

Carson City Schools

Presents



11th Annual CHOIRPALOOZA

Thursday March 15th, 2024 7:00 PM
Carson High School, Morse Burley Gymnasium

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Program:

Elementary School Choirs

Mister Moon-Traditional Round, Adapted by Dom Van Orman

Directed by: Ashley Cosens—Freemont Elementary School

Dream Keeper – Rollo A. Dilworth Text from “The Dream Keeper” by Langston Hughes

Piano Accompaniment- Sue Kinney Conga Drum- Jon Brill Acoustic Bass- Jaden Mira Caraway

Directed by: Dominick Van Orman—Seeliger Elementary School

Hi Ho The Rattlin’ Bog-Irish Folk Song, Arranged by Linda Spevacek-Avery

Directed by: Cassidy Robinson— Empire Elementary School

Middle School Choirs

Piano Accompaniment: Sue Kinney

Tongo, Polynesian Song Arranged by Greg Gilpin

Directed By: Briana Valley – Carson Middle School

The Wellerman, New Zealand Folksong Arranged by Jacob Narverud

Directed By: Jon Brill – Eagle Valley Middle School

High School Choirs

Directed By: Andy Sonnemaker

Concert Choir

If Music Be the Food of Love by David Dickau

Combined Women

Warrior by Kim Baryluk

Chamber Choir

Auction Cries by John Biggs

Combined Middle School/High School Musical Theatre

The Rhythm of Life from Sweet Charity words by Dorothy Fields

music by Cy Coleman, Arranged by Roger Emerson

High School Advanced/Intermediate Musical Theatre

Directed By: Andy Sonnemaker and Darby Beckwith

The Time Warp from The Rocky Horror Picture Show

words and music by Richard O'Brien, Arranged by Andy Beck

Combined School Choirs

Turn the World Around Harry Belafonte and Robert Freeman, Arranged by Mark Hayes

Piano: Sue Kinney, Drums: Jon Brill

Directed By: Andy Sonnemaker – Carson High School

Please be courteous by turning off all electronic devices so that they will not disrupt the performance. Please show respect for the performers by not talking whistling or yelling during or after each group performs.

Meet the Directors:

Alan Catron – Bordewich-Bray Elementary School

Alan Catron is the Music Specialist at Bordewich-Bray Elementary School, where he was Educator of the Year in 2014. He received his Bachelor of Music from the University of Nevada-Reno and his Master's degree from Lesley University. This is Mr. Catron's 20th year in the Carson City School District. Prior to this position he taught Elementary through Secondary bands in Idaho for 15 years. Mr. Catron is the Music Director for Wild Horse Children's Theater and is an active trumpet player and singer in the community, performing in groups such as The Carson City Symphony, the Capital City Community Band, and the Carson Chamber Singers.

Dominick Van Orman—Seeliger Elementary School

Dominick Van Orman is the Elementary Music Specialist at Seeliger Elementary School. He graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a Bachelor's of Music in Music Education in 2017 and from Colorado State University, Fort Collins with a Master's in Music Education with Kodály certification in December 2023. Along with his Kodály certification, Dominick has also completed Level I of Orff-Schulwerk. He is the treasurer/secretary for the Sierra Nevada Association of Kodály Educators and is on the communications committee with the national Organization of American Kodály Educators. Dominick also plays in local jazz bands; he is 2nd trombone and soloist for the Mile High Jazz Band and often plays with Rosebud's Dance Band. He is in his 6th year of teaching at Seeliger and is happy to call it his home!

Nicole Whitsett—Fritsch Elementary School

Nicole Whitsett is the Music Teacher at Fritsch Elementary School. She received her Bachelor's of Music in Music Education at Duquesne University, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 2017, and her Masters of Education in Educational Administration at Grand Canyon University in 2020. Upon completing her undergrad, she moved to Carson City to begin her career at Fritsch, where she has been teaching for the past seven years. In 2023, Mrs. Whitsett was awarded the Teacher of the Year at Fritsch Elementary School. She is proud of her students and excited for them to experience Choirpalooza and Band-o-Rama!

Ashley Cosens—Fremont Elementary School

Ashley Cosens is the music specialist at Fremont Elementary School where she teaches K-5 general music, choir, and band. Mrs. Cosens has taught elementary music for 15 years in the northern Nevada area, both in the Carson City School District and Washoe County School District. She holds a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Music Education from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Cosens has lived in Nevada for almost as long as her home state of Ohio ("*Go Buckeyes!*") and she loves to sing, play piano and spend time with her husband and almost 2-year-old son.

