



MIRA MESA HIGH SCHOOL
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT
Instrumental Music Program - Matthew Mulvaney



April 9, 2012

Mira Mesa Orchestra Community,

The 2011-12 academic year is quickly progressing, and I want to take the time to acknowledge some of the program's accomplishments and reach out and ask for your financial support.

Since the winter concert in December our orchestra students have been hard at work. A record 12 student-musicians were selected to the San Diego Unified School District Honor Orchestra (nearly twice the previous record). Following that incredible showing members of our *String Orchestra* helped execute and deliver six memorable performances of *Phantom of the Opera*.

Still, there was work to be done. On March 22nd the *String Orchestra* put on a fine concert here at school, and followed that performance with their first ever trip to the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) Festival at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts. Not only did this represent the first time Mira Mesa has ever been represented at this particular event, but also the group thoroughly impressed both the judges and their peers, earning a Superior rating (another first for Mira Mesa High School). And yes, following this the group traveled to Disneyland, where they again became the first Mira Mesa Orchestra to perform publicly in the park. As you can clearly see, our students have been busy setting the bar high for future ensembles.

Back here on Reagan Road we have been busy providing extraordinary opportunities for our students. *String Orchestra* students have been privy to weekly coaching with professional musicians on their instrument. In addition, students and parents alike were provided tickets to see the *Chicago Symphony* at Copley Symphony Hall (and will soon be afforded to opportunity to enjoy both the *Cleveland Orchestra* and the world-renown *New York Philharmonic*). All students have had the opportunity to attend on-site guest performances by the *Hausmann Quartet*, the Montreal-based Baroque group *Ensemble Masque*, and 2011 Tchaikovsky International Music Competition winner on cello, *Narek Hakhnazaryan*.

Not only has there been a significant increase in the number of incredible opportunities afforded to our students, but also, we are offering these opportunities to a much larger population. This year, enrollment in the orchestra program at Mira Mesa has increased by over 40 percent. This figure alone speaks to the expanding opportunities that are being made available to our student population. To accommodate for this rapidly growing enrollment the orchestra program has acquired a significant number of instruments on loan (which has come at no small expense), and to this point, the associated costs have been entirely absorbed by the program.

In no uncertain terms, the orchestra program needs your financial support in order to sustain the opportunities detailed above.

The Mira Mesa Instrumental Music Boosters (MMIMB) is a registered 501(c)(3) organization (#95-3492413). All donations (paid by cash or check to MMIMB) are *entirely* tax-deductible. Upon receipt of your donation, a thank you letter containing tax information will be provided. With your support we can continue to provide resources and opportunities such as those listed above. Donations are also accepted online at miramesaorchestras.org.

Thank you for your support during these delicate financial times.

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Mulvaney