



Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy Coalition

January, 2015 Newsletter

In this Edition

- > All County Orchestra & Band concerts (this Friday!)
- > Student Based Budgeting and how you need to advocate differently
- > Grants available to school programs and individual students
- > New website content
- > Spread the word!

All County Orchestra and Band Concerts

This Friday, January 23, at 7:30 PM, are the Jeffco All County Orchestra and Band concerts. They will be held at the West Bowles Community Church in Littleton. (12325 W Bowles Ave Littleton, CO 80127) Come out, support our students, and listen to some great music!

Student Based Budgeting and How You Need to Advocate Differently

Jeffco Public Schools is well into the budgeting process for the 2015 – 2016 school year. You have probably seen in email many mentions from Jeffco about “Student Based Budgeting”. In short, what that means is that instead of teachers being allocated to schools based on student population, schools will receive budget money to cover teachers (and other items). Each school will determine its priorities and budget the money according to those priorities, within the guidelines set by the county. This means that there is dramatically more local control over how money is spent and that your advocacy needs to begin right at your own school, right now. Priorities are being set as you read this. We created a 3 page white paper focused on how you can best advocate. It can be found at the top of our How to Advocate web page here: <http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org/how-to-advocate.html>.

Grants Available to School Programs and Individual Students

There are numerous grants available to Performing Arts programs within our schools and to individual students within those programs. The majority of these grants must be submitted for by a teacher, but that doesn't mean you can't help. First, you can bring awareness of the available grant to your Performing Arts teacher. Second, you may be able to assist them with gathering the required information and/or helping to write the grant request.

Many of the grants for the 2015 – 2016 school year have deadlines in February or March, so now is the time to consider them for your school. We have started a list of grants on our new Grant Opportunities web page here: <http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org/grant-opportunities.html>. We have a listing which includes grants for instruments, operational costs, and project costs.

If you see something that may be of use to your school or to a student, let your Performing Arts teacher(s) know and offer to assist them in writing the request. If you are aware of a grant opportunity that we do not have listed, let us know. We want to continue to add to the list.

New Website Content

Since the last newsletter, we have added a considerable amount of new content to our web site. Here are some highlights:

- > A new section on "How to Advocate" with downloadable content covering all areas of advocacy
- > A new section listing grant opportunities
- > Additional content in the Research and Data section
- > Additional content on local, state, and national advocacy organizations
- > An archive of past newsletters

As always, if you have anything we should add to the web site, let us know!

Spread the Word!

One of our primary goals is to provide information relevant to advocating for Performing Arts. We do this by building content on our web site, providing updates and time sensitive information on Facebook and Twitter, and through periodic newsletters. However, all the content in the world isn't useful unless it reaches people who care and can utilize it. Spread the word to those around you who care about Performing Arts. Broad based local advocacy is the best way to achieve the mission of "being 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."

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Our Contact Information:

Website: <http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jeffcopaadvocacy>
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If you didn't receive this e-mail directly from us, go here to stay informed or to volunteer:

<http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org/stay-informed-or-volunteer.html>

