



SANTA BARBARA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

Education Matters

WINTER 2019

KEEPING THE BEAT FOR OUR SCHOOLS



Dos Pueblos High School
Jazz Band performs at the
Keep the Beat Radiothon.

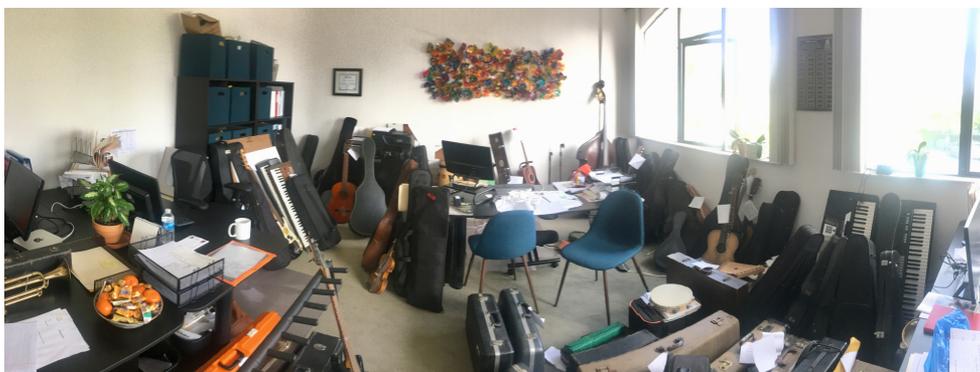
MAKING (RADIO) WAVES WITH KEEP THE BEAT

From music teachers to instruments, SBEF has been raising funds to support music education in local schools since 2003. This year, in an effort to support public school music programs, 99.9 KTYD Morning Mojo's Lin Aubuchon and Bill Pessa tirelessly broadcasted live for two days asking listeners to donate funds and instruments to Santa Barbara's students.

The on-air event featured interviews and performances by local musicians The Brambles, The Traveling Hurtados, Glen Phillips, Dishwalla, and Jack Johnson. A common theme during the interviews was the role that school music programs have played in the artists' education and career.



(Left) Glen Phillips and Sean McCue play live on the air. (Right) SBEF Board member Meghan Woodsome holds a donated mandolin.



Over 120 donated instruments were briefly stored in the cozy SBEF offices after the two-day Radiothon.

The radiothon also gave students from the Dos Pueblos High Schools Jazz Band and San Marcos High Schools' Sergio Romero Guitar Club an opportunity to play live on the radio.

"We were overwhelmed by the support from the community on the second day of the instrument drive," said SBEF Executive Director Margie Yahyavi.

The Keep the Beat Radiothon brought in over 120 instruments and \$12,000 to help fix and maintain the donated music makers. Thank you to all who supported during the Radiothon!

"The first time I picked up an instrument was at school. It was in the 5th grade with the recorder."

Justin Fox, Dishwalla

SBEF AWARDS \$75,000 IN GRANTS TO TEACHERS

Teachers in the Santa Barbara Unified School District recently received some much-needed help for their classrooms with \$75,000 in grants from the Santa Barbara Education Foundation with support from the Elaine F. Stepanek Foundation.

The funds support 54 teachers for a wide range of classroom supplies to encourage the development of creative and innovative teaching. Requests range from transportation for field trips and books to more unique requests like programmable drones for a robotics coding class.

Although the Teacher Grant program is new, it brings the organization back to its roots as SBEF began when a group of parents came together to support teachers by offering small grants for classroom supplies.



McKinley Elementary students with new books to read during winter break .

SAVE THE DATE



2019 HOPE AWARDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 25 | 5:30 PM

SANTA BARBARA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

HONORING KATE PARKER & PAUL ORFALEA

Every year, the HOPE Awards gives us an opportunity to honor local heroes of public education. The evening will begin with a silent auction and reception featuring fine food and beverages from local restaurants, wineries, and breweries.

For tickets and information, visit
www.SantaBarbaraEducation.org.

STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS

Superintendent Cary Matsuoka reported positives, negatives, and future plans during his annual State of Our Schools presentation. Speaking to a packed house at the New Vic Theater, Matsuoka focused more on general trends than specific data and responded to attendee questions.

Matsuoka noted that the previous year included unique challenges, including fires, the debris flow, and a period of multiple suicides. The District responded by enhancing its mental health services embedded in all 17 schools. He said that financial support from public and private donors played a large role in support of this effort.

Turning to the future, Matsuoka suggested that the District's long-term focus is succinctly characterized in its brand new mission statement: "We are preparing students for a world that has yet to be created." Quoting a U.S. Department of Labor report that "sixty-five percent of our kindergarteners will fill jobs that do not exist today."

To watch the entire State of Our School presentation, visit our website at SantaBarbaraEducation.org.

ON BOARD WITH SBEP

Get to know the newest members of our Board of Directors.



Debbie Arnesen

Debbie was a fund development professional for 30 years serving nonprofit organizations throughout the tri-county area. As a consultant for Netzel Grigsby Associates, she developed and directed many successful annual giving, capital and special project campaigns for a variety of education and social service organizations.

Diana Ciontea

Diana leads Financial Planning and Analysis at FastSpring, an eCommerce platform headquartered in Santa Barbara. She has experience guiding financial and strategic efforts across a broad range of corporate environments. As a volunteer for Reading to Kids, Diana is dedicated to inspiring underserved children with a love of reading.



Mat Gradias

Mat is an Associate Architect with a focus on educational facilities at KBZ Architects. Gradias volunteers with a mentorship program for high school students interested in careers in architecture, construction, and engineering. He also serves on the advisory committee for Disability Services and Programs for Students at Santa Barbara City College.

Stephanie Ramirez Zárate

Stephanie, a Field Representative for Assemblymember Monique Limon, oversees legislative issue areas in K-12 education policy, immigration, agriculture and labor, and consumer protection. Previously, she served on the board for IDEAS, a student advocacy group at UCLA that supports undocumented students.





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WWW.SANTABARBARAEDUCATION.ORG

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THURS, APRIL 25
5:30 - 8:00 PM
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