Cassidy Robinson– Empire Elementary School

Cassidy Robinson is thrilled to be doing her second ever Choirpalooza! She is a graduate of UNR that now teaches at Empire Elementary School, where she went as a student many years ago. Cassidy relies heavily on the Orff-Schulwerk in her classroom. She is also passionate about playing trumpet and recorder, student and teacher leadership, and all things food-related. Most importantly, she is beyond proud of her nephew, who is singing tonight in his second Choirpalooza! Shout-out to Mama, who is here tonight!

Christina Bourne -- Mark Twain Elementary School

Christina Bourne, Music Educator at Mark Twain Elementary School was born and raised in Carson City, NV. She graduated with honors from Carson High School in 1997. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Nevada in 2001, obtained her Masters in Music Education in 2007, and has her National Board Certification. Christina has been teaching general music, band, and choir for the Carson City School District for 20 years. She was a Finalist for the Nevada State Teacher of the Year in 2021, was Carson City School District Teacher of the Year for 2009, and Mark Twain's teacher of the year for 2017. Christina enjoys volunteering her time for various community organizations, spending time with her family, and singing professionally in her free time.

Briana Valley – Carson Middle

Miss. Briana Valley grew up in Carson City participating in local Theatre programs at the Brewery Arts Center and Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company. She moved to Reno to obtain her Bachelor of Music Education from UNR. While at UNR, she enjoyed being a part of the University of Nevada Chamber Choir and other music ensembles. While in Nevada Chamber Singers, she was excited to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City, New York, and at the National MENC convention in Milwaukee. She graduated with her Masters in Music Education through Kent State University in 2022. Miss. Valley is happy to be back at Carson Middle School (her own middle school) teaching musical theatre and choir. While back in Carson She has been working as the Musical Director for Youth Theatre Carson City, where they have provided high level youth theatre performances for over 10 years. At YTCC, she has been involved in the production of shows such as "Annie Jr.", "Cinderella", "Shrek the Musical" and "The Little Mermaid Jr". Miss. Valley also started performing again with local performing arts groups such as the Western Nevada Musical Theater Company associated with the Western Nevada College. She was last seen performing in their musical revue "Home Again", "Mamma Mia" and "Mary Poppins." She has also performed in shows like "Les Miserable" and "The Pajama Game".

Jon Brill – Eagle Valley Middle School

Jon Brill, has been a central figure in the Music department at Eagle Valley Middle School since August 2001. A Reno Nevada native, he earned his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of Nevada – Reno in 1999 and a Master's Degree in Music Composition 2017. Mr. Brill has composed a variety of works for Band, Orchestra, Choir, Percussion Ensembles, and for an assortment of smaller chamber groups. Several of his compositions are currently published through GPG music publications. His composition "In the Dark Shadows of the Moon," was featured at the 2016 new music reading session at the prestigious Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago Illinois. As a percussionist, Mr. Brill frequently performs with the Reno Wind Symphony. He is also the drummer for the band "Drinking with Clowns." Mr. Brill holds membership in ASCAP, Percussive Arts Society, the National Association for Music Education, Phi Mu Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, and the Golden Key Honour society. In his free time, he enjoys the outdoors, loves to run, hike, is an avid San Francisco Giants Baseball fan, and enjoys playing fetch with his two amazing black labs, Thor and Roscoe.

Andy Sonnemaker -- Carson High School

Andy Sonnemaker holds a BA in Music from Earlham College and an MM in Choral Conducting from the University of Oklahoma. As a music educator, he has taught at elementary, middle school, high school and university levels in Indiana, Oklahoma, and Nevada. Currently, he teaches Choir I, Choir II, Chamber Choir, Concert Choir, Musical Theatre, and Music Appreciation at Carson High School. This year Mr. Sonnemaker is enjoying being able to have participate once again in live concerts, festivals, honor choirs, and travel as unmasked performers! Andy also conducts the Chancel Choir and is Music Director at Reno First United Methodist Church.

Darby Beckwith—Carson High School

Darby Beckwith is a native Nevadan who holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from Ohio Northern University. She is so excited to be back in Carson City and working as the Theatre Arts teacher at Carson High School, sharing her passion for the arts with the next generation. This spring, she was awarded Theatre of Educator of the Year by the Nevada Thespians organization. When she is not teaching, she still enjoys performing with local theatre companies; you can see her as stepsister Gabrielle in Cinderella with WNMTC in May!

