

Music Happenings in December

Kindergarten

Students in grades K-3 are learning about The Nutcracker Ballet. We are watching an excellent video from Indiana University School of Ballet on the *staging* of The Nutcracker; in other words, auditions, rehearsals, costume design, scenery-making, orchestra rehearsals, ballet training, physical therapy for the dancers, and much more. Older students know about E.T.A. Hoffman, the author of the story, and Tchaikovsky, the composer of the ballet music. Third graders have read the story and learned ballet terminology, such as, *pas de deux*, “dance for two”. We all know that ballet is for everyone!

First Grade

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Third grade parents, ask your children why boys wear tights in the ballet!!! They should have some very good answers for you.

Fourth Grade

Fourth graders are involved in score reading and sight-reading skill development. They are using Patterns of Sound to learn a new system of counting note values and sight-sing using “do-re-mi” syllables.

We are also having a lot of fun and meeting the challenge of singing a song called “Sing a Song of Nonsense”. The lyric consists of mixed up nursery rhymes and tongue twisters. There are three verses spread over three pages of music. It is easy to get lost with all of the words, notes, and piano accompaniment.

Fourth graders who are not yet in the Georgetown Fourth and Fifth Grade Chorus have one more opportunity to join for the rest of the year. Sign-up information will be sent home on Friday, December 16. The fourth graders are excellent singers. We would love to have EVERYONE in chorus.



Fifth Grade

Fifth graders are working on their music for the Fifth Grade Program, Thursday, February 9, 7:00pm. All fifth graders will be involved. Everyone will have an instrument part. Songs are from Ghana, Liberia, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil, and the United States. All students who volunteer will have a speaking part. There will be **thirty** African drums, **twenty** Orff instruments, and many, many hand percussion instruments. It's going to be very exciting!!!!

Fifth graders who are not yet in the Georgetown Fourth and Fifth Grade Chorus have one more opportunity to join for the rest of the year. Sign-up information will be sent home on Friday, December 16. There are many OUTSTANDING singers in fifth grade. We would love to have them ALL in chorus.



If you have ANY questions regarding Georgetown's music program or the Fourth and Fifth Grade Chorus, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Martin at molly_martin@ipsd.org or 630-375-3471.