December 2013





Overture

Special points of interest:

- · What's Happening
- · Mark your calen-
- Save some money
- Memorial Concert
- Bravo
- "Are you in the Moment"



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It's that time of the year..... How do you finish that sentence?

There is much hustle and bustle going on with the Music Department and the Boosters as

Mr. Allen has been busy making preparations for our Wind Ensemble to apply to perform at the Midwest Clinic next December.

Mr. Ells hosted Emily Schadd, our Artist in Residence for Orchestra, for her first visit working with our string program.

If you ordered oranges and grapefruits, they will be delivered to the school this Saturday morning, December 14th.

The Boosters will be hosting our third "Night at the Races/ Casino Night on January 18th to be held this year at the Sandy Beach Yacht club. Watch our website for more details or e-mail us with questions.

Don't forget to visit our elves in the Lobby to stock up on some homemade treats to start your holiday with.

There are also school calendars available for a discounted price.

Our Booster officers and members have been busy working on fundraisers both for our students and the organization to raise funds to continue bringing our students exciting opportunities.

Of course, we are all busy with our own decorating, shopping and all the holiday prep running from one thing to the next. That's why I enjoy this particular concert so much. It's part of the holiday tradition for our family, whether we have had a child in the High School or not. It's the night we come and leave everything at the Aud doors and sit and listen to the words from the voices of the Choirs, the singing of the strings, the harmonies of the band and of course the traditional Sleigh Ride from our Wind Ensemble. Walking out after tonight will officially start our holiday season as it always reminds us of the sense of family, friends and peace.

A little nostalgia for our last performance of Sleigh Ride in this Auditorium. It was written by Leroy Anderson in 1948 during a July heat wave! Leroy didn't set out to write a Christmas piece when he wrote 'Sleigh Ride.' His intentions were to convey the entire winter season through the imagery of a sleigh ride. The composition is still ranked as one of the 10 most popular pieces of Christmas music worldwide.

Sleigh Ride was aired 174,758 times in 2010, making it the most-played holiday song on radio!

Our next booster meeting will be on Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm in the music room. Please mark your calendars now for this important meeting.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of you for your generosity in giving of your time and resources to support the boosters. Our program is one that strives to achieve enrichment for our children through music and can only be accomplished with the help of many volunteers. There is still much work to be done this year and your continued support is much appreciated.

So sit back. Relax and enjoy the sounds of the season.

On behalf of myself, the **Booster Officers and Music** Directors we wish you a holiday season filled with peace.

Diana, MaryJane, Sue, Mike, Kim, Mr. Allen, Mr. Ells and Mr. Boron



Noteworthy Dates

MS Winter Concert II Dec. 17th 7:00 Winter Recess –Dec. 23rd thru Jan. 1st Booster Meeting Feb 4th

Booster Meeting-Jan. 7th 7:00

Elementary & Jazz All-County Auditions-Jan. 11th

Jr. High All County Auditions-

Night At the Races/Casino Night-January 18th

Sr. High All-County Auditions-Jan. 25th

High School Musical-Feb. 6, 7 & 8th 7:30 PM

All-Island Band Concert No.1-Feb.12th

String Kaleidoscope Concert— Feb.13th

Mid-Winter recess Feb. 17-21

All Island Band Concert No. 2

Elementary & Jazz All-County Festival-March 7th & 8th

All-Island Jazz Concert-March 12th

Jr. High All County Festival-March 14th & 15th

Sr. High All-County Festival-March 21st & 22nd.

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Savings Account: Fundraisers

Yes, you and your student should think of fundraising as depositing money into their trip savings account! Every little bit helps so encourage your child to participate in the opportunities to tuck a little (or a lot) of trip money away!!!

Trip Info:

This years Instrumental trip will take place April 3rd thru 6th at the Dixie Classics Festival in Washington, DC.

Night at the Races/Casino Night-January 18th 2014 at the Sandy Beach Yacht Club. Please check our website for more details or email us with questions. This is our chance to enjoy an adult night together. It will put the "Fun" in FUNdraising! Please join us.

Fruit Delivery:

The fruit will be delivered this Saturday morning December <u> 14th.</u>

All profits from this sale go directly to the <u>individual student trip</u> accounts.

Any questions, please contact us at:

gimusicboosters@gmail.com

Zap-A-Snack—there will be another pizza sale in January to allow students to increase their trip savings account.

Calendar Sales:

There are still 2013-14 school district calendars available.. please stop by our table in the Viking Mall or email us with questions. Large calendar's are now \$4.00 and pocket size are \$2.00.

Please let us know if you would be willing to help at any of our fundraisers. Many hands make lighter work!! An hour of your time would be greatly appreciated!!!!

You CAN make a difference!



Trip Savings Account

If you would like to be on our email list for future newsletters, announcements and upcoming events, please email us at :

gimusicboosters@gmail.com

How to Become a Booster: Stop by our table during concerts Come to a meeting Contact us: gimusicboosters@ gmail.com Membership: \$5.00

Music Notes Memorial Concert

This year, our annual "Kaleidoscope String" concert will be a memorial concert in honor of Debra Remson who passed away in early November. Ms. Remson was the string teacher in Grand Island for many years and touched the lives of many students.

