



## Music Rises

In response to the devastating hurricanes that hit our communities in September, our natural disaster relief fund, Music Rising, is newly activated, and scores of donors are coming forward to help school music programs that lost so much.

Our good friends at Yamaha and D'Addario are donating keyboards, guitars, headphones, recorders, ukuleles, drum heads, strings and more. Plus many are holding fundraising concerts and events to help in the effort. Students, teachers and parents that endured the storms know of your generosity and heart. They thank you.

*"There have been many tears shed over the past month as a result of Harvey, but none more welcome and beautiful than those each time I read an email from Music Rising helping our students get music instruments back in their lives after Harvey's devastation. Now, more than ever, they need their instruments and Music Rising has made that possible for over 50 of our students. On behalf of the Pasadena Independent School District, our amazing band and orchestra directors and our precious students, please let me express our unspeakable gratitude for the generosity of Music Rising."* - Linda Fletcher, Director of Fine Arts, Pasadena ISD TX



*"Having quality instruments available to students has a great impact on recruiting and retaining students in the program. When a child has to learn how to play an instrument on one that is patched together and doesn't work properly, it is a frustrating endeavor that often results in the student becoming dejected and quitting the program. However, your generosity goes a long way in changing that reality for many students."* - Mr. Shannon Feloss, band director, Stockbridge MS, Stockbridge GA



New flutes for the ladies of the band of Covina-Valley Unified, Covina CA.

*"It seems trivial to only send a thank you with a few pictures when the impact of this grant is so tremendous to our students and their families. You have helped create a musical legacy for them which I am sure will endure through generations."* Sharon Cathey, Covina-Valley Unified, music teacher



Student waiting to unwrap his new trombone at Greene County MS in Snow Hill NC.

# GRATITUDE

## Team MHOFF



We love our work, and we know that it can't happen without you. You give so much beyond instruments and services – you give confidence, social connection, joy, achievement, pride, inspiration, and much more. On behalf of all the students who receive these gifts, Tricia, Anne, Felice, Natalia and Matt, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



All smiles at Foshay Learning Center in Los Angeles.



Lots of brass for Elk Valley High in Longton KS.



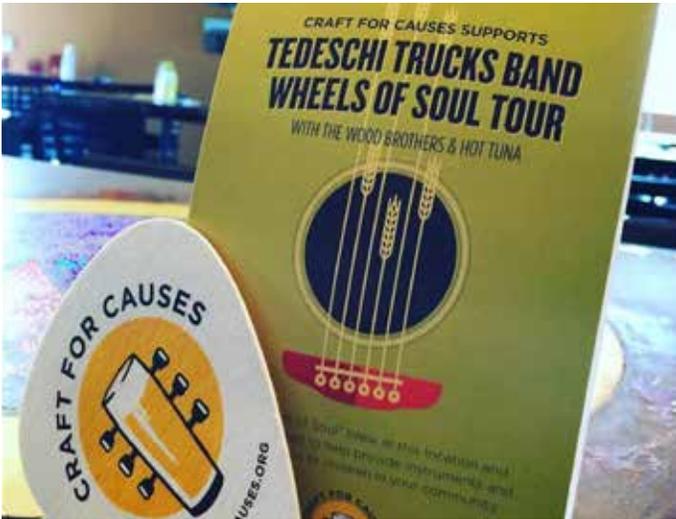
Students on the field and in the classroom at Jonesboro High.



*“Music has been quite the gateway for many years; having started within my first year of middle school, sixth grade, I began my journey through the art. Having achieved county honor band twice and participating within many musical performances with my bandmates, I’ve both learned and experienced the dedication and rigorous repetition to achieve the level of understanding that I’m at. With now being gifted so many new instruments from your program, I feel like the students of Jonesboro High School and me are able to push our understanding and knowledge to further our lives of potential musicians to levels of which we have never experienced before.*

*This honor can never be gratefully expressed enough. So thank you so much for granting my school the tools to heighten our talents and bringing new sound to our music program.” - Daisy B., music student, Jonesboro High School, Clayton County GA*

# MUSIC MAKERS GIVE BACK



Cheers to Tedeschi Trucks Band Wheels of Soul Tour – and John Nichols with Craft for Causes! Craft breweries across the country created a special brew for this spirited summer tour, with proceeds from sales benefiting music education. Thank you!



CMA (Country Music Association) Foundation is committed to keeping music alive for all kids, and country artists sing their praises. Our own Tricia Steel (3rd from right) found time to thank super-group, Little Big Town, in Nashville for CMA's Music Teachers of Excellence event last spring. CMA's Tiffany Kerns (3rd from left) produced a stellar event.

“My son, Sean, who was a professional musician, passed away in August 2014. He was always donating his instruments to deserving people and, in his honor and memory, we are doing the same with Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation.”

IN MEMORY OF SEAN AARON OKIN

## Stars For A Day

Little did they know that when we introduced Tawnya Garcia's jazz band at Ron Russell Middle School in Portland OR to indie rock band Portugal. The Man, these students would soon be recording a new version of the band's platinum, #1 hit single, “Feel It Still,” to help champion the cause of music education. The group was so impressed with the kids, they invited them into the studio for this amazing opportunity. Now in contention for a Grammy nomination, this infectious song is forever a part of the story of a day in the life of these kids. We hope PTM wins their Grammy, and that these kids have a lifelong memory.



Student musicians from Ron Russell MS with Portugal. The Man. From left, John Gourley, Kyle O'Quin, Zachary Scott Carothers.



“We grew up in Alaska where music was not an option in school or life really. It is great to see Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation give these kids a chance we did not have. Not everyone is a mathematician or a scientist, some of us think a little different and this program encourages that.”  
Zach Carothers, Portugal. The Man.

# PLAYING IT FORWARD

## Results Are In

Hundreds of instruments donated through our instrument drive with KUSC Public Radio gave students in 19 schools across Southern California something to smile about. Pio Pico Elementary (top), Pacoima Middle School (bottom) were two of the schools that benefited. Tons of thanks to the Meyer Levy Foundation who provided a matching grant to cover the cost of instrument cleaning and repairs, and to all the wonderful people who stepped up to meet the match.



Josh Workman and Joshua Wade (with Darla) part with their guitars so more kids can play.



*"Our students are so excited! This grant will have a tremendous impact on our students and our music program. We are in the process of rebuilding our music program and many of our instruments are badly in need of replacement or repair. This grant will allow more students to participate in our program and enrich their lives with the gift of music. Thank you!!" - Alex Ramirez, music teacher, Pacoima Middle School, Pacoima CA*



You can send this charming holiday card to your friends and colleagues in lieu of gifts or fruitcake. To see the message inside and to order, visit our website or call us.

KEEP MUSIC ALIVE IN OUR SCHOOLS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON – PLEASE MAKE A DONATION TODAY. THANK YOU!

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