
Academy of Visual & Performing Arts Culver City High School

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For Immediate Release

CCHS Winter Music Concert Includes AVPA Students

Culver City, CA, December 8, 2005

The Winter Music Concert is an annual tradition for Culver City High School's music students. This year's concert will include students from music classes at CCHS as well as groups from the Culver City Middle School and the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA). The concert is on Wednesday, December 21 at 7 p.m. Admission is free at the Robert Frost Auditorium, 4401 Elenda Ave. in Culver City.



This year's concert will feature the CCHS Concert Band and Concert Choir, both directed by Tony Spano. They'll be joined by AVPA's Chamber Singers, directed by Lisa Michel and AVPA's Jazz Combo, directed by Tony Spano. Also, the Culver City Middle School Choir, directed by Paul Witt, will perform.

Music will include "A Joyful Madrigal," "Carol of the Bells," "Joshua," "Holiday Cheer," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Shalom Chaverim," "Gaelic Dances," "Little Drummer Boy," "Satin Doll," and "On a Cold Winter's Morn."

According to Tony Spano, AVPA's executive director, "AVPA is pleased to be able to have two of its ensembles performing in the CCHS concert. The jazz combo has been an ensemble of dedicated musicians who meet after school to rehearse the standard jazz repertoire. We've had jazz combos almost continuously since 1998. This year's group is one of our strongest and we hope to perform in many more productions this school year."

Lisa Michel, who teaches math at the high school, started AVPA's Chamber Singers four years ago. Back then the group was seven girls. Now the group has expanded to 24 singers. "Last year we got boys, which was great," says Michel. "Having the full range of voices means we've been able to expand our repertoire significantly. And because Santa Monica College now offers our Chamber Singers as an after-school class at the Academy, the students have an accomplished pianist accompanying them. We just get better and better!"



The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School offers a comprehensive arts curriculum after regular school hours for students who are committed to excellence in Art, Film, Theatre, Dance, and Music. Established in 1996, AVPA enjoys tremendous community support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other design, recording, and theatre companies in the area. For more information, go to www.avpa.org or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or x6009.

Photo Caption:

IMG_4270: Jazz Band students (Clockwise from left) Shawn Harris, Nehemiah Williams, Isiah Chancellor, Matt Wygal and Mimi Markoe

IMG_4280: Lisa Michel rehearses with members of the Chamber Singers