

**For Immediate Release – September 23, 2011**



## **Santa Fe is Alive with the Sounds of MusicFest**

### **Events to Celebrate SFPS Music Education Programs – October 15 Kick Off!**

On Saturday, October 15, Santa Fe Public Schools student performing groups will initiate the second annual MusicFest with performances on the historic Santa Fe Plaza Bandstand from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Special guest speakers are SFPS Superintendent Bobbie Gutierrez, SFPS Board President Barbara Gudwin, and Santa Fe Mayor David Coss.

A festive parade commences on Canyon Road at 12:30 p.m. featuring several middle and high school bands, *Mariachi Estrella*, and musical delights from SFPS elementary music programs. And from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Canyon Road this same day, student performing groups will fill the air while professional artists paint and create art. Passersby will hear student string ensembles, drumming, elementary Orff ensembles, bands, and vocal performances.

That afternoon at 5:30 p.m. the Santa Fe Women's Ensemble performs with members of Capital and Santa Fe High School Choirs at the Zane Bennett Gallery, 435 S. Guadalupe, followed by a reception, compliments of Whole Foods. Tickets for this event are \$50 (100% tax deductible) and may be purchased by visiting [www.sfpsmusicfest.org](http://www.sfpsmusicfest.org).

SFPS Music Education Coordinator Leanne DeVane said, "The commendable work of our music students and faculty will be featured in all aspects of MusicFest. Attendees will be amazed at the ability level of our students and the breadth of our music education programs."

The festivities will continue through October 30, and will also feature SFPS Music Faculty and Friends Cabaret (October 28) and a Retro Tea Dance with Santa Fe Swing Shift (October 30).

"Santa Fe Public Schools is excited to be a part of MusicFest in support of our K-12 Music Education Programs," said SFPS Superintendent Bobbie Gutierrez. "MusicFest will serve to raise needed funds for our programs while also celebrating the excellence of our programs by placing them in a highly visible community medium. This project has built bridges of collaboration between our educational and professional communities in service of our youth."

Schedules for performances on the Plaza Bandstand and Canyon Road, and additional information for other MusicFest events will be posted on the MusicFest website, [www.sfpsmusicfest.org](http://www.sfpsmusicfest.org) as well as the Santa Fe Public Schools website, [www.sfps.info](http://www.sfps.info).

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MusicFest is a collaborative fund-raising project for SFPS Music Education Programs with Santa Fe Concert Association, Santa Fe Partners in Education, Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, and Santa Fean Magazine. MusicFest is part of Santa Fe Arts Festival, an annual two-week celebration of the many arts and art forms found in Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico.

MusicFest sponsors include: Acequia Madre Elementary School, Canyon Road Merchants Association, City of Santa Fe, El Farol, Il Vicino, Santa Fe Concert Association, SFPS, Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Santa Fean Magazine, SantaFe.Com, Santa Fe New Mexican, Santa Fe Partners in Education, Santa Fe Symphony Fanfare, Santa Fe Women's Ensemble, Scottish Rite Temple, Swing Shift, Web Enchantment, The Lodge of Santa Fe, and Zane Bennett Contemporary Art.

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*For an interview or rehearsal photo opportunity, contact Leanne DeVane, SFPS Music Education Coordinator, at (505) 467-2513, or [ldevane@sfps.info](mailto:ldevane@sfps.info)*