School music is alive across the country, with new instruments being delivered in force. Students and teachers have shown their resilience and are ready to play!

“Thanks to The Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation, we have more than enough instruments for all our students interested in band so they don’t have to consider finances when participating in our class. Without the support, many of our students would be unable to afford the rental fee - especially in these unprecedented financial times. Thank you for believing in our school and our students.”

RACHEL THOMPSON, BAND DIRECTOR
Discovery Intermediate, Kissimmee FL

“We all know the healing power of music, and the pandemic has illustrated the importance to keep music education alive for all.”

MARSHALL JONES, BAND TEACHER
Smith River School, Smith River CA

Beginning violinist tests out her new instrument at Longfellow Elementary in Houston TX.

Huntington Park HS marching band of Huntington Park CA at their first football game of the season. MHOF donated their instruments in 2018.

Students at Gregory-Lincoln Education Center Performing and Visual Arts Houston TX learning new safety protocols and how to care for their instruments.

Pacoima Middle School orchestra in Pacoima CA going strong since their instrument donation in 2017.
THE VOLUNTEER STATE GETS MEDSS!

*Music (and Arts) Education District Support Services*

**STATE OF THE ARTS**

Every school district in the great state of Tennessee will soon have all the data they need to take action for all students to have full access to music and arts education. Through a groundbreaking initiative called State of the Arts, all 147 public school districts will receive a detailed analysis of what is happening on every school campus, and where improvements can be made to address inequities and gaps in instruction that affect students. Project partners, Country Music Association Foundation, The Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation, and the Tennessee Department of Education, hope to deliver on the promise: quality arts education available to all children in public schools.

TEACHER TIME

It’s rare when band and orchestra teachers from different public schools gather to learn and not to teach. When 58 teachers did just that in October at the Houston Independent School District Learning Center, they learned tips and skills to make classroom repairs to the instruments their students use day after day. Taught by Eastman Music Company’s excellent tech staff, not only will teachers hone their repair chops, but MHOF is donating a custom repair kit they can take back to their classrooms.

PARTNER ON THE BAY

What a perfect instrument to start learning music on - the ukulele! That’s why we donated 500 of them to 4th and 5th-grade beginning music students in San Francisco Unified schools. With assistance from Guitars in the Classroom, their volunteers tuned and prepared each instrument so they were ready to go when kids opened the cases for the first time. Program Director Tricia Williams presented to the SF Board of Education recently, encouraging them to hire new music teachers and adjust schedules to give more kids access to music education. MHOF is thrilled to be part of major impact in the Bay Area!

*“This is exciting and it is possible because of you and your generosity, not just in funds/instruments, but in taking the time to build partnerships, connect people, and listen to our needs/challenges. Thank you so much!”*

RON MACHADO, SUPERVISOR, PERFORMING ARTS, San Francisco Unified School District

*“Music will always be essential to me. It all started in elementary school. I had a great music teacher. That’s the age we’re the biggest sponges of information. It’s important that music is part of that information.”*

RAZZ SUTTON, MHOF Donor
FATHERS AND SONS

Dweezil Zappa and Wolfgang Van Halen have more in common than famous rock icon fathers. They also both care about music education and kids being able to play music in school. Proceeds from Wolfgang’s recording of “Distance” and Dweezil’s podcast, “Runnin’ With The Dweezil” give more kids a chance to learn music, and maybe one day, have their own moment of glory playing music.

WELL PLAYED!

One of the most coveted drum kits played by the legendary drummer, Alex Van Halen, was auctioned off over the summer. His custom designed Ludwig drum kit, stage played on over 100 shows of Van Halen’s 1980 “Invasion Tour”, will make history once again as the first and only drum kit of the rock icon ever to come to auction. “This kit from the 1980 Van Halen Invasion World Tour spent 5 years on display at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland,” said Alex Van Halen. “It’s the only one like it in the world and I’m happy that 100% of the selling price will be going to charity.”

TTB BACK AT IT

For Tedeschi Trucks Band fans, their annual concert at Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Colorado is a pilgrimage—not to be missed. For the last several years, the band, along with AEG Rocky Mountains has donated a portion of their ticket sales to support music education, allowing MHOF to reach even more kids. Through thick and thin, TTB is there, and we’re forever grateful.

MUST SEE TV

Twice in the same week, MHOF awarded teachers made hearts swell as their fine work was showcased on two popular TV shows. America’s Got Talent host Terry Crews visited Gompers Middle School in Los Angeles, surprising students and honoring their teacher with enough new instruments to start a string program at the school. Auditorium curtains opened for the first time since the pandemic started, revealing the impressive display. And…music teacher Erick Quintanilla thanked MHOF for donating over 100 instruments to his music program at LA’s Hollenbeck Middle School on The Kelly Clarkson Show. Watch both heartwarming segments here: linktr.ee/mhopus
A cash contribution today will change a life forever.
Please give the gift of music by donating online or using the enclosed envelope.
On behalf of so many, thank you SO much!

4370 Tujunga Avenue, Suite 110, Studio City, CA 91604
818.762.4328 • support@mhopus.org • www.mhopus.org

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