

MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 2015-2016

INTRODUCTION

Music in Catholic Schools (MCS) is a parent-pay program that provided band instruction to 280 students in 22 Catholic and 3 Lutheran grade schools in 2015-2016. MCS employed three full-time teachers and one administrator, all with Nebraska Teaching Certificates and music endorsements. The Superintendent of Schools of the Omaha Archdiocese is the Executive Director. An Advisory Board, meeting 5-6 times a year, formulates policy for MCS. Parent tuition is the primary means of revenue for MCS. Other income includes contributions, grants, interest from the endowment funds, and fund-raising projects. Gifts to the program are essential, as tuition does not cover costs. (A financial summary is published later in this report.) The MCS Board, the staff, and the Superintendent of Schools invite you to become involved in MCS, a quality band program.

RECRUITING

Letters and brochures were emailed to parents of 4th graders in the spring. MCS staff visited each school to demonstrate the band instruments and to provide information. Teachers attended many school open houses, and they led numerous band nights at various schools for those wishing to enroll in MCS. Dietze Music and Schmitt Music displayed instruments for rent at some schools.

NEWSLETTERS/ PROGRESS REPORTS

News bulletins and memos were emailed to parents, principals, and friends throughout the year and posted on the MCS website. The 2014-2015 End of Year Report was distributed in February.

The band teachers emailed parents regarding student progress.

ACTIVITIES

Beginning Band Olympics—55 beginning band students and their parents participated in the twentieth annual Beginning Band Olympics in October. Schmitt Music was available with music, CD's, and instrument supplies for sale. Jacob West, MCS student, joined Mr. Irvin and Ms. Parent to perform "Bugler's Dream" from "The Olympic Fanfare" to open the evening's events, and at the end along with the group performing as a band for their first time. Student volunteers from various high schools and UNO assisted the MCS staff with the events. Everyone had fun, especially students showing off newly learned skills. MCS Pep Band—MCS students were invited to sit with Creighton Prep's band at a football game.

Honor Band—The MCS staff chose 38 students to make up the 2015-2016 Honor Band. They performed in December and April in the Mary Joy and Tal Anderson Performing Arts Center at Marian High School. Assembly concerts were played at twelve schools in December and April. The Honor Band had rehearsals/informal concerts at Walnut Grove and New Cassel Retirement Centers before each tour day. The Honor Band performed with the Marian High School Band at their pops concert in February. They were the featured ensemble at the 37th MCS Band Clinic on March 19th at Marian High School. At the April concert, special recognition was given to band parents Dan and Jenni Owens for their ongoing support of MCS throughout the participation of their first seven children in MCS.

Four recipients received ½ scholarships to the UNL Middle School Band Camp: Katie Geist, Mary Our Queen; Jacob Gathje, St. Patrick; Patrick Paronable, St. Vincent de Paul; Paul Nelson, St. Joan of Arc.

Solo/Ensemble Festival—Students received solos and/or small ensemble music to prepare for the Solo/Ensemble Festival at St. Cecilia's on February 27th. Performances were given by 80 students before one of three judges that day. Comments, certificates, ribbons, and a rating were given to each student.

Band Clinic—Mr. Bill Lovgren, retired band director at Omaha Northwest High School, guest conducted the 37th anniversary MCS Band Clinic in the Mary Joy and Tal Anderson Performing Arts Center at Marian High School on March 19. A full stage of 110 students participated.

Special Upper Grade Activities--

2016 Nebraska State Bandmasters' 8th Grade All State Band—A practice/fun day was held for all MCS 8th graders in August to prepare for auditions for this special band. MCS participants were alternates Jacob Gathje, St. Patrick, trumpet; and Patrick Paronable, St. Vincent de Paul, baritone horn. Katie Geist, Mary Our Queen, flute; and Mia Dempsey, St. Margaret Mary, clarinet were in the select band. They rehearsed and performed on January 16th at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, under the direction of Mr. Robert Sheldon, Concert Band Editor for Alfred Music Publishing.

Otte-Blair Middle School Honor Band—Each MCS teacher nominated 7th and 8th grade students as candidates for this honor band on April 2nd. MCS students were Katie Geist, Flute, Mary Our Queen; Kelly Williams, Oboe, Mary Our Queen; Meghan Williams, Oboe, Mary Our Queen; Jacob Gathje, trumpet, St. Patrick; Patrick Paronable, baritone horn, St. Vincent de Paul; Alex Endorf, alto saxophone, Good Shepherd Lutheran; Will Ernatt, trumpet, Christ the King; John Dickas, clarinet, St. Robert; Maeva Atayi, bass clarinet, St. James/Seton; Rafael Lopez, trumpet, Sts. Peter and Paul; Paul Owens, trombone, St. Robert; and Zoe Moffitt, trombone, St. Robert.

Jazz Clinic---Nine MCS 7th and 8th grade students took part in the twentieth annual Jazz Clinic on February 27 at St. Cecilia Institute (at the end of the Solo/Ensemble Festival.) Dan Mattran, local jazz trumpet and OPS band teacher, led the group in a wonderful introduction to jazz music. The session ended with a demonstration for parents of some of the music learned.

