



November 29, 2016

David Thompson, Chair
Near North District School Board
963 Airport Road, PO Box 3110
North Bay, ON
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Dear Mr. Thompson:

RE: Music Scores Elementary School Program

Our Spring Music Scores session brought a brass trio including long time Festival artist Guy Few, Olivia Esther and Rachel to area schools for what was truly a unique performance. The students saw and heard a variety of performances in their own schools from Guy, Olivia and Rachel. These world class musicians performed with their traditional instruments but also showed the students the variety of classical, jazz, and traditional music. A unique piece titled *Sound Machine* was written, performed and recorded during the Music Scores program in which the students followed Olivia's lead and made sounds replicating that of a machine while the trio utilized their instruments to further the piece. At the last spring session the students were given ticket vouchers to attend a performance during the main Festival from July 15th to August 7th. As this proved to be well received by students and parents, we will be providing vouchers to the students at future Music Scores to broaden their music experience.

Recently, at the end of October, Fall Music Scores session was conducted with TorQ percussion Quartet who conducted an educational, fun and interactive performance in each school and later at the Charles W Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts. Initial reports from teachers and comments from students reveal that the musicians are, indeed, inspiring and awing the students. Board President Bonnie Ramsay guided the artists to various schools and commented "The interaction between the youngest of students to the high school age students was sheer delight. There was a 'joy' in the concert between students, teachers and TorQ. The louder the music got the more excited the kids became. I am used to the Stockey Centre during the Festival in a very almost subdued tone; the Stockey Centre rocked with TorQ. I hope they come again."

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Now in its 11th year, Music Scores visits over 700 students from ten schools spanning from MacTier to Whitestone and Parry Island to Britt and everywhere in between. The Program has always held a special concert for the Music Score's students during the bi-annual sessions at the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts. We are thrilled to be still hosting this concert as it often the first time students have seen the performance hall and experienced a world class concert.

We have very much appreciated the School Board's financial support of our music education program over the years. We have included the budget of the Fall 2016 Music Scores session to demonstrate the costs associated with the operation of this great program. The budget can fluctuate due to musician's fees, equipment rental etc. but typically operates between \$7,500 and \$10,000 per session.

The 2016 budget demonstrates the expenses associated with a typical session:

Music Scores Expenses Fall 2016

Musician's Fees (4)	\$1,600 per musician	\$6,400
Stockey Centre Rental and Tech	\$1,000	\$1,000
Musicians Accommodations	\$108 per night per musician	\$1,664
Musician's Lunches	Approx. \$20/person x4 days	\$320
Equipment Rental		N/A
Mileage for volunteers/ musicians	2 vehicles/3 days	\$305
Total		\$9609

In-Kind Support includes:

Area Schools – transportation of students supplied by schools

Festival of the Sound Board/Volunteers – to assist musicians travel around the area

Festival Staff – Administrative work, marketing materials

During the six cycles of Music Scores experienced through grades 4 to 6, the students are exposed to different types of music, instruments, and the sections of an orchestra. We would also like to note that in some of the smaller schools, we are very pleased to see that *all* students at the school are attending the educational session and the younger students are enjoying the exposure to youth music education. This fall, we were excited to have the opportunity to present a Music Scores master class to the band and music students at the Parry Sound High School.

Some sessions can be considerably more expensive; for example, a session featuring a brass quintet or as seen recently, a percussion group such as TorQ. The Festival always works to balance being economically responsible with the need to ensure that the program presented is

of high quality.

This year, on behalf of the Festival, I am writing to request your continued support in the amount of \$6,000.00 in order to maintain and continue the Music Scores program in 2017.

We hope that we can count on your continued support and thank you for your ongoing efforts to maintain this project each year. We are now in the process of organizing the Spring 2017 session and look forward to members of the NNDSB attending the Friday performance in the Stockey Centre with the area students. We will forward more details as they become available.

Sincerely,



Alison Scarrow
Executive Director
AS/tb

cc James Beatty, NNDSB