The concert is on Thursday, February 13th at 7:00pm at the Grand Island Senior High

school. We will be selling carnations before the concert and donating the proceeds to Music is Art in honor of Ms. Remson.

In addition, we are inviting back all alumni who would like to come and perform our last piece with us for the concert. We have parts for all ability levels. If you feel you would like to play but haven't picked up your instrument in a while - it's no problem! If you or someone you know are interested in playing in our grand finale to honor

Ms. Remson, please e-mail Eve Roushey at EveRushey@k12.ginet.org and a copy of the music will be sent to you. We will also be having a special rehearsal for the concert on Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30.

If you are unable to play, but want to participate or would like to help out in any capacity, please contact Eve Roushey

(EveRoushey@K12.ginet.org) for more information.



Bravo!!

Thanks to our Booster supporters we are able to bring another guest artist to Grand Island to work with our students.

Mark Filsinger is an active jazz trumpet performer, educator, and clinician in Western New York. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at the prestigious Eastman School of Music, with an emphasis on teaching improvisation and composition in Jazz Performance Workshop (small group) settings.

Mr. Filsinger is an active clinician. He has presented workshops on teaching middle school students to the Eastman Jazz Ensemble, New York State

and Eastman Chapters of the Collegiate Music Educators National Conference He has also directed the Oswego All-County Junior High Jazz Ensemble, taught a composition workshop at the Eastman Summer Middle School Band Adventure,

and has served two years as Director of Evening Sessions for the Eastman Summer School Jazz Camp.

Mr. Filsinger will be performing on three tunes with the high school jazz ensemble at the All Island Jazz Concert on Wednesday, March 12.

** We would like to congratulate a finalist for the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra's Senior Concerto Competition.

** Good Luck to Mrs. Lokken and all the newly picked cast, crew and Orchestra for this years musical Pirates of Penzance. Rehearsals have already begun and everyone is working hard. The performances will be February 6th, 7th, & 8th.

Make sure to mark your calendars. This will be the last musical on our way to keep you up to date. current stage!

** As everyone knows, the capital pro-Alex Cousins on being selected as ject is well underway as evidenced by the fast arising STEM structure and the missing ceiling tiles. The auditorium is slated to close after our March Concerts. Our music faculty is in the process of securing alternate venues for the end of the year concerts. Please be patient with any changes that may occur. You will be notified as soon as possible with the when and where of the year end events. Please make sure that your child's director has a current e-mail address and sign up for e-news. This is the quickest and most efficient

GRAND ISLAND MUSIC BOOSTERS

2013 -2014 Board

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Husic Boosters

Grand Island Music Boosters

Student Fundraisers

Zap A Snack September
Fruit Sale Oct/Nov
Zap A Snack January
VFW Discount Card Sale March

Booster Fundraisers

Holiday Cookie Sale
Night at the Races (Adult)
Showstoppers Competition
School Calendar

December
January
May
April/May

Meeting Dates

2013		2014	
September	10th	January	7th
October	1st	February	4th
November	5th	March	4th
December	3rd	April	1st
	•	May	6th





Finale: "Are you in the Moment?" A different perspective

The phone rings. The text message buzzes in. Ding-dong: an instant message just arrived. You've got an e-mail. We bounce from one electronic cue to the next, reading, responding, connecting and disconnecting. From waking to sleeping, our lives have become a series of electronic moments. How did we get here? Do we really want to be here?

How many of us teachers, as well as our students, carry our smart phones on our person? Even as we're in the midst of a lesson or rehearsal, we've got that seemingly incessant vibrating, if not buzzing, of our communications devices. We're still thinking about the flood of information and communication with the outside world instead of being in the moment. The moment of understanding-all moments that build our minds, our personalities, our sense of achievement. Yet, we let those moments pass us by while we respond.

In contrast, consider what we ask our music students to do. Practice. For at least (pick a number) minutes per day. Not seconds. Minutes! Come to a lesson or a rehearsal, and, for 30, 40 or more minutes, focus on developing instrumental or vocal technique, musical literacy and overall musicianship. No quickies. Little instant gratification. This is long-term, long-haul growth and satisfaction that we're asking our music students to value.

A fair amount of time has been spent harvesting cell phones from my students over the past year. After extracting an apology from each guilty party at the end of class., they've always been reminded that they are expected to be in the moment when in a rehearsal. Slowly, but surely, the appearance of cell phones diminished to a trickle as the year progressed. And the students' willingness to take musical chances, to sing with

emotional abandon, to truly create dynamic contrasts and meaningful phrases grew in proportion to their ability to let go of the outside world beyond the doors of the music room. Music is all about being in the moment. As performers, we tune out the mundane concerns of our day-to-day lives and immerse ourselves in the method, mood and meaning of our literature. This is the magic of music making that we share with our students. Just another example of how Music Makes Things Happen!!!

An excerpt from an article written by Marc Greene NYSSMA President

Happy

Holidays !!

