

Lifting Up Westchester Service-Learning Performance

All-District Jazz Band & 7th/8th Grade Jazz Band

Dear Parents,

Spring 2017

Many students have been participating in a school-wide service-learning initiative, and we are pleased and excited to announce that our jazz bands, Sinfonietta strings ensemble, and members of the chorus will be participating in this experience!

For those who have participated in the past, we have exciting changes this year! We have been invited to become part of a Lifting Up Westchester music tradition, and therefore the jazz bands will be performing during the day. We'll be participating in the noonday concerts as part of Downtown Music at Grace. DTM is an organization that was established 29 years ago by Tim Lewis to provide high quality cultural content to the community at a "reasonable" price (the concerts are free – the audience is encouraged to contribute to the organization). Downtown Music is fully funded by contributions by audience members, sponsors, grants and the Downtown Music Board of Directors (DTM is structured as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit). www.dtmusic.org. DTM is hoping to provide the SMS musicians with a professional forum to perform and a means for the students to contribute to the "cultural beautification" of our community. Audience members for these events include senior citizens, residents of local assisted living/nursing home facilities, school children from local schools, guests at the Lifting Up Westchester soup kitchen and business people from the surrounding community.

On Wednesday, April 26th, the All-District Jazz Band and the 7th/8th grade Jazz Band will be performing at Lifting Up Westchester (*formerly Grace Church Community Center*) in White Plains (using Grace Episcopal Church for the performance - 33 Church St, White Plains, NY 10601). Lifting Up Westchester is a non-sectarian, community-based organization that assists the needy and at-risk residents of Westchester County. The performances will be in conjunction with a service-learning project done by other middle school students in which they assist in preparing and serving a meal in the Soup Kitchen.

To find out more about this phenomenal organization, including an informative and powerful video, please visit www.liftingupwestchester.org.

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- DATE: Wednesday, April 26, 2017
 - LUNCH: Students must bring a *BAG LUNCH* for this performance. Thank you!
 - TRANSPORTATION:
 - Middle School Students -
 - Go to school the way you normally would. We'll be leaving SMS by BUS at 11:00am. Please meet in the auditorium lobby.
 - After the performance, we'll take the bus back to SMS, and we'll be back at school at about 1:30/2pm.
 - Elementary School Students -
 - Go to your school the way you normally would. Dr. Slot will come by BUS to each of your elementary schools to pick you up between 10:45am and about 11:30am. She will call ahead for you to come to the office to get on the bus. Please have your instrument and music with you at school.
 - After the performance, Dr. Slot will ride the bus back to each of your elementary schools with you. You should be back to your elementary school between 1:35pm and 2:30pm.
 - ATTIRE: Jazz band students should wear all black concert attire.
 - CHAPERONES: We will be taking faculty chaperones to Lifting Up Westchester.

* Attached, please find the permission slip. Please sign and have your child return it to his/her music teacher by **Friday, March 31st**.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to this wonderful opportunity to share our music!

Sincerely,

Nick Lieto and Jessica Slotwinski

Lifting Up Westchester - PERMISSION SLIP

Please sign and have your child return it to his/her music teacher by Friday, March 31st.

My son/daughter _____ (*first and last name*) has permission to ride the district school bus for the Jazz Band Performance on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, to Lifting Up Westchester in White Plains, NY.

Parent Signature

Date

My son/daughter _____ (*first and last name*) has the following allergies/medical conditions:

**** Please remember that your child must bring and carry their epinephrine and/or inhaler on the trip. The teachers only carry a first aid bag. They are trained and able to assist in the administration of the EpiPen/Auvi Q if needed, but it must be in the student's possession. ****

Please check here if your child has an epi-pen _____

** NOTE: Child must bring his/her own epi-pen on the trip.*

Please check here if your child uses an inhaler and will be bringing it on the trip _____

** NOTE: Child must bring his/her own inhaler on the trip.*

Parent Signature

Date

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Home phone _____

Additional Emergency Contact Person

Mother's cell phone _____

Name _____

Mother's work phone _____

Relation to Child _____

Father's cell phone _____

Contact phone number(s) _____

Father's work phone _____