

# SARATOGA MUSIC BOOSTERS

Welcome to another great year of music! Students, teachers, staff and volunteers are already hard at work to prepare for what is sure to be an exciting year for our band, orchestra, choir and guard programs.

As the year kicks off, we hope you will join us in becoming or renewing your SMB membership (you'll find the form on page three). Memberships are so very important to the quality of the programs we are able to offer our students. We look forward to seeing you at one of the many upcoming events that will showcase the musical excellence you help make possible!

Marguerite McAfee and Jennie Lau

2014/15 SMB Co-Chairs

## Saratoga High – Launching another great year

Welcome Back...almost! As I write this, the 2014-2015 school year has not yet officially started but the SHS Music Department is abuzz with Band Camp and Orchestra Leadership making way for an incredible year to come!

### Faculty and Staff

Our staff in the SHS Music Department is second-to-none. It's inspiring to consider the dedication and talent in the educators we have assembled. Because of the advocacy of our SMB leadership and support of our administrators, the staffing ratio in our department allows us to support our students better than ever. We have several new faculty and staff we'll be officially welcoming in the coming weeks, starting at the August 15<sup>th</sup> Marching Band informal *Informance* - we hope you will attend.

### Choir

It's not too late! The SHS Choirs are still welcoming new members. Choir is an excellent opportunity to connect to our school in a much deeper manner and brings with it some wonderful friendships and

experiences, being part of a great campus "family". Students interested should visit Mr. Ford in the Music Building.

### Orchestra

The Orchestras are gearing up for an active musical year starting with placements during the first week of school. Following placements, the Orchestra's will join the SHS Choirs for the 2014 Retreat on September 6<sup>th</sup>. This year will bring a host of opportunities for Orchestra members, including a commissioned piece by renowned composer Dr. Timothy Mahr premiering in Chicago this December!

### Band and Color Guard

Likely the only group in our community ready to perform publicly *before* the school year actually begins, these incredible students are working to put together a fantastic production designed and arranged uniquely for them. Student leaders of this group were on campus long before anyone else (faculty & staff included). Come out to see the 2014 Marching Band *Informance* Friday, August 15 at 7:00pm at SHS Benny Pierce Field.

## August 2014

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept 6 – High School Orchestra & Choir Retreat

Sept 26 – Castillero Middle School Exchange Strings Concert

Oct 11 – Cupertino Tournament of Bands (Saratoga High & Redwood)

Oct 18 – Santa Cruz Band Review (Redwood)

Oct 25 – Saratoga High Orchestra Exchange Concert

Oct 31 – SFSU Orchestra Festival

Nov 1 – WBA Dublin Competition

Nov 3 – Redwood Choir concert with High School

Nov 7-9 – BOA Regionals

Nov 11 – San Jose Veteran's Day Parade (Redwood)

Nov 15 – WBA James Logan Competition

For a complete list of dates please see [www.redwoodmusic.us/caldendar.html](http://www.redwoodmusic.us/caldendar.html) and [www.saratogamusic.org/smb-shs--calendar](http://www.saratogamusic.org/smb-shs--calendar)

## Volunteer Thank You

On behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, we would like to extend gratitude to all of the parents and families working so hard to help provide a great experience for all of our music endeavors. What we do with students is not possible without everyone working together. Listing all of the people involved in helping would fill this newsletter! THANK YOU to everyone helping make the music programs at Saratoga's elementary, middle and high schools a valuable and fun experience for all of our kids.

## Redwood Orchestra

Welcome back orchestra families! Mrs. Krijnen and I are excited for the 2014-2015 season. Our five levels of orchestra look to exceed 230 students this year and with this growth, we have been fortunate to hire an assistant for the Beginning and Allegro classes. Additionally, we continue to look at ways to accommodate the upper orchestras by bringing in guests performers, clinicians, instrument classes and of course the wonderful MESH program from Saratoga High School. Demonstrations for the Beginning Orchestra will take place in early September at the elementary schools; look for flyers or check our website. Speaking of, the website is the best place to get forms, find rehearsal times and dates, audition information and the calendar with all of our concert dates site: [Redwood Middle School & SUSD Instrumental Music](#)

Thank you for your support; we look forward to another great year of music!

