

# ORCHESTRA NEWSLETTER

May 2018

## Director Notes

What an incredible school year!!! There have been countless successes in orchestra this year and I am looking forward to an amazing last month. Major highlights from the year include a fantastic trip to Nashville, two wonderful performances in the Dale K. Hidde Theatre, two packed fieldhouse performances for the 37th Annual All City String Festival, nearly 1,000 total events at district solo & ensemble festival, and incredible state solo & ensemble performances by numerous students.

**This year, four students were also nominated for exemplary performer awards at State Solo & Ensemble, held at UWM: Emma Dougherty, Elena Caceres, Anna Martin, and Hannah Agpoon.**

I am looking forward to a powerful Spring orchestra concert next week to wrap up the entire school year. Concert is on May 16th and begins at 7:30pm. This year, the May concert performers include concert orchestra, fiddle ensemble, symphony orchestra and should last about an hour (no 55 minute long pieces this year).

In other news, and as you may have heard, Kathy Melius is retiring from Longfellow at the end of the school year. She has taught orchestra in the district for 26 years (most at Longfellow/East). Words can't describe the tremendous impact she has had on the orchestra program and the Wauwatosa community. We will miss her dearly. Next year, Mrs. Melius is looking forward to spending more time at home, reading, and biking!

Hope you enjoy the last concert of the year and have a wonderful summer vacation!

~Michael Hayden  
Orchestra Director

## Upcoming Events

### **May 16th, 2018**

Final Orchestra Concert  
Dale K. Hidde Theatre  
7:30pm

### **May 22nd, 2018**

Longfellow Orchestra Concert  
Dale K. Hidde Theatre  
7:00pm

### **June 3rd, 2018**

East High School Graduation  
Juniors (seniors for prelude)  
2:00 pm Ceremony (1:15pm Call)

## In the classroom

All students have been busy rehearsing music for the final orchestra concert. Theme for this year's May concert is "Sounds from Space" and will feature the following pieces:

[Jupiter](#) by Gustav Holst

[Mars](#) by Gustav Holst

[Also Sprach Zarathustra](#) by Strauss

[The Force Awakens](#) by John Williams

[Equuleus](#) by Soon Hee Newbold

[Hidden Dimensions](#) by Michael Hopkins

### Graduation

East Graduation will be held on **Sunday, June 3rd**. Graduation Ensemble is juniors ONLY. However, any 9th or 10th grader interested should see Mr. Hayden as there may be some additional space. Seniors are invited to perform prelude music in their cap and gown, prior to lining up for the ceremony. Ceremony begins at 2:00pm and students are asked to arrive at 1:15pm to tune and setup.

### Final Orchestra Project

Students in all classes have been learning about [NASA's Golden Record](#), currently in interstellar space aboard the Voyagers spacecrafts. The final project centers around the question: What would you include on a 2018 Golden Record?

### 2019 Orchestra Trip

I am excited to move forward with the 2019 East Orchestra trip. We have an amazing opportunity to travel to **Austria , Czech Republic, and Germany** in October, 2019.

Information for this trip was distributed before Spring Break this year and an official kick off meeting will occur in mid-September of next school year.

Stay tuned for more information!

## Contact:

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