

THE VAULT



The official newsletter of
MSOE 2022

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MADDY CORT AND PAUL BEYER DIRECT STUDENTS ON WHERE TO GO FOR THEIR FIRST REHEARSAL

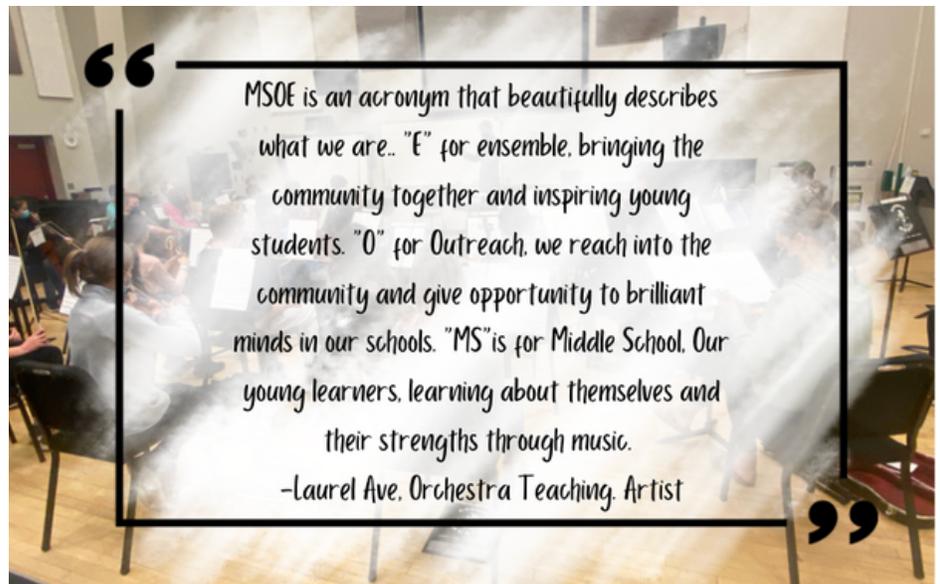
WHAT DOES 'MUSIC LIVES' MEAN?

JACK ROBITAILE, RAM BAND TEACHING ARTIST

Music Lives, the social justice theme for this year's MSOE, has a fun double meaning. Simultaneously it implies that, following the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting lockdowns, music is alive and well once more. It also implies a meaning involving our own musical lives that exist and thrive. They work in tandem as music lives through our music lives: from the doctorate holders to the middle school students and their parents providing transportation, music plays a major role in all of our lives. Through programs like MSOE returning to in-person formats and providing the opportunity for students from all over Northern Colorado to learn from college students and vice versa, it is safe to say that music is alive and well in our lives.



Personally, I was so nervous going into the first meeting of MSOE last week because I was unsure how it would work for my first time in front of live, in-person students. But it went even better than I could have ever imagined: the students, given a bit of enthusiasm, were energetic and excited; the ensembles sound great so far; and I am so excited for the future of MSOE this year! My musical life is growing and changing through this experience just as I am hoping for it to change and grow my students' musical lives. Music lives through each and every one of us, when we sing along to our favorite Taylor Swift song and when we gather together to make beautiful music in person after 2 years of not being able to. A colleague mentioned after that first night that it was so exciting knowing that, following 2020's unfortunate ending of MSOE, students left the UCA and would be back next week. There is a magic to the collaborative nature of music, and we as students, teachers, and musicians are so excited for MSOE to be back! GO MSOE!!



MSOE Orchestra



Orchestra Conductor Sam Anderson asks students to show him when they are ready through various engaging ways-- this time through students putting a hand on their head! What an engaging and visual way to see when students are prepared.



The MSOE Orchestra cello section shows what they are able to play on the first night of MSOE. Seeing what our students are capable of at the beginning of the program gives us a great idea of the amazing things they can accomplish by the concert in April!

MSOE Bands



Ram Band Conductor Derek Summers guides students through a lead sheet, which helps students get to know some fundamentals about the pieces they will be playing for the concert.



Teaching Artists often play alongside students in rehearsals, both to enable teachers to scaffold with the students around them, and to support the students in playing their parts.

MUSIC LIVES IN ALL OF US

SAMUEL GRAY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Dear MSOE, 2022 community, staff, and supporters,

Greetings and Salutations! After our first week of rehearsals and getting started, I was immensely proud of our MSOE staff who put together a great first night of rehearsals and activities. Once more, I am proud of our excellent MSOE students who are the first MSOE students to gather in-person and make music together in nearly two years. That is right! Making music together – in-person!



