



The Auburn Education Foundation
Making Dreams Come True
P. O. Box 6313 * Auburn, California 95604

MAXI-GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT REPORT

The Auburn Education has been happy to help you enrich your educational program. We hope that you will continue to seek support through the Foundation. Please, so that your ideas may be shared with other staff and also to ensure your continued eligibility for future grants, take time to complete the Project Report. Return it to the Auburn Educational Foundation, attention: Project Report Chairperson. Your Project Report, along with a summary of your project, will be included in the AEF Binder available at each site. If you have not already done so, you will need to submit all receipts with this report. Thank you

Date March 8, 2004

Applicant(s) Name: Audrey Mueller

Project Title: The Symphony Goes to School

Project Leader: Same

Grade(s) Included: K - 3 and 4 - 5 at School Site
Discretion

Phone No. of
Chairperson:

School: NA

School (s) Included: Alta Vista, Auburn Elementary,
Rock Creek, Skyridge

Home: 885-7681

No. of Students Involved: Approximately 1400

Budget Allocation: \$1000.00

Number of Teachers Involved: NA

1. Briefly describe your project and why you felt there was a need for it.

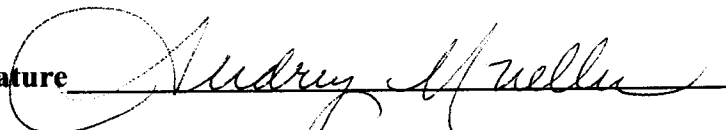
Description of Program. *The Symphony Goes to School* program provides a professional chamber orchestra experience for children. Eighteen musicians, dressed in symphony attire, perform four to five classical music selections which highlight the four families of instruments. A Mistress of Ceremonies narrates the program. Instrumentalists introduce their instrument representing each of the four families and play briefly, allowing children to hear what individual instruments sound like. Through a brief skit, children learn the role of the concertmaster, the conductor, how an orchestra tunes up, when to clap, and other items that help children to be comfortable and listen attentively in their role as concertgoers. Children are invited to clap or snap their fingers to rhythms, hum a note, listen for musical elements of a story, and in any other way to intentionally and thoughtfully increase their ability to gain knowledge of the instruments and music and to be effective musical listeners. Following the performance, children are invited to approach the musicians and more closely examine the instruments. A Study Guide and Compact Disc of the music is provided each teacher.

Need for Program.

- While children are exposed to popular music, they rarely have the opportunity to experience a live performance of symphonic music which incorporates melody, rhythm, harmony, counterpoint, a variety of instruments and intricate orchestration, played artfully and beautifully by professional musicians.
- Research indicates that participating in music at an early age increases a child's learning capacity.
- Children exposed to symphonic music early come to appreciate that much of the music in TV commercials and productions are excerpts of classical music and many modern symphonic compositions are written especially for movies such as "Lord of the Rings", "Harry Potter", and "Raiders of the Lost Ark."
- Being exposed to the beauty of the instruments will inspire some children to want to play an instrument.

- **What evidence indicated that students benefitted from this project?**
The Children, overall, are very attentive and responsive. They respond by pretending to direct the music or to play an instrument. They sing along with familiar tunes. When they have been taught what to listen for, many children have been able to pick out a theme played by certain instruments. When time has permitted, students have been eager to talk with the musicians and to look closely or touch the instruments. Children have been eager to tell musicians and others that they too play an instrument or want to. Comments by students and staff have been very positive. Parents, too, have made positive comments or written notes of appreciation to the committee.
- **Please explain how successful you were or were not in accomplishing what you set out to do.**
The committee believes that the mini-concerts have given children another dimension of music beyond what is the popular music of the day.
- **What changes, if any, might you make in your project?**
The committee has decided to target AUSD children in grades three through five, ages when children are beginning to play instruments. If scheduling and financing permits, the mini-concerts could be extended to grade six.
- **How did you involve Parents? Businesses? Community?**
The Symphony Goes to School program draws professional musicians from Davis, Sacramento, Nevada City, and Oregon House, as well as Auburn and the surrounding area. Members of the committee are former teachers and community members. The community has been very supportive with grants, donations, and time. An example of community and business involvement is demonstrated as follows: A community member prepared the Study Guide and purchased the blank CD's. Drew Lord, ESG Printmaster donated the printing of the study guide and CD labels. Dave Rosenthal, KAHI, narrated the CD and produced the master CD. WizWire copied the CD for distribution.
- **How adequate was the funding to complete your project?**
The cost of four performances in AUSD is approximately \$4500, with each performance costing approximately \$1125. The AEF grant of \$1000 helped to defray the expense. Community individuals and businesses have supported the program and made it possible to provide the study guide and compact disc at little cost to the symphony.
- **How will you share your project with others?**
NA
- **Do you have any suggestions to improve the Maxi-Grant process?**
Not at this time.
- **Any general comments are encouraged.**
NA
- **Please include a picture or pictures of your project.**

Project Leader Signature



*Thank you for the time you have just spent completing this report.
It is very helpful to us and we hope it helped you to evaluate your project.
The Auburn Education Foundation Grant Committee*