

THE CLEF NOTE NEWS

SIMI VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC PIONEERS



Mr. Derek Castellano

Hello all,

We're into the full swing of Spring, and the boosters are continuing their efforts! While we continue to support what's going on in the Spring classes, we are already preparing and gearing up for next year!

This month, the boosters launched another fund raising campaign, and there are multiple opportunities being made available in the months of April and May. And, we're already preparing for events in the summer, as we help the IMC run an ASB student Car Wash prior to the beginning of next school year. Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 22nd! To get more details about all of the fundraising going on, check out the article in this month's newsletter. Wherever possible, we should all be taking advantage of these fundraisers, so we can help offset the class fees. I encourage everyone to participate, and think ahead to funding next year's fees – we maintain the student accounts from year to year.

April is election month for the boosters, and this year, we once again held nominations and elections for the 2009-2010 booster board. Check out the new board members at the end of this newsletter. Thanks to all of them for volunteering their time and talents, and I look forward to working with them, starting immediately, as we transition responsibility. Please join me in congratulating them, and helping them out in their efforts!

Once again, don't forget that all groups will be performing at the end of the year in the annual Spring concerts, so mark your calendars for the Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, and Orchestra concert on May 22nd, as well as the Jazz Night on May 29th. Also, the Instrumental Music Department Awards Banquet is June 3rd. Visit the booster website for event dates and times in the calendar link: <http://www.svhsmusicboosters.org/calendar.htm>

Best Regards,

Derek Castellano

Our Instrumental Music Director Mr. Daniel Sternberg



“The new Music Library is fantastic. The music students and boosters have contributed so much of themselves this year. It's great!”

Thursday, April 23 – Sunday, April 26

Reno International Jazz Festival @ University of Nevada , Reno – Big Band and Latin Jazz Only

Saturday, May 2

Moorpark High School Jazz Festival – Big Band and Latin Band

Saturday, May 9

Westlake High School Jazz Festival – Big Band and Latin Band

Friday, May 22

Annual Spring Concert - Concert Band, String Orchestra & Wind Ensemble

Friday, May 29

Jazz Night @ SVHS MPR – Big Band and Latin Band

Monday, June 8th at 7:00pm

Parent Meeting for incoming music students

Save the Date !!

Wednesday, June 3

Music Department Banquet - All Groups





Music Fees-2008/2009

As you all know the music fees for your child's class(es) are now due.

It is with these fees that the music department at Simi High is able to be all that it is. The district provides very little funding and without the support of every family we would be unable to have such a wonderful program. I hope that you will all take advantage of the latest fund-raising opportunity that we have been offered. Thank you to all the families that have kept their commitment or have made payment arrangements to pay their child's music fees. If you have any questions, please email me at dmlopes@pacbell.net.

Thank you.

*Lisa Lopes
Membership*



Fundraising

Car Wash ... On Saturday, May 16th we will have another car wash at the front of the school from 9:00AM – 2:00PM. Students will have an opportunity to sell pre-sale tickets for the car wash (the price of the car wash is \$5.00). Each student will receive 8 tickets for a total of \$40 in pre-sale tickets (more tickets can be obtained from me by e-mailing me at miss_kristen@earthlink.net). All pre-sale tickets will go directly into their student account. This is another great way to cover unpaid fees or to save for next year. All sales which come “off the street” will go into the general fund. During the summer we had a very successful car wash, which not only benefited those who sold pre-sale tickets, but also the general fund. As you know, a successful car wash takes volunteers from the parents, as well as, the students. I am organizing assigned shifts for both parents and students on the day of the car wash, so not one person or group of people is over-worked. Please e-mail me at miss_kristen@earthlink.net with the time that you and your student would be willing to work.

Choice#1: 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Choice#2: 12:00PM – 3:00PM

Choice#3: Can work either shift

... and Bake Sale: In conjunction with the car wash, we will have a bake sale. Please bring a dozen baked goods (cookies, brownies, etc.) on the day of the carwash.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!



Fundraising

Student Sponsorship Drive: The drive began on April 9th, and on April 20th the students received a packet containing an introduction letter about the fundraiser and two sponsorship letters (which can be reproduced) to be sent to family and friends. 100% of the money collected will go directly into the student accounts, and can be used to pay any remaining fees, or be saved for next years' fees. No money will be placed into the general fund. The fundraiser will run through May 22nd.

Restaurant Night ... On Tuesday, May 12th we will have another dinner fundraiser at **Toppers Pizza** from 5:00PM – 9:00PM. See the attached flyer in this newsletter for details. Print it out and give it to friends and neighbors, so they can come and support the music program! Don't forget to save one for yourself—we'll see you there!