Sue Kinney—Piano Accompanist

Sue started accompanying the choirs at Carson High School shortly after moving to Nevada from the Chicago suburbs 14 years ago. She accompanies various choirs in northern Nevada, including the Northern Nevada Honor Choir. She was the most recent conductor of the Tahoe Community Choir, which unfortunately disbanded during the pandemic. She is also the organist at St. John's in the Wilderness Episcopal Church in Glenbrook, NV. Sue's other passion is musical theater. She is the principal keyboard player for the Western Nevada Musical Theater Company and has played in and music directed many productions in the area, most recently "The Spitfire Grill" for Black Ice Theater Co in South Lake Tahoe.

Carson City School Board

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Lupe Ramirez — Vice President
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Tasha Fuson, Assoc. Superintendent of Educational Services
Dan Sadler, Assoc. Superintendent of Human Resources

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Josh Billings, Vice Principal CTE
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Mary Anne Weaver, Dean of Students

Carson Middle School

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Jeremy Lewis, Vice Principal
Tad Williams, Dean of Students
Shannon Pautler, TOSA Dean of Students

Eagle Valley Middle School

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Geg Thedford, Vice Principal
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Bordewich Bray

Cheryl Richetta, Principal
Dr. Carolyn Cook, Vice Principal

Empire Elementary School

Shelby Tuttle, Principal
Nathan Bringham, Vice Principal

Fremont Elementary School

Dr. Jennifer Ward DeJoseph, Principal
Jeff Hurzel, Vice Principal

Fritsch Elementary School

Daniel Brown, Principal
Gina Hoppe, Vice Principal

Mark Twain Elementary School

Chelise Crookshanks, Principal
Mark Rodina, Vice Principal

Seeliger Elementary School

Paula Zona, Principal
Kari Pryor, Vice Principal

Concert Etiquette

What Is Good Concert Etiquette?

It is the behavior that is considered appropriate and polite, while enjoying or performing a live musical performance. Good concert etiquette shows respect for the conductor, performers, other audience members, and the music that is being performed.

What Should I Do As An Audience Member?

- 1.** Sit quietly and wait for the concert to begin. You may talk softly while you are waiting. Do not talk or make noises during the performance. It can be very distracting to the performers.
- 2.** Applaud after each full piece of music has been completed.
- 3.** Sit quietly during the performance. When a performing organization presents a concert, they are putting forth their best effort; and they should expect the same from those in the audience.
- 4.** Keep concert programs quiet during the performance.
- 5.** If you must get up to leave during a concert, do so only at the end of a group's performance or between pieces. It is best if you stay for the entire concert.
- 6.** Cell phones should be turned off or to mute. Using electronic devices for texting or playing games during the performance is impolite to the performers and those around you.
- 7.** Please use discretion in taking photos. Flash photos during a performance are extremely distracting for all.
- 8.** Parents should keep small children seated with them and not allow them to move around during the concert. If very young children become restless and disrupt others' ability to listen, please take them from the performance area until they are quiet.
- 9.** Be polite even if it is not your child performing.



Support music education in your community and nation

Get Knowledgeable! – The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The Every Student Succeeds Act offers many opportunities to support a sequential, comprehensive music education in our nation's schools through:

- Title I, Part A – Provides funds to school districts to help disadvantaged children achieve proficiency on challenging academic standards and improve the performance of low-achieving schools.
- Title II, Part A – Focuses on improving student academic achievement by bolstering skills and expertise of teachers, principals, and other educators and increasing the number of high-quality teachers and principals in schools.
- Title IV, Part A – Provides funds to support a well-rounded education (including music), safe and healthy students, and the use of technology in the classroom.

Visit bit.ly/NAfME-ESSA for more information.

Take Action! – Advocate for Your School's Music Program

Become an advocate at the state and local level through the Civic Action Field Guide: bit.ly/NAfMECivicActionFieldGuide

- Know an administrator or lawmaker? Invite school board members, county/district supervisors, state and national lawmakers to a school music performance.
- Increase involvement in school music programs by sponsoring school music clubs or talent shows to generate interest and enthusiasm among students not currently enrolled in music classes.
- Work with teachers and administrators to get involved in Title IV, Part A planning for your school district. These funds can support a well-rounded education, including music.

To learn about how you can advocate for Title IV, Part A funds to be used in your school's music program:

Visit bit.ly/TitleIVAtoolkitFAQ for Title IV, Part A Toolkit for ideas.

Visit bit.ly/AdvocacyResourcesNAfME for other advocacy resources.