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Casa Music Department Newsletter (March 13-19, 2022)

Sean Millard • 29 days ago • Tuesday, Mar 15 at 3:53 PM • (0)-BAND SYMPH - Millard, (1)-BAND FRESHMAN - Millard, (2)-BAND CONCERT - Millard, (4)-CHOIR CHAMBER - Millard, (4)-CHOIR CONCERT - Millard



CGHS Music Department Newsletter

March 13-19, 2022

Dates This Week:

- 3/15 - Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
- 3/16 - Marching Practice
- 3/17 - Drumline Rehearsal
- 3/18 - Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
- 3/19 - Musition & Auralia make-up assignments due (CHOIR)
- 3/19 - Practice Log #11 due (BANDS & JAZZ)
- 3/19 - PracticeFirst assignment due (BANDS)

Gaucha Plaza Construction Moving Along

The construction work on the plaza outside the front doors of the Music Building is moving along. It's starting to take an actual shape. Concrete is being poured this week on Wednesday and Friday beginning before zero period classes begin. As such, everyone is asked to NOT enter the campus from the staff parking lot behind the multi-purpose room on these days. The construction crew will need that area completely cleared while they pour the concrete.

Once the plaza is completed, plans will be made to have two separate outdoor Spring Concert performances. One performance will be for the Freshmen Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band. The second concert will be for the Choir and the Jazz Ensemble. Dates and relevent information will be sent as soon as dates are set.



Millard's Message

As I sit and ponder the last 2 years,

my mind begins to implode. The pandemic, Zoom, distance learning, George Floyd, hybrid schedule , Election 2020, January 6, returning to in-person school, masks, bell covers, air filters, vaccines, the Ukraine...it can be understandably overwhelming to anyone. This is one of the many reasons I love the art of music and choose to teach music. It can be reassuring and calming in virtually any situation.

Here is what I tell my students that are what I feel are the three purposes of music:

1. *To soothe the soul*
2. *To lift the spirits*
3. *To bring people together*

That's it, in my opinion. We need all of that at various times in our lives most definitely.

I'd like to leave you with two of my favorite musical quotes which have been fantastic food for thought for myself over the years:

"One good thing about music. When it hits you, you feel no pain." (Bob Marley, reggae musician)

"People who make music together cannot be enemies, at least while the music lasts." (Paul Hindemith, composer)

Let's send lots of musical and positive thoughts to all of those in Ukraine in the coming weeks, they surely need it. We do too, but for other various reasons. Be well, and thanks for letting me share music with you and your children.

Until next newsletter,

Mr. Millard



We need

YOU!



VOLUNTEERS VERY MUCH NEEDED!!!

As we all continue to slowly roll out of this pandemic, the need for volunteers will greatly increase.

We still need a few volunteers to help facilitate our band and choir uniforms.

Please visit the homepage of our website for more details at

<https://cghsmusic.weebly.com/>



We have also received word that our long-running bingo fundraiser on Saturday nights will most likely be able to resume in early May. This is a year-round fundraiser that generated the VAST majority of the Music Program's income before the pandemic hit. We are beyond excited for the green light to go on for it to resume! We just need parent volunteers to operate and run the bingo games on Saturday evenings, and time for them all to train for the jobs before we reopen the bingo games. A detailed message about volunteering for bingo will be sent out soon. Please consider volunteering for this ongoing fundraiser that we share with the Petaluma High School Music Boosters. We will need several volunteers if we are to participate and reap the many benefits it provides. The more volunteers we get...the less time each volunteer needs to donate. But we need to be trained and ready first. I look forward...



We thank you for your ongoing support and volunteerism!!!

Assignments Due This Week...



New Assessment Software Unveiled in Band Classes

The Freshmen Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band were all introduced to a new online software program we will be using moving forward. It is called *PracticeFirst*. This program has the students play and record things for me on their instruments from any electronic smart device (computer, laptop, Chromebook, iPad, smartphone, etc.). The device just needs to be able to use Google Chrome (which virtually all do now). The software immediately grades the student's performance with amazing accuracy. It is a fantastic tool.

This allows me, as the teacher, to hear the students perform individually. That way I can offer them individual feedback and not use band rehearsal time to do it. It also allows the students to be heard without having to come in and play for me in person during lunch or office hours. It also allows them to record at a time and location that is convenient to them. They can also record multiple times until they get a performance they are happy with.

