

Westside Music Foundation

2010 PRACTICE-A-THON

Saint Anne School Information Sheet

PURPOSE

The Westside Music Foundation (WMF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit charity committed to the promotion of music education and community service. The profits generated from the 2010 Practice-A-Thon will be used to support two music education projects in the West Los Angeles area: Saint Anne School and Elemental Strings. (For information on Elemental Strings, please see Elemental Strings Information Sheet.)

There are many wonderful things about this practicing project: any and every student can participate, students learn the importance of charity work, and it encourages a sense of community. **Best of all, students will be practicing music to raise funds for children to whom music making is a luxury.**

SAINT ANNE SCHOOL

For over 100 years, Saint Anne School, which holds the maximum available accreditation, has served the community by providing quality education for the poor. SAS's 169 students hail from over 50 Los Angeles area zip codes representing residential communities of Inglewood, Hawthorne, Venice, and South Los Angeles and beyond. 85% of SAS' students commute to school in connection with parents' employment in Santa Monica. 77% of SAS students qualify for free and reduced lunches under the federal poverty index criteria. Under these criteria, SAS is the only qualified non-public Title 1 School within Santa Monica-Malibu School District. SAS' serves a student population that is 65.6% Latino, 10.2% Multi-racial, 12.7% White/Other, 7% African American, and 4% Asian/Filipino. (www.saintanneschool.com)

Despite its significant poverty demographics, *SAS receives no funding whatsoever from the Los Angeles Archdiocese*, because the Archdiocesan formula to allocate financial support to schools is based upon the median income of the community in which the school is located. SAS' Santa Monica location, where the median income is relatively high, places SAS out of range for support, despite the fact that approximately 85% of its students live not in SAS' 90404 zip code, but reside in the same inner-city zip codes of schools eligible for Archdiocesan aid.

Now in its third year, SAS' music program offers instrumental music instruction to every child in the school free of charge and is a candidate for the 2010 Music Center BRAVO Award. The program includes instruction in Orff-Schulwerk mallet instruments and hand percussion in grades K-3, violin in grade 4, beginning woodwinds (recorder) in grade 5, advanced woodwinds (flute, clarinet, or saxophone) in grade 6, and guitar/vocal studies in grades 7-8. Instruction is provided by volunteer professional music educators and musicians, and the donations and support of the Westside Music Foundation, Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences, Santa Monica Symphony Orchestra, and Sol La Music Academy.

INSTRUCTIONS

All students—any age, any instrument—are eligible to participate in this two-week fundraising event! Students will record their practice hours and pledges on the *Practice-A-Thon Sponsor Sheet*.^{*} Students will record the number of hours practiced daily to the nearest ¼ hour in the spaces provided. Students may participate during any two-week period through April 30, 2010. At the end of the Practice-A-Thon, students will add up their total hours practiced to the nearest ¼ hour. At the conclusion of the two-week practice period, participating students must collect all pledge earnings (checks made payable to Westside Music Foundation) and send with their *Practice-A-Thon Sponsor Sheet*, in one envelope, postmarked by or dropped off by **May 7, 2010** to:

Deborah H. How, President
Westside Music Foundation
843 Yale Street
Santa Monica, CA 90403

^{*}*Practice-A-Thon Sponsor Sheets* are available at www.westsidemusicfoundation.org

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the student who practices the most total hours (students will be divided into age groups), the student with the most number of individual pledges (not total \$ amount), the teaching studio with the most total hours, the teaching studio with the most number of students participating, the school with the most total hours, and the school with the most number of individual students participating. Additional prizes may be awarded depending on level of project participation.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Deborah H. How, WMF President, at dhow@musette.org or (310) 828-5130.