

20140402 Newsletter for the email list

(The same below information is also in the attached MS Word document)



Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy Coalition

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Support our speaker at tomorrow night's Jeffco School Board Meeting!
- Outcomes from last night's Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy board meeting.
- We need your help! We still have a couple of board positions open.
- How we intend to use e-mail, Facebook, and our upcoming website for communications.
- Starting with the next newsletter...

SUPPORT OUR SPEAKER AT TOMORROW NIGHT'S JEFFCO SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:

We have a speaker addressing the Jeffco School Board tomorrow night. The topic is to provide information to the board about the importance of performing arts to Jeffco students, to review the funding commitments of the 3A initiative back in 2012, specifically to maintain elementary instrumental music, and to request that the board keeps this in mind as they finalize the school budget for next year.

The meeting is Thursday, April 3 at 6:30pm and will be held in the Board Room in the Golden Education Center on the 5th floor. 1829 Denver West Drive, Bldg. 27, Golden, CO. We do not know exactly when we will be speaking. Please attend and show support if you can.

OUTCOME OF LAST NIGHT'S JEFFCO PERFORMING ARTS ADVOCACY COALITION BOARD MEETING:

We held a board meeting last night to continue the process of organization. During that meeting, we accomplished several important items:

1. Volunteers stepped up for several key board positions. We have a President, Vice President, Marketing & Communications lead, Administrative Liaison, and two at-large members. We still need to fill the roles of Secretary, Outreach Liaison, and Statistics/Finance.
2. We developed our goals in support of our mission statement: "Our mission is: To be advocates for the Performing Arts and a united voice in supporting, maintaining, and developing equitable opportunities for all Jeffco students to participate in the arts as a part of a complete, well-rounded education." The goal which support this are:
 - Work to grow performing arts opportunities for all students in Jeffco.
 - Research and publish relevant statistics regarding the health of performing arts within the Jeffco school system.

- Become the expert local organization regarding statistics and data around the benefits of performing arts education to a person, both short and long term. Publish and share this data.
 - Become the vocal, respected voice of the Jeffco community to the school system, politicians, and the media regarding performing arts education.
 - Become involved in the school system processes around performing arts education decisions, including, but not limited to: budget processes, curriculum changes, local administration decisions.
 - Work together with other organizations within the community to promote performing arts education. This will include arts organizations, business associations, booster groups, and other like minded organizations.
 - As we mature, begin to work politically at the state level to influence legislative decisions which impact performing arts education.
3. We put in place initiatives for community outreach and engagement. We will roll out more information on those over the upcoming weeks.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! WE STILL HAVE A COUPLE BOARD POSITIONS OPEN:

While we filled a number of board position last night, we still need volunteers for three positions: Secretary, Outreach Liaison, and Statistics and Finance. Here is an overview of the responsibilities of each position:

- **Secretary:** Develop a document management approach, take and publish meeting minutes, assist with newsletters, and eventually help maintain by-laws as the organization matures.
- **Outreach Liaison:** Determine which other organizations exist that we should be working with, aside from the school system. Work to develop those relationships. These may include arts organizations, business coalitions, and other similar-minded organizations like our own.
- **Statistics and Finance:** There is a lot of tremendous research available regarding the benefits of performing arts for students. We need someone to help gather that and to make it relevant to our various audiences. Also, we hope to eventually gather statistics on the health of performing arts within Jeffco. This person would help with that.

We would envision all of these people soliciting ad-hoc help from our ever growing base of informed parents. No one person can do it all! If you can volunteer a little of your time, please reply to this message and let us know of your interest.

HOW WE INTEND TO USE EMAIL, FACEBOOK, AND OUR UPCOMING WEBSITE FOR COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Email:** We have committed to not share your email address or to send you excessive messages. Emails will be limited to periodic newsletters, announcing significant events, or urgent requests for assistance with a particular initiative. (If you have specific suggestions about what you would like to be informed of via e-mail, please reply and let us know.)

- **Facebook:** We will use our Facebook site for frequent updates on news, events, and other information. Some of these updates will also come in e-mail, but the goal of Facebook is more real-time information.
- **Website:** We will use our upcoming website for more static information as well as items which fall in between the frequency of Facebook updates and periodic e-mails. This may include news, calendars of events, and items of importance which we don't want to scroll down and off of a Facebook page. We will also move our signup list to our website.

STARTING WITH THE NEXT NEWSLETTER:

Since we are still spending much of our time getting organized, we focused much of this newsletter on those activities. Our next newsletter will cover some of our startup activities, but the focus will begin to shift more towards advocacy actions as well as data, information, and resources.

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For frequent updates, "Like" our Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/jeffcopaadvocacy>

If you did not receive this message directly, you can stay informed by adding your name and e-mail at: <http://goo.gl/us3ppg>. (soon to move to our new web site)

You can contact us at any time at: jeffcopaadvocacy@gmail.com.

Coming very soon (under development now!) Our new web site: <http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org>.