



If music be the food of love, play on.
-- William Shakespeare

Musical Expressions Fill the Air at Rooftop

The halls are alive with the sound of music! As the year comes to a close, our student musicians have been performing and sharing their musical development over the past eight months.

Recently, Rooftop bands formed through **Blue Bear School of Music** rocked the house at local nightclubs. Performing at the Blue Bear Gala at Bimbo's in March, Quiet Time featured Daniel Scholz on guitar, Jack Fong Gougoutas on bass, Julian Iverson on vocals and Jared Rao on drums, with guest vocal performance by Giovanna Soto. At the Rickshaw Stop in early April, Flaming Horizons lit up the Blue Bear Showcase stage with Jared Rao and Andy Chaw on guitar, Ben Ozer-Fields on bass, Phil Elleston on drums and Liam Craddock at the mic. Under the guidance of teacher Mike Rao, Blue Bear's After School program at Rooftop is in its 5th year and has grown to 25 students. A special thank you goes to Mike for his tireless work in molding Rooftop's rock stars!



In the classrooms, Rooftop teachers have been participating in **Little Kids Rock!** a national nonprofit that partners with school districts and teachers to provide instruction and instruments to revitalize music education in public schools. This is the fourth year of participation by Third Grade teacher Judy Toupin. This year, Ms. Cruz' Kindergarten has joined the LKR program and Mrs. Toupin's class began "Guitar Buddies" with Ms. Laurie's Kindergarten class. Similar to Reading Buddies, our Third Graders share their guitar skills

with their younger counterparts, fostering learning through music and collaboration across grade levels.

SFUSD's Instrumental Music Program continues to grow. This year, more than 40 Fourth Grade students participated in the program led by instructor Monica Leung, culminating in a performance on April 4th. It's remarkable to see the kids' musical skills grow over just one school year! At the Mayeda Campus, instructor Marcella Guzman leads our older students as they continue developing their talents with their chosen instruments. A performance by the Mayeda students is scheduled for the afternoon of May 3.



ROOFTOP INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL "Expression: Self, Family & Community" Friday, April 27 - Mayeda Campus

The entire Rooftop community is invited to enjoy the all-day celebration of multi-cultural foods and performing arts. This year's International Festival will be extra-special as it kicks-off Rooftop's 40th Birthday celebration, commemorating the strong community and educational beliefs that tie us through the years.

Our featured guests will be hip-hop artists The Freeze and Adam Traore, plus many student performances.

Parent volunteers are needed! Contact Cyndy/Amy: csugawara4@gmail.com or rooftopparent@gmail.com

Rooftop's After School Chorus is rehearsing for their springtime performance on May 9th. Director Victor Cervantes leads the 75 member chorus in singing pop music tunes the kids really love! Special thanks goes to Rooftop Chorus producer and alumni parent Victor Yan and to parent Bernadette Gabrielli for providing the chorus experience for our students every semester.

SF Opera ARIA Network classes are preparing for the performances of their mini-operas in May. Guided by the classroom teachers, Teaching Artist Lua Hadar and Composer Candace Forest, the students write, compose, produce and perform their own musical stories. The Sixth Grade class will perform their opera as part of Rooftop's 40th Birthday celebration on May 4, followed by four more operas scheduled for May.

ROOFTOP ART CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 14

PTA Reflections Awards Ceremony
11 am - SFUSD HQ - 555 Franklin St.

Friday, April 20

StageWrite / 5th Grade Performance
Culminating event of drama residency

Friday, April 27

Rooftop International Festival
"Expression: Self, Family & Community"

Week of April 27 - May 4

Rooftop's 40th Birthday Celebration

International Festival kicks off our week of birthday celebrations! Special morning circle commemorations will be hosted throughout the week, culminating on **May 4th** with the Sixth Grade Opera performance and 40th birthday celebration in the Mayeda gym at 8:50 am.

Thursday, May 3

**Mayeda Instrumental Music
Year-End Performance**

Wednesday, May 9

Mini-Opera Final Performance

Mrs. Toupin & Ms. Cruz
Burnett MPR 8 am - 9 am

After School Chorus Performance

Burnett MPR - 6 pm

May 12-20, 2012

**Young at Art - deYoung Museum
SFUSD's Youth Arts Festival**

Free admission. Open during usual museum hours (closed Monday)

Wednesday, May 16

Mini-Opera Final Performance

Ms. Vaughn & Ms. Smith
Burnett MPR 8 am - 9 am

Thursday, May 17

Fourth Grade Poetry Night

6:30 pm - Mayeda Gym

UPCOMING EVENTS in MAY:

**Marcus Shelby Burnett Campus
Residency Culminating Event**
and

**African American Shakespeare
Company Residency, Grades 6-8**

A study of "A Raisin in the Sun"

Friday, May 25

**Last Day of School and Art Parent
Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**

Burnett Garden - 2 pm

SFArtsEd Spring Dance Residency with Esme

This spring, Rooftop welcomed a new dance Teaching Artist, Esmeralda Kundanis-Grow, or as everyone calls her, "Esme." Students in grades K-5 have been enjoying an 8-week dance residency, exploring the use of the body and its movement as a means of self-expression, communication and connection to others. We asked Esme a few questions about her life as a dancer and her experience teaching at Rooftop . . .

How many years have you been dancing?

I have been dancing for 21 years. I began dance classes when I was three years old and never stopped.

When did you realize you wanted to be a dancer?

I realized I wanted to be a professional dancer during middle school. I was given an opportunity at the age of 13 to perform at the Athenaeum Theatre in Chicago, IL. The experience of being a part of a large production in a big city sealed the deal.

How long have you been teaching dance? *I have been teaching dance for a relatively short time, only 2.5 years. However, during my time at University, I choreographed and directed a small dance company where I practiced teaching dance material and directing.*

What's your favorite part of teaching dance? *Great question and a hard one! There are so many amazing experiences when teaching dance. My favorite part is when I see a student let go and try something they never thought was possible. It is incredible to see their exploration unfold!*

Is there anything you'd like to share with our community about your experience at Rooftop this spring? *I would just like to say that I am truly inspired by the students, teachers, and environment at this school. I have experienced great joy in teaching here and am thankful for all the support received from this community. The students are up to any challenge and have created incredible dances this year!*



Families' collages have been coming in to school and community art installations are being created on both campuses. It's not too late for your family to participate! For instructions, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/75w75z8>

believe that art making gives us a way learn more about each other and helps to build connections between individuals, families, and inter-generational understanding.

Rooftop Families Share their Home Traditions through Food and Art

This year's Family Art Activity, "A Moveable Feast," uses memories and stories about food as the source of inspiration. We invite families to work together to create a mixed-media collage. Artistic expression gives us a way to capture and share family stories. Food, like music and art, is often the way young children begin to learn about family and culture. We