Symphony concert—Twenty-five 8th grade students, parents, and MCS staff were treated to music by the Omaha Symphony, "A Celebration of Spielberg and Williams" on February 13th.

Concerts—Students performed at joint schools concerts in December and in May. Other performances were held at individual schools for programs, masses, and other occasions. Students who completed lesson books were awarded medals. Recognition was also given to students who achieved various levels and earned colored tassels for ScaleFu.

Summer Band—A five-week summer band session was offered two mornings a week at Mary Our Queen School and two evenings a week at the St. Cecilia Institute, directed by Dan Irvin. Two musicians from Omaha Chamber Music Society's summer concerts, Maria Harding and Carmelo Galante, provided a special treat for the summer band students, as they performed, talked about being a musician, and played with the summer band. Two former MCS students also assisted. The band performed an informal concert on the final night at St. Cecilia's. Thanks so much to Mary Our Queen and St. Cecilia's for the use of the facilities and for their assistance!

FUND RAISING

A 13th annual benefit dance, silent auction and dessert sale for MCS was held on February 4, 2016 at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center, with music provided by the Nebraska Wind Symphony *Swingtones*. Dancers and listeners had a wonderful time, and much-needed funds were raised for MCS. Thanks to everyone who helped out in so many ways, but especially to our chairs, Steve and Michelle Moffitt

Younkers Community Benefit Sale packets were sold in the fall and spring.

Coupon books and Great American products are offered through the MCS website year-round to provide additional revenue for MCS. Thanks so much to all who participated!

ADVISORY BOARD AND STAFF

The 2015-2016 MCS Advisory Board consisted of Charlie Collins, President; Melissa Gathje, St. Patrick, Vice President; Phil Young, St. Robert, Secretary; Chris Segrell, Christ the King, Principal; Anne Determan, Mary Our Queen; Charlet Richter, St. James/Seton; Laura Romero, St. Cecilia; and Susan Schrader, St. Wenceslaus.

The staff for 2015-2016 was comprised of Debra Lund, 37th year with MCS, and 34th as administrator; Daniel Irvin, 20th year with MCS; Kristin Parent, third full year with MCS, and Mrs. Joan Lovgren, first year with MCS.

BENEFACTORS—THANKS SO MUCH!

Foundation Grants:

Gilbert C. Swanson Foundation- for Band Aid	\$5,000
Omaha Archdiocesan Educational Foundation (OAEF) for Band Clinic and Recruiting (Honor Band Tour)	\$ 750
Cimpl Family Foundation	\$ 500

Corporate Sponsors:

American National Bank	\$ 500
Catholic Mutual	\$ 500
Conreco, Inc. and Fucinaro Excavating, Inc.	\$3,000
Quinn Insurance	\$ 500
Rotella Italian Bakery	\$2,500

Gifts of \$100: Lorna Arcand Samantha Barlog Linda Bertsch Steve Coffey Drs. David Danford and Jean Thierfelder Marvin and Lynette Dvorak Mark Goodrich, Goodrich Veterinary Clinic Jerome and Kathy Graney Tom and Theresa Tworek Jensen Craig and Kelly Koehler Scott Kurz Bill and Connie Lowndes Ricardo and Mary Marchio Steve and Michelle Moffitt	Munich American Reassurance Company Tom and Tammy Nussrallah Joseph and Kathryn O'Connor Robert and Beth Recker Mike and Marcia Regan Carrie Rhine St. James/Seton School Mel and Susan Schrader Arturo and Diane Sim David and Colleen Steinhauser Sara Strattan Robert and Sharon Stubbe Tom and Carol Svolos Todd and Joan von Kampen Denis Walsh
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Gifts of \$101-\$999: Anonymous Niels and Helen Bagge Leon and Reba Benschotter Tom and Patricia Carney Tim Davlin and Ann O'Connor Andre Demetrius Chris and Mary Ellen Doyle Jerry and Chelsea Duggan Don and Adelaide Erftmeier Brian Farris Bruce Freides	Dave and Diane Fucinaro John and Miranda Gloden Steve and Mary Pat Heck Holy Name Choir Michael and Peg Huss Elizabeth Johnson Gregory and Theresa Keane John and Wende Kotouc Bill and Mimi Kovar Sharon Kresha Kristin Kudlacek Matt and Peggy Lathrop
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Gifts of \$101-\$999: Bill and Connie Lowndes Brian and Debra Lund Paul and Karen Mullen Mark and Kathleen Niebauer Omaha Gives 24 Bonus Donald Ostdiek, Physical Therapy Works Dan and Jenni Owens Joe and Margaret Pazderka Dick and Julie Pierson Rev. John Pietramale/ Our Lady of Lourdes/St. Adalbert Steve and Mary Pschenica	Andy Ryba Rev. Tom Fangman, Sacred Heart Parish St. Margaret Mary Dress Down Day St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus St. Vincent de Paul Knights of Columbus John and JoAnn Smith (for Brian Smith Memorial Fund) James and Mary Theisen Ron and Regina Worthington
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Gifts of \$1000-\$5000: Anonymous Pat and Tami Brookhouser Dave and Diane Fucinaro James Kineen Paul and Tina LaFave Andrew Lund William and Ruth Scott Donald and Angie Wells

