts  
Student's Adults Come  
to SEMS PAC During  
Class Period

workshop with the musicians after their performance. This festival was a wonderful introduction to the music festival process and prepared the Golden Eagle Band musicians for the multitudes of festivals in their futures.



Next, our Wind Symphony musicians loaded up the buses at SEMS on a Friday morning and headed to the Cal State University Fullerton Music Festival to perform. The schedule was similar to what the Golden Eagle Band went through at their festival. After they performed their well rehearsed pieces and attended their clinic led by a college professor and they were able to watch CSU Fullerton Bands perform. It was a wonderful day of music and comradery and such an amazing rite of passage for SEMS musicians.

# SPRING

*accelerando*

## LOOKING AHEAD >>>

Over the next month our musicians will continue to share their talents at festivals and competitions throughout Southern California.

### San Diego Winds Composer Festival

(Wind Symphony) Saturday, March 9th

San Diego Winds wanted to create a festival where students were able to not only perform high quality music but do work on that music with the composers themselves and world class conductors. This year they are excited to announce the featured composer is Michael Markowski. San Elijo Middle School will be entering the festival as a “Standard Group” who will perform their selections and receive an inspiring on-stage clinic. It is an amazing opportunity for our musicians. Saturday evening there will be a Concert at the Mission Hills High School Theater (limited spots available). Click [here](#) for more information on the Festival.

### Double Peak Jazz Festival

(All Jazz Bands) Wednesday, March 13th

Our three amazing Jazz Bands have their opportunity to perform at a festival Double Peak School hosts specifically for Jazz Bands. Jazz Band Musicians will leave school midday and head over the hill to perform their prepared pieces. Throughout the afternoon all three bands will preform as

## MARCH

### Wednesday 20th

Concert Band to  
SCSBOA Festival in  
San Juan Capistrano  
School Day Field Trip  
8am - 4pm

### Thursday 21st

Gig Jazz Band  
La Costa Meadows  
Open House  
5pm - 7pm

### Friday 22nd

Advanced Choir  
La Costa Meadows  
Flag Salute  
7am - 9am

## APRIL

### Wednesday 3rd

Booster Meeting  
SEMS PAC 6pm  
All Are Welcome!

### Thursday 4th & Thursday 11th

Gig Jazz Band and  
Advanced Choir  
Perform at  
5th Grade Parents Night  
5-5:30pm

### Friday 5th

Advanced Choir  
SCVA Festival  
Moreno Valley  
All Day Field Trip

### Tuesday 9th

Advanced Choir  
SMUSD Festival  
San Marcos High School  
6pm

[Click Here for Calendar](#)



they support each other during their down time. Parents can pick up their musicians when they are done performing (they need to be checked out with a Director) or at the end of the evening.

**Coffee Concerts**

(All Beginning Band and Beginning Choir) Friday, March 15th  
 Now it's the Beginning Band's chance to show their families everything they learned since the Turkey Concerts. During the Coffee Concerts, family members will be able to sit next to their musicians and attend a class session with them. Following their class session, the musicians and their families will be treated to coffee and donuts hosted by the Music Program Boosters. There will also be an opportunity to take a family picture with your musician and their instrument in front the the Music Program backdrop to commemorate the event. It is truly unique and wonderful experience. See the attached flyer for additional details.

**SCSBOA Band Festival**

(Concert Band) Wednesday, March 20th  
 Concert Band Musicians have their chance to leave the nest and spread their wings at a Music Festival at San Juan High School in San Juan Capistrano on Wednesday, March 15th. The musicians will need to report to the SEMS Campus at 7am in their concert attire. After traveling to the festival and performing their prepared pieces, they are stopping at Bowlero for some lunch and fun. They plan be back on the SEMS campus at 4pm. Please look out for an emails from the Directors for additional details.



**Outreach - SEMS to La Costa Meadows, SMHS to SEMS**

(Gig Jazz Band & Advanced Choir) March 21st & March 22nd  
 La Costa Meadows has invited our Music Program to participate in their Open House on the evening of March 21st and their Flag Salute on the morning of March 22nd. Our Gig Jazz Band will entertain families as they explore the campus at the school's Open House and our Advanced Choir will participate in the school's Flag Salute activities the next morning. On March 19th San Marcos High School's Wind Symphony will be coming to SEMS to work with SEMS' musicians and tell them about all the music opportunities they will have in High School.

**Social Media**

Facebook:  
 SEMS Music Program

Instagram:  
 SEMSMusicOffical

Mrs. Homes: @mskofmusic  
 Mrs. McInnis: @mcinnismusic

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

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