I look forward to hearing each student individually through PracticeFirst in the future!!!

Bands / Jazz Ensemble

- Practice Log #11 (via Google Classroom)
- PracticeFirst: Trial in Bb Major (via Google Classroom)
- *Both due on Saturday, March 19 by 11:59 PM*

Choir

This is a make-up/re-do assignment week for the choir students. They can look at any score from their previous Musition and Auralia assignments and re-do them for better scores, if they choose to do so. This may be the only week we have a "make-up / re-do assignment week"!!! Take advantage of it!!!

Here is the process:

1. Decide which assignments student wishes to re-do for better scores
2. Email Mr. Millard the list of assignment titles student wishes to redo.
3. Mr. Millard will reset the student's scores.
4. Mr. Millard will email student letting them know they are "good" to redo the assignment.
5. Student goes back in and redoes assignment.
6. These need to be completed by Saturday, March 19 by 11:59 PM



Music Department Senior Feature

Student: *William Lopez ("President Lopez")*

Instrument: *Tuba*

Ensembles: *Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Brass Ensemble*

Titles: *President, Tri-M Music Honor Society / Section Leader*

What is your favorite thing about being in band? *My fellow classmates and everyone else who works diligently to make band such a great community.*

Favorite song you have ever performed in band? *Queen Greatest Hits – arr. Peter Kleine Schaars*

What do you love about music? *That there are so many genres of music-- there's something for everyone to enjoy.*

If you could only listen to ONE song for the rest of your life, what would it be? *"Back in Black" by AC/DC*

Apples or Oranges? *Apples*

Cats or Dogs? *Dogs*

If you could have a catchphrase that is attributed to you, what would it be?
"Cool. So cool."





Important Dates

Tuesday, March 15

- Brass Ensemble rehearsal (2:40 PM - 3:10 PM)

Wednesday, March 16

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:20 PM)

Thursday, March 17

- Drumline rehearsal (2:40 PM - 3:10 PM)

Friday, March 18

- Brass Ensemble rehearsal (2:40 PM - 3:10 PM)

Saturday, March 19

- Practice Log #11 due (*band & jazz ensemble students*)
- PracticeFirst assignment due (*all band students*)
- Auralia assignment make-ups/re-dos due (*choir students*)
- Musition assignment make-ups/re-dos due (*choir students*)

Wednesday, March 23

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:20 PM)
- Location of this practice is TBA

Monday, March 28 - Friday, April 1

- SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 8

- Emergency Make-Up Days if necessary...otherwise no school

Wednesday, April 20

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:15 PM)

Thursday, April 21

- End of 2nd grading period
- E.F.M. Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom (6:30 PM)

Friday, April 22

- Harvest Christian School Outdoor Dinner Pickup Performance (*Jazz Ensemble*) - TENTATIVE

Saturday, April 23

- Butter and Eggs Day Parade (*all band students*)

Wednesday, May 4

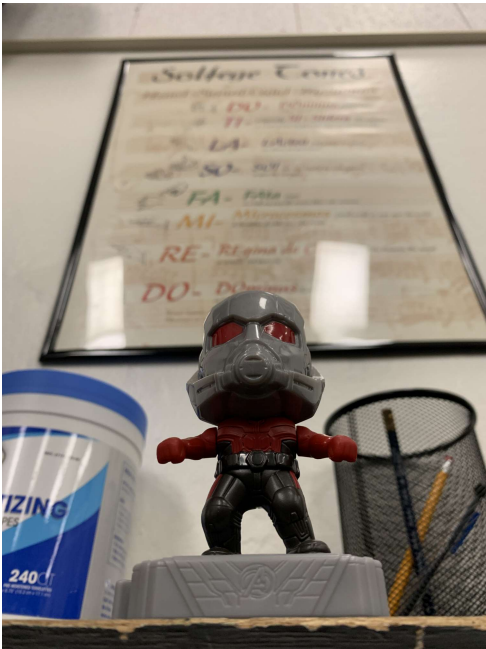
- District Art Show performance (*Jazz Ensemble*)- TENTATIVE

Thursday, May 26

- Music Department Spring Awards Concert (*all band & choir students*)

Friday, June 10

- Graduation Ceremony (*all band & choir students*)



Comments & Replies

Comment...