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Grand Teton Music Festival
**MARCH is
Music In Our Schools Month®**

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**GRAND TETON MUSIC FESTIVAL
WANTS YOU TO SUPPORT SCHOOL MUSIC!
NATIONAL MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH®
MARCH 2008**

Act on Governor Freudenthal's call for local support of national celebration;

*Give a young person the experience of live music and learn how
music education makes a difference*

Watch for Music Education news from the GTMF throughout March!

Jackson Hole, Wyoming – March 3, 2008 – Now is the time to join the Grand Teton Music Festival in **supporting local school music programs!** Just today, in a proclamation endorsing a month-long celebration of music education this March, Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal encourages teachers, parents, students, and all citizens of the state of Wyoming to do the same. Throughout March, national **Music In Our Schools Month®**, the Grand Teton Music Festival challenges the Jackson Hole community to share in the experience of music and music education by actively participating in the Festival's educational events and concerts. Through programs like *Music In The Schools* (Festival musicians visit local classrooms) and *Tune-UP!* (in-school instrumental instruction), the Festival reaches thousands of area young people each year. Ticket sales from the Grand Teton Music Festival's winter concert series help to support these, and the Festival's other, music education initiatives. What else can you do to support music education in our Valley? Read on!

- **Give a young person the experience of live music (for just \$15)!**

Open your child's mind to the diversity of the world around them, and help them learn that there's more to music than what they hear on the radio. This March, the Grand Teton Music Festival offers the perfect opportunity to introduce a young person to classical music and the excitement of live performance! Thursday, March 13 offers up a **Woodwind Quintet** with the music of "Rach," Bach, and Beethoven played by flute, clarinet, oboe, horn, and bassoon. Exotic beats, taps, rhythms, and booms shake the stage at March 20's **Percussion** concert. A special package price admits an adult with an accompanying student (ages 6-18) for just \$15, each additional student is \$5; regular adult admission is \$25. Concerts take place at 7:30pm in Walk Festival Hall, Teton Village. **Tickets are available at 307-733-1128 or gtmf.org.**

As always, these winter concerts play a vital role in the Festival's in-school **education programs**, bringing visiting artists into local classrooms for week-long residencies, including master classes, private instrumental instruction, and full-school assemblies. It's likely your child will be visited this month!

- **Learn about how music prepares kids for life!**

The cultural and social benefits of school-based music programs are long known – music provides an outlet for creativity, self-expression, encourages teamwork, reinforces communication skills, and sustains our cultural heritage. But there is now scientific evidence, both behavioral and neurophysiological, that music does so much more. It generates neural connections, uniquely enhancing higher brain functions that enable a child to reason abstractly in subjects such as math, physics, and engineering. Kids involved in school music programs even score higher on standardized tests. Most important of all, music is simply worth knowing!

Great information is already out there: Starting Thursday, March 6, you can read all about the benefits of music education, and link to current research, on the Festival's new website at www.gtmf.org. Or, go now to supportmusic.com.

- **Stay Tuned!**

Watch for more announcements about ways you can get involved in music education throughout the month of March, as the Grand Teton Music Festival keeps you updated about its events and activities for schoolchildren, including scholarships and special performances at Walk Festival Hall.

- **Know About National Music In Our Schools Month®**

A national recognition of music in our schools, Music In Our Schools Month® was begun by the National Association for Music Education in 1973 to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music. Access to music and music education is a primary part of the Grand Teton Music Festival's mission, and the Festival proudly supports our local school music programs.

GRAND TETON MUSIC FESTIVAL EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Grand Teton Music Festival believes music is fundamental to the human experience, and achieves this vision not only through great performances, but also through a commitment to educational programming. The Festival reaches out to people of all levels of interest and ability through its education and outreach initiatives. From a child's first experience attending a live performance, to advanced instruction for music students, to continuing education for adult learners these programs reach more than 12,000 young students, musicians, and adults each year.

The majority of the Grand Teton Music Festival's education and outreach initiatives provide educational music experiences to the youth of Jackson Hole and the surrounding regions. School year programming includes: **StringFest** (three-day clinic for eighth grade string students), **Tune-UP!** (private instrument lessons for middle school band and orchestra students), **Music In ' more Schools** (Festival musicians visit local classrooms), and **Open the House: GTMF Present** (Jackson Hole High School Band and Orchestra perform their spring concerts in Walk Festival Hall). Annual summer programming features the popular **6:15 Music Machine** (a free orchestra concert for children and families at Walk Festival Hall), and an **Orchestra Mentorship Program** (career shadowing for advanced high school instrumental music students).

For more information about the Festival's education and outreach programming, contact Liz Kintz at 307-733-3050 x109.

Individual tickets are available for purchase through the Grand Teton Music Festival Ticket Office at 307-733-1128 or online at www.gtmf.org. All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.

All programs, artists, and dates subject to change.

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