Being a musician during the pandemic has had its challenges. From the various online ways, we used to connect. I am sure that every musician was in some way impacted throughout the range of skill levels abilities and connections we all have. In a weird way it is extremely gratifying knowing that so many of us have experienced these past two years of trepidation, anxiety, frustration, and loneliness. I think it is a great time to reflect on what connects us as we all start in-person MSOE activities. What is most interesting is how the energy from some of these emotions can drive us toward a recommitment. A recommitment to our civil ideals, or better yet to each other, or best yet to our wonderful MSOE students. I think I can speak for most of our MSOE staff by saying that the people that most influence our optimism is our students.

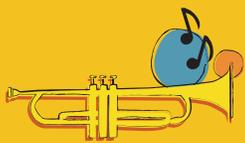
Seeing the excitement or nervousness of the first night of MSOE was like lighting a fire inside our whole staff. I certainly felt the most tired, yet complete as a person after our first night of MSOE. In some ways it was a relief. We are inching back to a life we once all had. Albeit slowly and painfully. In other words – *Music Lives*. The proof of our theme of Music Lives was evident all around in our first night. Music living is in our committed MSOE students who love their instrument so much, they wish to share their enthusiasm with those around them. Even if they never knew those around them until they attended MSOE. In an incredible way, students have and will rediscover the incredible human connection made when music-making. It is this purpose of rediscovery and recommitment to humanity that I feel drives all involved with MSOE to gather again in-person. Regardless of protocols or safety measures, once viewed as hinderances.

Thus, it is a time for celebration! Exuberance enjoyed. The gathering of our MSOE students, their teachers, and staff, and all our larger MSOE community will result in a renew connection. A recommitment to the purpose and life of Music in our community. It is for this reason that *Music Lives* in our students. *Music Lives* in our staff. *Music Lives* in our students' supporters. Through all of what has been these past two years – *Music Lives*.



SAM ANDERSON CONDUCTS ONE OF THE ORCHESTRA'S FIRST PIECES.

Meet Our Master Teachers!



Michael Windham is the Director of Bands at Westlake Middle School and the Secondary Music Coordinator of Adams 12 Five Star Schools. An advocate for cultivating student-centered ensembles, Mr. Windham presented on this topic at the Colorado Music Educators Conference and has led several district professional development sessions for music educators. Previously, he established the Orchestra, Choral, and Modern Band programs at Denver Discovery School.



Mr. Windham holds a Bachelors of Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado and is pursuing a Masters of Music Education at the University of Colorado Boulder. He is a member of NAFME, CMEA, CBA and is a Little Kids Rock certified Modern Band instructor. He currently resides in Lafayette, CO with his wife Rachel, their dog Banjo, and cat Aslan.



Mackenzie Sutphin is the Director of Instrumental Music and General Elementary Music at Thunder Vista P-8 in Adams 12 Five Star Schools. Miss Sutphin directs the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band and orchestra ensembles as well as instructs general kindergarten through fifth grade music. She directs the after middle school musical theater program and the upper elementary percussion ensemble. Thunder Vista opened as a brand new school in the Fall of 2018, Miss Sutphin was able to establish the performing arts program from the ground up with purchasing instruments, program development, creating culture, and much more!

Miss Sutphin holds a Bachelors of Music Education from Colorado State University Fort Collins. Go Rams! She plays trumpet professionally in several ensembles along the front range including a New Orleans second line brass band in Denver and a ska band in Fort Collins.

She currently resides in Fort Collins with her partner James and their dozens of plant babies. She loves to go backpacking throughout the foothills and can be found riding her bike in Old Town and City Park.



Shelby Serio is currently the Director of Bands at Rocky Top Middle School in Thornton, CO. Prior to moving to Colorado to pursue her master's degree Ms. Serio was the Associate Director of Bands at the Springfield High School of Science and Technology in Springfield, MA. While she taught in Springfield the SciTech Band was featured in the national documentary, "SciTech Band: Pride of Springfield", performed at Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker's inauguration, and received a letter of commendation from President Barack Obama. Ms. Serio moved to Colorado in 2016 to pursue a Masters degree at the University of Colorado Boulder and began teaching at Rocky Top in 2018.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education ('13) from Westfield State University and a Masters of Music Education ('18) from the University of Colorado Boulder. Ms. Serio's passion for teaching band is rooted in creating a safe and positive musical experience for every student. When not in the band room with middle schoolers, Ms. Serio enjoys spending time with her husband skiing, hiking, playing with their dog Pingree, and of course, playing music.



Letter from the Editor

KRISTEN FALLS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

MSOE rehearsals have begun! Our students made music and got to started creating personal connections with their teachers. Our Teaching Artists taught their first lessons and our conductors rehearsed full ensembles. It has been too long, and it was so rewarding for everyone involved. I am so proud of both staff and students, and I can't wait to see the growth that happens over the coming weeks.