Bake Sale and Raffle at Concerts: I need your help for this event! As always, we ask that each family please provide a dozen baked goods to be sold during the concert (Friday, May 22, at 7PM in the MPR), but in addition, I need a few people to help run the bake sale and raffle. Neither Derek, nor I will be at the event. **Please email or call me and let me know if you can help!**

Kristen Castellano
(805) 522-1346



Winterguard



The Simi Valley High School Winterguard attended the Winterguard Association of Southern California (WGASC) Championships Saturday, April 18, in San Juan Capistrano, Ca. They performed their 4 minute show titled "Quien Sera" to The Pussycat Dolls' 'Sway'. After a season of practices and performances, the guard walked on the floor nervous about the outcome. After pulling it together as a team, having a drop-less show, and showing all the right feelings and emotions of the show, they came off the floor being proud and having a strong sense of confidence. Their awesome performance scored them a 76.4 and made them the Silver Medalists of the 2009 Regional A Purple Division. Members of the Winterguard include Sydney Rogers, Nicole St. Pierre, Diana Munoz, Tyler Hayden, Chelsea Simpson, Megan Meraz, Angie Puebla, Cynthia Guerrero, and Breanna Brandeis. Colorguard Instructor is Becky Fleishman and Assistant is Breeann Johnson.

I want to take this moment to tell all of the members how very proud of them I am. They pushed through the season and was able to take home more than just a medal, confidence. I was able to watch each of them grow, from saying 'I can't' and 'You want me to do what?' or 'They aren't trying, why should I?' to 'We can do it!' It has been an absolute pleasure working with each of you! Bree -- you are my rock and couldn't get through the season without you! And my Simi High Parents -- you are absolutely amazing and I appreciate all the hard work you too have put into making this a great season.

- Becky Danahy, Color Guard Coach



Student News ...



SCSBOA Solo Festival – La Canada

Carl Welliver and **Nick Castellano** participated in, and received Superior ratings at the SCSBOA sponsored Solo and Chamber Group Festival held at La Canada High School on Saturday, April 18. In addition, the two were part of a Horn Quartet which performed at the festival, and received a "Command Performance" rating from the adjudicator – the highest rating offered. Carl and Nick will be participating at the Regional level later this year.

IMC Leaves Their Mark

The 2008-2009 Instrumental Music Council has left their mark on the Simi High Music Building. After receiving permission from the school, the student members of the council spent a number of very long days painting the 15 foot high music logo, which can be read easily from Stow St., and clearly identifies the entrance to the music building. In addition, the council has been spending countless hours straightening up the music library, under the direction of student, **Anna Schuster**. Come by and check it out!!

More News



Music in the Community

Joe Marquez, Nick and **Derek Castellano** were featured musicians at a recent Adult Choir Festival sponsored by the National Association of Church Musicians. Joe "wowed" the audience and festival participants with his gifted skills at the piano playing pieces by Rachmaninoff and Khatchaturian, and Nick and Derek played a wonderful french horn duet by Telemann. Attendees were thrilled to have our young musicians participating and sharing their talents.

Alumni News

Lacey Sherman (SVHS music student class of '08) is an active member of the Marching Bulldogs at Fresno State University. She loved marching and playing mellophone in the 270 member band . This semester, she's playing French Horn in the university's Concert Band.



Liz Johnson (SVHS music student class of '08) continues her talents on the violin with the Moorpark Orchestra.

The Drossel family recently visited **Erich Drossel** (SVHS Drum Major class of '07) at UC Davis during the university's Open House "Picnic Day" Erich is an active member in their marching band, which started the day leading the parade through the university and downtown of Davis. The afternoon and into the evening, the Davis "Cal Aggie Marching Band-UH!" featured a "battle of the bands" with bands from Humbolt State U., Stanford U., UC Berkley, UC Davis, UC Irvine, and UC San Diego. Last year, the Drossels met up with **Ben Smith** (SVHS music student class '04) who was playing with the UC Berkley band. Maybe next year they'll see **Michael Peddycoart** playing with the Stanford University band?!?!?!?!?



Thanks to Derek Castellano and Ruth Drossel for these submissions!



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Booster Contacts

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BOOSTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pizza Night!

Family Fundraiser

Benefitting

Simi Valley High School Instrumental Music

Where: Toppers Pizza Place
2408 Erringer Rd.
Simi Valley, CA
385•4444 or 495•4444



When: Tuesday, May 12, 2009
5:00pm to 9:00pm

What: Toppers Pizza will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group!

How to Help: Just follow these steps to help raise funds!

- 1) Bring the whole family to Toppers during the above time period for a great pizza!
- 2) Show this flyer to the cashier **when you place your order** (or tell operator for phone orders).
- 3) No coupons or other discounts will be honored in conjunction with this fund raiser.
- 4) No flyers may be handed out in or around the restaurant during the event.



Proud to be part of the community!