

DECEMBER 2024 | ISSUE 4

KEEPING ON BEAT

Official Newsletter of SEMS Music Program Boosters



November 2024 | Golden Eagle Band performs during the second night of Turkey Concerts

GIG JAZZ TO PERFORM AT SAN ELIJO ELEMENTARY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS | Thursday, December 12 | 4:30-5 PM | San Elijo Elementary

Our Music Program's Gig Jazz Band will be performing and providing holiday cheer at an evening of music, art, and lights. Musicians are to arrive at 4 pm and perform from 4:30-5 pm. We hope that you will consider joining us in supporting our musicians at this event and enjoy some festive holiday music.

HOUSE JAZZ TO PERFORM AT CARRILLO ELEMENTARY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS | Friday, December 13 | 6-7 PM | Carrillo Elementary

House Jazz Band will participate in the Carrillo Elementary Festival of Lights. The event will include music, art, spoken word stories, food trucks, hot chocolate, treats, and holiday lights. Musicians are to arrive at 5:30 pm and perform from 6-7 pm.

BAND TURKEY CONCERTS & WINTER CHOIR CONCERT

Thank you very much to all of the families and friends who came out to hear our Music Program bands and choirs perform entertaining and festive tunes and songs. We hope you enjoyed the hard work of our student musicians, student singers and directors. Hopefully you were impressed with their progress in developing as performers! Many thanks, too, for purchasing "pluck-a-tune" turkey feathers at the band concerts (we raised \$2,100!) and snowflakes at the choir show (stay tuned for total \$ raised). Your generosity is what helps keep our fabulous music program going!

DECEMBER

Wednesday 12/11

Poinsettia

Distribution Day

1:25-3:15 PM

5:30-7:30 PM

Thursday 12/12

Gig Jazz Performs

@SEES Festival of

Lights

4:30-5 PM

Friday 12/13

House Jazz Performs

@Carrillo

Elementary Festival

of Lights

6-7 PM

Friday 12/20-

Sunday 1/12

Winter Break

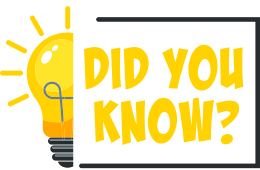




December 2024 | All choirs perform during the Winter Choir Concert (and yes, that's Ms. McInnis in a turkey costume, stage left)

THE POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER | November 4 - December 4

Thank you to everyone who supported our biggest fundraiser of the year! The funds raised will be used to support SEMS Music Program costs, including purchasing music and supplies, acquiring and repairing instruments and equipment, sponsorships, festivals, concerts, and more! These all assist in making our music program such a great experience for our students. We are still tallying everything that came in, but will share more in January.



Did you know the SEMS Music Boosters contribute roughly **\$35,000** to the Music Program each year, largely thanks to you — our financial supporters! Without your financial contributions, our student musicians and singers wouldn't have all of the beautiful and fun pieces of music, useful equipment, and wonderful performance opportunities. We will report our final fundraising amount in the January issue of "Keeping on Beat." **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!**

Some parents ask their student(s) to **send thank you notes** to those who supported them through the purchase of poinsettia plants or flat donations to the SEMS Music Program. If you are one of those parents, please stay tuned for a listing of donors coming to your email inbox sometime the week of December 9.



WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help with poinsettia distribution on Wednesday, December 11. Tasks include: unloading the truck and organizing the plants in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) from 8:30 am-12:00 pm; distributing plants to families at the end of the school day from 1:15-3:30 pm; and distributing plants during the evening pickup time 5:30-7:30 pm. If you'd like to help out, please complete the [SignUpGenius form](#). Thank you!

Visit the SEMS Music Program calendar at semsband.com/calendar

JANUARY

save the dates

Tuesday 1/14
Prelude (Beginning)
Jazz Band Begins

Wednesday 1/15
Booster Meeting
All Are Welcome!
6PM, SEMS PAC

Friday 1/24
8th Grade Band Trip
to Disneyland

Friday 1/31
Advanced Choir Trip
to Disneyland

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Join our fabulous team of volunteers who help make our Music Program so successful! Whether you choose to volunteer one hour each month or one hour this year, we welcome you. There are many ways to help out, big and small.

To join the team, please complete the interest form at: bit.ly/booster-vol



OTHER NOVEMBER PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Gig Jazz Band performs at the City of San Marcos Veterans' Day Ceremony



SEMS 8th grade musicians perform with the San Marcos High School Marching Band at their season finale show

PRELUDE BEGINNING JAZZ BAND

Tuesday and Fridays, Beginning Tuesday, January 14 | 7:10-7:50 AM
| SEMS Band Room

Any beginning musician is invited to come try out Prelude Beginning Jazz Band that starts in January. This is an opportunity to start learning the style of jazz playing and build fundamentals for next year's jazz groups. The first couple rehearsals will be very relaxed and provide students the opportunity to see if they like it. During the third week a roster is created, after which students are expected to come to rehearsals. Prelude Beginning Jazz Band musicians will be invited to participate in the DPS Jazz Festival in March, and will need to be ready for that experience. We look forward to having beginning music students come learn and experience jazz.

OTHER FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

In order to support and sustain such a large music program, the SEMS Music Program participates in different fundraisers throughout the year organized by the Boosters. As a 501(c)(3), all direct donations are tax-deductible. The Music Program accepts donations in person at events, or on our website at semsbandandchoir.square.site/donations.
(Scan the QR code at right for quick access.)



We are also happy to work with any parent or supporter whose company generously provides matching funds for any donations made to non-profits. Please reach out to the Booster personnel listed below or visit semsband.com/fundraising for more information.

HAPPY
Holidays!

STAY CONNECTED



FACEBOOK
[SEMS Music Program](#)



INSTAGRAM
[SEMS Band Official](#)
Mrs. Homes:

@mshomesofmusic
Mrs. McInnis: @mcinnismusic

CONTACT
SEMS Music Boosters at
semsband.com/contact

SEMS MUSIC PROGRAM BOOSTERS

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