

8-15-11

General Music with Ms. Canice

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you had a great summer and are ready for the new school year. My summer was filled with World Drum Class, teaching violin lessons, and visiting family. I'm excited for the school year and hope to do more performing and field trips with the students this year. We are considering different venues and will publish dates as they come available.

Syllabus for 3rd-5th Years

The 3rd-5th years need to sign and return a course description which they will receive the first day of their fine arts class. Please refer to my on-line class page for a schedule. The course description will describe my grading process and what is expected of the students. Behavior, participation, effort, being prepared for class, and group work determine the majority of the grade. A minor percentage of the grade will be based upon performance and skill.

PLEASE PURCHASE A FOLDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO KEEP THEIR MUSIC IN. Folders prevent music from getting lost. This eliminates wasted class time handing out lost music. Folders with pockets in the inside are sufficient.

General Music Wishlist

I am very grateful for all the instruments TMES owns! We started with no instruments six years ago and have slowly bought items over the past several years. Parents have also donated money to purchase instruments. Currently, TMES is in desperate need of more xylophones and tubanos (these are African drums) to complete a class set. It's challenging without a class set because students have to do written work while waiting for their turn on instruments. It often takes three rotations before every student has an opportunity.

The instruments are very expensive but will last for the next 25-30 years. Families are welcome to donate towards these expensive instruments. You may request a specific item you would like to donate towards and this will be noted. Partial or full donations should be made out to TMES and turned into Ms. Canice. Please e-mail me before you send the check so that I am aware that you are making a donation. All the descriptions, item numbers, and amounts are listed on my classroom page on the TMES website.

Recorders 3rd-5th Years Only

3rd-5th years will be learning recorders this year. Third years will start recorders in November and the 4th and 5th years will start right away reviewing pieces they learned last year. **Please have your 4th/5th year bring their recorder to the first day of general music class. PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE A RECORDER FOR YOUR CHILD BECAUSE DIFFERENT BRANDS OF RECORDERS HAVE DIFFERENT TONES/TIMBRES AND DO NOT MIX WELL. THE SCHOOL PURCHASES THE RECORDERS AND THE PARENTS REIMBURSE THE SCHOOL.** 5th years will also learn the Alto Recorder. This is a bigger recorder

that has a deeper sound which can be compared to the viola in terms of the deepness of the sound. The plan is to start learning Alto recorders in January. Again, please wait to purchase the alto recorder. I will let you know via e-mail as we get closer to starting.

Families may order two recorders for their child so they have one for home and one for school. If you would like to do this please e-mail me at claubhan@tmesnm.com. I will send out an e-mail once a purchase order is approved to let you know when they will arrive and what the cost will be. Expect an e-mail within the first month of school.

Community Choral Opportunities

There are three different choral groups available for children in 1st grade and beyond. I have listed information for all three below. These organizations will expand on what your child does in school and provide a positive motivational experience. Singing skills are emphasized for musicians no matter what instrument they play.

All three organizations provide partial and full financial assistance upon request. An audition is required for all three groups. Every TMES student should have no problem with the audition process. Please e-mail or talk with me if you need help with an audition piece.

UNM Children's Chorus: www.unmchildrensing.org

Location & Rehearsal Day: National Hispanic Cultural Center Wednesdays

Cost: \$110

First Rehearsal/Registration/Audition: August 24th 4:30 pm

Albuquerque Boys Choir: www.abqboychoir.com

Albuquerque Girls Choir: www.albuquerquegirlchoir.org

Location & Rehearsal Day: Central United Methodist Church Tuesday

Cost: \$200

Call 450-5021 for an audition

Rio Grande Youth Choir: www.rgychorale.org

Location & Rehearsal Day: Rio Rancho Middle School Saturday Mornings 9:00-10:00

Cost: \$70 registration \$15 uniform fee

Audition Date: August 13th (This organization will accept new members past the audition date)

First Rehearsal: August 20th

I am looking forward to this year and working with your children! Please e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns.

~ Ms. Canice, claubhan@tmesnm.com