## Welcome back from Redwood Middle School

Welcome back! It seems like summer passes even more quickly each year. Regardless, we hope you and your family had a great and memorable one, whether it has been busy and productive or relaxing and rejuvenating.

For us as music teachers, summer is a great time to reflect on our own craft, strategize on improving our pedagogy and engage in parts of our profession that we are unable to enjoy during the teaching season. For myself, it was a summer highlighted with concerts, though rather than being a conductor or performer, I was able to enjoy being a listener and consumer. I was fortunate to attend very different and unique performances including band, pop, instrumental, classical and choral.

Rarely do we as directors get to serve as an audience for performance. Attending and experiencing live performances is not only invaluable in maintaining our

creative ears and musical intuition, but also simply for keeping us inspired and enthusiastic about our art form and music for music's sake.

Similarly, this is what we believe music does for our students. Not only is music education important simply for "music's sake," it also gives students a break in their day, a unique experience in their schooling, and a chance to express themselves in inspiring ways. The nature of ensemble music allows students to collaborate and create in a way that is complex, meaningful and natural in its process and its outcomes. We are proud that music has always been a program that educates students in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills – right from the start!

We look forward to working with your students for another year of great music, and appreciate all of your enthusiasm and support as always. Here's to a great year!

**Jon Jow**

## 2014-2015 SMB Executive

President Co-Chair – Marguerite McAfee  
President Co-Chair – Jennie Lau  
Treasurer - Jennifer Guidry  
Membership Co-Chair - Sheeba Garg  
Membership Co-Chair - Monica Rhee  
VP Fundraising Co-Chair - Ashely Chao  
VP Fundraising Co-Chair – Linda Huie  
Recording Secretary Co-Chair - Lisa Cummins  
Recording Secretary Co-Chair – Open  
Parliamentarian – Pragati Grover (appointed)

# Please Join the Saratoga Music Boosters!

The Saratoga Music Boosters (SMB) is a charitable organization that supports elementary, middle school, and high school orchestra and band programs, as well as the middle school and high school choir and visual guard programs. Your donation to SMB enriches the music programs at all levels by helping to cover expenses not met by regular program fees. This includes instrument purchases and repairs, sheet music, visiting musicians, music awards and scholarships, and a transportation subsidy for the Beginning Band elementary program. Last year, SMB provided **over \$120,000** of music, instruments, software, sound equipment, and program support for the elementary, middle and high school music programs.

Our primary fundraising event is this **SMB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**. Your donation is essential to our success!

Family Membership \$50 .....	\$ _____
Aficionado \$51-\$99 .....	\$ _____
Performer \$100-\$249 .....	\$ _____
Section Leader \$250-\$499 .....	\$ _____
Director \$500-\$999 .....	\$ _____
Patron \$1000+ .....	\$ _____
Alumni of SMB \$35 .....	\$ _____
Other (any amount is appreciated) .....	\$ _____

**These donations are tax deductible. Receipts will be sent out by the end of the calendar year.**

Does your company offer matching funds?  Yes! Company and Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Cards (benefit a student's travel fund and are not considered a donation)**

\$10 Starbucks Cards [7% toward my student's travel fund]..... # cards: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 Yolatea Cards [10% toward my student's travel fund]..... # cards: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 Hong's Cards [20% toward my student's travel fund]..... # cards: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed (No Cash, Please!):** ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student 1's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student 2's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student 3's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Saratoga Music Boosters and send to:  
 SMB, c/o Saratoga High School, 20300 Herriman Avenue, Saratoga, California 95070  
 Questions? SMB Membership Team: Monica Rhee (mrhee@comcast.net) or Sheeba Garg  
 (sheebagarg@yahoo.com)

Join Us on Facebook @ "Saratoga Music Boosters"

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**