



DATE: November 15, 2023
CONTACT: Courtney O'Hara
248.489.3350
FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Farmington Public Schools presents the 29th Annual Day for Strings orchestra event on November 18

Farmington, MI – Farmington Public Schools (FPS) is pleased to announce the 29th annual Day for Strings event on Saturday, November 18, 2023 at North Farmington High School (NFHS). This year, there will be more than 370 FPS string orchestra students participating.

There are two performances on Saturday, November 18. Both performances are "Informance" style where the audience will learn a bit about the learning process.

- 11:00 AM - Power/STEAM 6th grade, all District 7th grade, all District high school Allegro Ensemble
- 3:30 PM - East/Warner 6th grade, all District 8th grade, all District high school Vivace Ensemble

Day for Strings is an event that began in 1991 at FPS as a way to feature and celebrate the orchestra program across the District. It is the product of the creativity, enthusiasm, and efforts of past FPS orchestra teacher Kay Deluca and community member and Detroit Symphony Orchestra Bassist Larry Hutchinson. The first FPS Day for Strings was held on November 21, 1992 and since then has been held annually with hundreds of students in attendance each year.

This event will feature special guest clinicians and conductors from across Michigan.

Guest Conductors

- **Rodney Page**, Full Engagement Experience
- **Jean Lee**, Instructor/Coordinator of String Music Education at Michigan State University
- **Joanna Van Eizenga**, Orchestra Teacher, Troy Public Schools

Guest Clinicians

- **Stacey Bowen**, Violin, Orchestra Director, Detroit Country Day School
- **Linda Trotter**, Violin, Director of Orchestras, West Bloomfield HS
- **David Traines**, Viola
- **Andrew Barnhart**, Cello



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- **Marlo Williams**, Bass

The entire FPS orchestra faculty is responsible for making this a very special activity for all of the string students. The FPS Orchestra teachers involved with the planning, teaching, and execution of this project include:

- **Sydney Campbell**, Warner Middle School
- **Ian Emerson**, North Farmington High School
- **Caitlin Mihalko**, East Middle School
- **Julia Richards**, Farmington STEAM Academy
- **Jacob Traines**, Farmington High School
- **Sandy Vargo**, Power Middle School

The FPS orchestra faculty produce this event to show the developmental stages of the orchestra program and also celebrates string playing. This event epitomizes the idea that music and the arts encourage lifelong learning.

Thank you to the FPS orchestra faculty for putting on this event. We hope to see you there!

To learn more about Farmington Public Schools, visit www.farmington.k12.mi.us.