

Dear Parents and Students,

I am excited to announce that our music school has been invited to participate in a cultural and musical experience at the Claremont United Church of Christ on Sunday, December 15, 2024. As you may know, CUCC has one of the finest and grandest pipe organs in California. Our music students have been specially selected and invited to join the organ in a musical event based on the longstanding history of the school and the well-known reputation of our dedicated music students.

This will take place during the Sunday morning service at the church and is strictly voluntary. Student volunteer performers are not required to participate in any religious portions of the service.

If you would like to participate in this unique opportunity, please notify your respective private instructor no later than Sunday December 1, 2024. Please note that to participate, students must sign up directly through their private instructor in advance of the performance date. The teachers will inform the office staff of the final count no later than December 1, 2024. Students must have all pieces prepared before December 15, 2024 and participation will be subject to the discretion of the private instructor based on the level of advanced preparedness due to the fact that there will be no group rehearsal other than on the day of the musical event.

Here are other guidelines put together by the music school in conjunction with CUCC for your information which will help you decide whether you wish to participate.

1. Call time is 8:45am for all students and teachers to arrive in the main sanctuary of CUCC. **233 Harrison Ave, Claremont, CA 91711**
2. Tuning will take place at 9:00am with your individual private teachers.
3. One rehearsal will take place at 9:10am for approximately 35 minutes.
4. The service begins at 10am. The students will be playing at the very beginning of the church service and throughout the service.
5. The pieces that have been hand-selected and arranged to complement the instrumentation are as follows: *Good King Wenceslas; Angels We Have Heard on High; Away in a Manger; O Come, All Ye Faithful; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; and Highland Cathedral.*
6. Sheet music and sound recordings can be found by visiting [www.claremontmusic.org/Christmas](http://www.claremontmusic.org/Christmas)
7. Instrumental students wishing to participate must be able to easily play each piece along with the sound recording without intonation issues or rhythmic errors. If the music is too challenging to prepare, students are welcome to sing instead.
8. All students are invited to participate. However, due to the nature of the instrument, any piano, organ, guitar, and keyboard students who wish to participate are invited to attend and sing each of the pieces along with the other instrumentalists.
9. **All participants must have the music prepared in advance and wear semi-formal seasonal festive attire. AGAIN, STUDENTS MUST GAIN PRIOR APPROVAL AND SIGN UP DIRECTLY WITH THEIR PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT.**

**COVID HEALTH UPDATES:** Face coverings are optional for all participants.

There will be a special reception for participating students, their families, and teachers immediately following the performance at 11am. If you have any questions, please speak to your individual instructor as they have been provided all necessary information. We look forward to having you participate!

Kind Regards,

Matthew Keating  
CCSM Executive Director