

# Festival 2017

Dear Parents,

February 7th

We are approaching an exciting time of the year with festival fast approaching on *March 8<sup>th</sup>*. This letter is to inform students and family's what festival is and why we do it.

Who? – All Middle Bands and Orchestras in IUSD.

What is it? – Both the wind and the string students are given the unique opportunity to perform in front of professional adjudicators from the local area that have been teaching and performing for many years. They are members of the Southern California Band and Orchestra Association.

Where? –University High School Theater

When? – Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2016: Concert Orchestra @ 1:00 pm. Symphonic Orchestra @ 2:30pm

Why? – The golden question. Educators and students benefit from the participation in festival because of many factors, including valuable feedback that is instant, a clinic session from a state approved judge, a direct effect into the classroom environment through rehearsal techniques, improved listening skills and musical approach. There are many different aspects to the festival experience that are tantamount to the growth and development of your child's continued success in music, and being able to receive feedback from 3 state judges is a huge part of that. As a music educator we view it as comparable to state standardized testing as done in other subject areas.

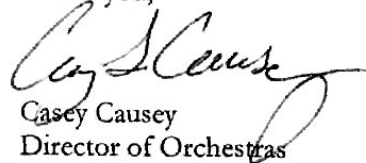
Strings Please Note\* - There will be extended combined rehearsals for all orchestra students

Concert Orchestras: Monday March 6th @ Vista Verde 4pm-5:00pm- 1 hour

Symphonic Orchestras: Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup> @ Plaza Vista 4pm-5:00pm- 1 hour

We have reserved the MPRs at Plaza Vista & Vista Verde for our special combined rehearsal. We are doing this because we are going to be performing our pieces at festival this year as one group with both Plaza Vista and Vista Verde Symphonic Orchestras combined. In order to make these rehearsals and year's festival a success we are asking that everyone in symphonic orchestra please attend this extra rehearsal. Parents are welcome to stay, however please arrive by rehearsal end time for pick-up.

Thank you,



Casey Causey  
Director of Orchestras  
Plaza Vista / Vista Verde Schools