Special thanks to...
Mary Anderson for processing our monthly financials
Dietze Music and Schmitt Music for their in-kind support
Tory Burke of Lamp, Ryneerson and Assoc. and MSM Printing for assistance in printing the MCS brochure
Bob Ervin of Ervin Photography for taking the Honor Band photos each year.
Don Moran of Moran Recordings for the MCS promotional video
Doug and Kathy Brown, who directed financial gifts in memory of their daughter Kristen Brown Smith, former MCS student, to Music in Catholic Schools.
Music education advocates are most appreciated, also. Thanks to everyone who has given contributions of time and money. Remember that financial gifts are tax deductible, and that you can make MCS a part of your estate planning.

LOOKING FORWARD/THANK YOU

"Band Aid" continues for a 13th year. Students on free and reduced lunch participate for reduced tuition. Other tuition assistance is granted to students with extreme need. MCS instruments are loaned to students who need them.

Scholarships were given with memorial funds for Joe Wolf, Professor Charles Miller, and Clara and Al Phillips.

2016-2017 recipients were Alexander Buescher; Our Lady of Lourdes; Madison Genoways, St. James/Seton; and Aidan Rhodes, St. Robert Bellarmine. Thanks to all who gave to these special funds!

MCS strives to enable all interested students the opportunity to participate in band at their school. We extend deep gratitude to all who help us touch the lives of students in a profound way!

2015 FISCAL YEAR REPORT (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016)

Revenue:	
Tuition and School Fees	\$150,364
Grants and Gifts	\$ 54,195
Other	\$ 9,917
Total Revenue:	\$214,476

Expenses:	
Salaries, Benefits and Administrative Costs	\$192,391
Activities, Music, Tuition Assistance	\$ 10,911
Bookkeeping, Printing, Insurance, Supplies	\$ 3,109
Total Expenses	\$206,410

Cash, Ending Balance 6/30/2016 **\$8,065.82**

MCS Endowment Funds, 6/30/2016 **\$101,007.83**
(MCS, Miller, and Havelka Funds)

ENROLLMENT	Oct, 2015		Tot	May, 2016		Tot
	Beg	Adv		Beg	Adv	
SCHOOL						
All Saints	4	1	5	3	1	4
Christ the King	2	1	3	2	1	3
Gethsemane Lutheran	1	1	2	1	1	2
Good Shepherd Lutheran	3	2	5	3	1	4
Holy Cross	2	5	7	2	5	7
Holy Name	3	2	5	3	2	5
Mary Our Queen	4	9	13	4	9	13
Our Lady of Lourdes	4	1	5	2	1	3
Sacred Heart	3	3	6	3	2	5
St. Bernard	2	2	4	2	2	4
St. Cecilia	5	3	8	3	3	6
St. Gerald	1	7	8	1	7	8
St. James/Seton	9	16	25	8	16	24
St. Joan of Arc	2	1	3	2	1	3
St. Margaret Mary	11	19	30	10	18	28
St. Patrick, Elkhorn	8	5	13	6	5	11
St. Paul Lutheran	4	6	10	4	6	10
St. Philip Neri	0	3	3	0	3	3
St. Pius X/St. Leo	10	8	18	7	8	15
St. Robert	17	13	30	11	11	22
St. Stephen	7	8	15	7	8	15
St. Thomas More	2	2	4	3	2	5
St. Vincent de Paul	17	12	29	11	12	23
St. Wenceslaus	15	8	23	15	7	22
Sts Peter and Paul	3	3	6	4	3	7
TOTAL:	139	141	280	117	135	252
		280			252	
Drop rate:						10%



MCS

Music in Catholic Schools

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<http://www.archomaha.org/education/schools/music>

MCS Annual Report
For 2015-2016

January, 2017

Dear Parents and Friends of Music in Catholic Schools,

We are grateful for your interest and support of our Music in Catholic Schools band program. We believe music and the arts are vital for the lives of our parochial school students. It is essential that we offer as many enrichment activities in the arts as possible.

The enclosed report for the 2015-2016 school year provides an update on the Music in Catholic Schools program. We are thankful for the dedication and professional services of our teachers. Mrs. Joan Lovgren, Ms. Kristin Parent, and Mr. Daniel Irvin continue to serve our students well. The commitment and hard work of our band teachers provide many opportunities for our students to experience the joy of playing a musical instrument.

We encourage each of you to actively assist Music in Catholic Schools, either through volunteer services and/or through monetary gifts. All contributions are most appreciated.

We wish everyone in Music in Catholic Schools the very best and will do what we can to promote the program in any way.

Sincerely,

Mr. Patrick Slattery
Superintendent of Schools, Archdiocese of Omaha

Mr. Charles Collins
MCS Board President

Mrs. Debra Lund, MCS Administrator