

Dear Friends & Family,



Linn-Mar District music directors would like to introduce an exciting new pilot program called *Music Connects*! The *Music Connects* program is designed to provide enrichment opportunities by making instrumental (band/orchestra) music more accessible to our Linn-Mar students/families with financial considerations.

Music Connects will:

Provide opportunities for students and families to participate in band or orchestra. The mission of *Music Connects* is to enrich a child's life by providing healthy ways to express oneself creatively, while nurturing an appreciation for the arts. Additional academic benefits through participation in *Music Connects* includes: Critical Thinking, Complex Communication, Creativity, Collaboration, Flexibility and Adaptability, Productivity and Accountability. Skills deemed essential for citizens to be successful in a 21st century work force, as outlined in the Iowa Department of Education's Iowa Core.

Music Connects provides the following financial support for qualifying students:

- 1) Free use of a musical instrument
- 2) Scholarships to participate in our six week summer lesson program sponsored by the *Linn-Mar Foundation*

In order to make the *Music Connects* program a reality, community support in any of the following ways would be greatly appreciated!

Ways to Support *Music Connects*

I would like to support *Music Connects* with a tax-deductible donation to the *Linn-Mar School Foundation*

_____ \$200 (buys a used instrument) _____ \$100 (summer tuition) _____ \$75 _____ \$50
_____ \$25 _____ Other *Please make check payable to the Linn-Mar Foundation*

My employer _____ will match my donation, doubling the impact of my gift!

I would like to donate one of the following instruments to the school district (see donation form)

_____ Flute _____ Cornet/Trumpet _____ Clarinet _____ Trombone _____ Violin _____ Viola _____ Cello

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____ C/S/Z _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please mail to Linn-Mar School Foundation, 2999 N. 10th Street, Marion, Iowa, 52302 or email this form to aafoundation@linnmar.k12.ia.us. Online donations can be made by visiting linnmarfoundation.org. All donors will receive a tax receipt and will be recognized in the Linn-Mar Foundation's annual honor roll of donors and Music Connects program materials. Thank you for supporting music education for students in need.

Thank you for your interest in donating your instrument to the Linn-Mar Community School District “Music Connects” Program. Instrument donations provide valuable support for our music education programs. Through the support of donors like you, families that qualify for financial support instruments have access to instruments for their children to participate in the band and orchestra programs in the Linn-Mar Community School District.

Useful Details

When you inquire about making an instrument donation, any details you can provide will help us to determine whether or not we can accept the instrument. Useful details include: manufacturer, year the instrument was made, model number and condition.

Process for Making an Instrument Donation

1. Consult with a Linn-Mar instrumental music staff.
2. The music department encourages donors to get an appraisal if they are considering itemizing the instrument as a donation for tax purposes. It is the donor’s responsibility to consult with a tax advisor to clarify the guidelines when donating an instrument to a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization and claiming the value of the instrument for tax purposes. IRS regulations prohibit a recipient organization, such as the Linn-Mar Community School District, from making a formal appraisal.

For instruments believed to be valued at \$5,000 or more, donors must have the instrument appraised to confirm the value and documentation for tax records. The donor arranges and pays for a professional independent appraisal before making the donation. A copy of the appraisal must be provided to the Linn-Mar Community School District so that the formal description used in the appraisal can also be used in the acknowledgment letter that the Linn-Mar School Foundation provides to the donor. In addition the Linn-Mar School Foundation will also provide to the donor an IRS Form 8283, Noncash Charitable Contribution. The donor must complete this form and send a completed copy to the Linn-Mar School Foundation.

4. Arrange for delivery.
5. When the music staff member has received the instrument in good condition, the Linn-Mar Foundation will send an acknowledgement letter recognizing the receipt of the instrument. The letter will identify the instrument using the terms from the appraisal, if an appraisal was included with the donation. The acknowledgment letter, appraisal and IRS Form 8283 serve as the necessary documentation for your tax records for instrument donations over \$5,000. Instrument donations without an appraisal will be acknowledged with descriptive information about the instrument and without a statement of valuation.

