



# 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

*September - October, 2016*

*A Pictorial Chronicle*







## 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH A PICTORIAL CHRONICLE OF SOH ACTIVITIES

### CONNECTING STUDENTS AND MUSIC

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Symphony of the Hills' Children's Outreach of the 2016-17 Season was begun at 9:00 AM on September 9<sup>th</sup> with in-class music presentations at Tom Daniels Elementary School in Kerrville. As part of the in-school presentations, the Symphony provided participating campuses with engaging curriculum materials that meet the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills Standards (TEKS.) These resources allow the teachers to prepare the stu-



Patty Fagan Miller & her bassoon engage the kids at Harper Elementary

### CHILDREN'S OUTREACH—THE 6TH YEAR

dents for a better understanding and enjoyment of the Children's Concerts in October. Under the management of Deidra Harmer, Symphony Board Member, planning for this project was launched prior to the 2016 schools' summer recess as Deidra made contact with school administrators at 15 area schools. She published the final schedule in early August for school visits and musical presentations to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in schools in and around Kerrville.

Following the in-school presentations in September and early October, about 1600 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and their teachers attended the 2016 Children's Concerts. They came from Center Point, Covenant Academy, Fredericksburg, Harper, Heritage School, Hunt, Ingram, Kerrville Independent School District including their Functional Living Units, Notre Dame Catholic School and St. Mary's Catholic School. At the beginning of each of these concerts, musicians from the orchestra went into the audience to interact with the students, demonstrating violin, cello, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, trombone and percussion.



Darlan Thomas at Starkey Elementary familiarizes the children with the violin



## 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

## CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS



The children at Covenant Academy in Kerrville close their eyes and then describe their feelings about the music.

In classrooms or gyms at the several elementary schools, students heard music that was new to them and were encouraged to discuss the moods and feelings evoked by the music. They were introduced to the most well-known composers, the timelessness of classical compositions, the basics of the various instruments and orchestral sections and the stories told by the musicians of their journeys with music through childhood and career. As stated in the SoH Mission Statement, the objective of these programs is to encourage students to open their minds and thus gain a better understanding of the music that will at first be strange to them.



With the able artistry of Darian Thomas on violin and Patty Fagan Miller on bassoon, biweekly music programs were presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from September 9<sup>th</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Left* At Starkey Elementary in Kerrville, Darian has the students close their eyes, as he provides a lilting Mozart piece.



## 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

### CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS



A practical method to explain the size of a bassoon.

For the first time in their young lives, students at Harper Elementary are exposed to the strangeness of the sounds of a bassoon, as played and explained by Patty Fagan Miller, Principal Bassoonist for the Symphony of the Hills. Patty showed the students the double reed feature and explained its relationship to other instruments in the orchestra. Many of the students were in awe of the bassoon, as evidenced by their expressions when Patty played her first notes. Their expressions ranged from delight to terror.



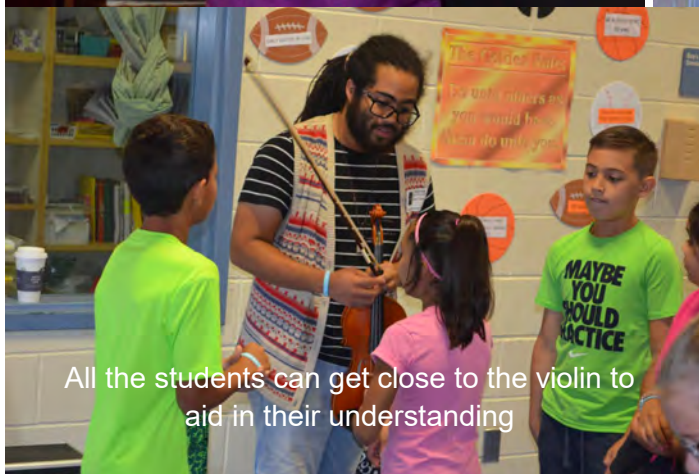
Patty at Harper Elementary School



Jonathan Raveneau at the Children's Concert



Darian with all the 3rd & 4th Graders of Talley Elementary



All the students can get close to the violin to aid in their understanding



Deidra Harmer provides an introduction to symphonic music to students at B T Wilson Elementary



## 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

*CHILDREN'S CONCERTS—OCTOBER 6TH, 2016*

For a large fraction of the 1600 students filling the Cailloux Theater in Kerrville, it was a first: the first time they have been in a concert hall, the first time they have seen a large orchestra, and the first time they have heard a piece of classical music. They have gained a new perspective.

Left—one of the two concerts on Oct. 6. Below—Musicians move around through the audience to give the children more exposure to the instruments.







Buses filled with 3rd and 4th graders started to arrive 1/2 hour before the concert. There was plenty of excitement as the children entered the beautiful Cailloux theater and were seated. The children were well behaved and their seating assignments well organized. Musicians mingled through the seats to demonstrate the various instruments and to let the students get very close to 5 or 6 different instruments. Prior to each of the two Children's Concerts, the SoH Conductor and Artistic Director Dr. Gene Dowdy introduced the orchestra and elaborated on the role of each instrument.



Filing into the Cailloux





## 2016 CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

## CHILDREN'S CONCERTS—OCTOBER 6TH, 2016



Dear Orchestra,

I will always admire how good your music was. My favorite part was the music at the end. I am going to remember what you played my whole life. It was inspiring and beautiful. I love to hear other people play music, especially because I'm learning to play the guitar and the piano. Thank you for taking your time to play that music.

Respectfully,

Claire Caraway



Dear Orchestra,

Thank You for taking the time to play your wonderful music. My favorite part was listening to the piano composer play the piano. God bless all of you!

Respectfully,

Madelyn F.



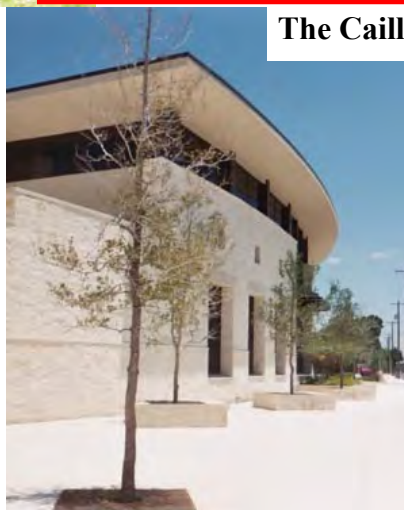
Dear Symphony friends,  
I loved the Symphony! It was so calming and beautiful. You all played so wonderfully! I loved all of the songs. They were fantastic. You did an amazing job!

Sincerely Sophia



A few of the hundreds of thank you notes the Symphony received from 3rd and 4th graders & their teachers.

## The Cailloux Theater





September - October, 2016

## Outreach Sponsors 2016



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P O Box 294703

Kerrville, TX 78029

[www.symphonyofthehills.org](http://www.symphonyofthehills.org)



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