**Spring 2017 Performances & Concerts**

We began our Spring Semester in January with an intimate, beautiful performance by our String Quartet for the Rotary Club of Corral de Tierra. Thanks so much to Diane Cadei for the invitation and wonderful opportunity for our students. Then, in February, Phoenix (our Advanced Orchestra) performed our annual collaboration piece with Youth Music Monterey in Carmel at the Sunset Center. This year they played “Procession of the Sardar” by Mikhail Ippolitov Ivanov. It’s always a joy to see both youth orchestra programs progress each year!

In March, our Pre-Orchestra program kicked off the Spring with a fun performance at the Oldtown Marketplace in downtown Salinas, featuring their theme for the semester - the four elements! It was another joyous and lively occasion at the farmer’s market, and the students and families love the chance to perform out in the community.

In April, we were invited to perform at the Monterey Bay Art and Film Festival for Youth (MAFFY), held at CSUMB @ Salinas City Center. This was a particularly special performance, as well, since one of our Orchestra Teaching Artists, David Gertz, made his conducting debut, directing Jupiter (our Beginning Orchestra). Congrats to David and the students! It was a great first experience for all staff and students involved in this performance. Thank you to Soyeon Kim and Lanier Sammons for the invitation! We look forward to next year.

May proved, once again, to be one of our busier months with end of the year concerts and performances. First, we had the opportunity to participate in and perform at the annual “Take It Outside” community event at Natividad Creek Park in Salinas. Pre-Orchestra, Phoenix and our Mariachi String Ensemble were there to represent YOSAL at this event. We followed up with our end of the year Juniors concerts at Los Padres School and Kammann and Sherwood Schools.

Finally, we ended the semester with our annual Spring Concert at the Fox Theater in downtown Salinas, featuring both Orchestras, Mariachi String Ensemble, Choir, Pre-Orchestra and Juniors. It was one of our best shows to date with the highlight of the evening being the Disney medley from “Hunchback of Notre Dame,” which showcased the Orchestra, Choir and Juniors programs. Some of the other rep for the evening included, “Wade in the Water,” “Dragon Hunter, “Bolero for Strings,” and “Conga del Fuego Nuevo” by Arturo Marquez. And a huge thank you, again, to Anthony Lane, Fox Theater Manager, for hosting us!

YOSAL & BSLT Partnership

Once again, we continued our great partnership with the Big Sur Land Trust. Each year, since 2013, BSLT has provided Summer Camps, and more recently, Day Camps, for our students. These camps combine music, nature and education on land preservation. We’re grateful for this partnership and BSLT is another wonderful example of one of the community organizations that YOSAL works with to enhance our mission for our youth. In February and May, BSLT offered two Day Camps, taking the students to Marks Ranch near Toro Park and at the end of June, hosted the annual Summer Camps at Glen Deven Ranch. Our students have such great adventures at these camps filled with memories to last a lifetime. Thanks to Todd Farrington, Community Engagement Manager, and Trent Hodges, Outdoor Programs Coordinator, for making this happen each year!
Parent appreciation night

This year we decided to host our first ever Parent Appreciation Night at our YOSAL facility inside CSUMB @ North Salinas. It was a night filled with food, special performances, music games, raffles, awards and even a photo booth! With nearly 150 parents in attendance, plus the students, it was a tight squeeze, but also a success. Thanks so much to our teaching and assistant staff for planning the memorable evening. And thank you to our YOSAL parents and families, again, for your support and “lending” us your children every day for a few hours.

Special music video

Another exciting project we worked on this past Spring was our special music video, “Sing,” by Gary Barlow and The Commonwealth. The students and staff worked very hard and had an amazing time shooting this video during March and April. Huge thanks to FireHawk Thulin, who produced, shot and edited on this project, and Liz Baseman, one of our Pre-Orchestra Teaching Artists, for directing the music video.

Staff training

In April, we sent our Pre-Orchestra and Juniors teaching staff to the Northern California Orff-Schulwerk Association Western Mini-Conference at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley. The theme was Afro-Latin Orff, using Spanish songs, recorders, movement, dance and percussion. After each Orff conference, training or workshop, our teachers come back inspired and full of new songs, teaching techniques and ideas for our students!

In June, with the help of the Salinas City Elementary School District, we began training all of our staff in Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS). This behavior system is used at schools across Salinas and is a great way to keep students motivated and engaged, using positive reinforcement. Thanks to Ingrid Hermann, Administrator of School Culture and Climate at SCESD for training our staff.

Annual YOSAL gala & fundraiser

Once again, we pulled off another lively and successful gala fundraiser in May at the Corral de Tierra Country Club. Our theme was Cinco de Mayo and we had the privilege of having master magician, David Harris, return as our special entertainment and MC for the night. Thank you, thank you, thank you to Sherrie Isaac, Anne Bramers, Joanne Taylor, Mary Alicia McRae and all the YOSAL Board, Gala Committee, donors, sponsors and guests who helped make this event possible. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and it’s inspiring to see how many people care about our students and this community!
El Sistema USA/Salinas, Inc. (YOSAL) is an IRS designated 501(c)3 Tax Deductible Organization (Federal I.D. # 27-2306206). Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

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- Michael Gomez, Program Manager
- Amalia Diaz, Orchestra Director
- Michael Gomez, Pre-Orchestra & Choral Director
- Miran McPoland, Juniors Director & Orchestra
- Liz Baseman, Pre-Orchestra
- Felisha Garcia, Juniors & Pre-Orchestra
- David Giertz, Orchestra
- Isabel Guerrero, Pre-Orchestra
- Tyler Reilly, Violin Coach
- John Orzel, Brass/Woodwind Coach
- Greg Smith, Brass Coach
- Alex Declet, Teaching Assistant

### TEACHING ARTISTS:
- Amalia Diaz, Orchestra Director
- Michael Gomez, Pre-Orchestra & Choral Director
- Miran McPoland, Juniors Director & Orchestra
- Liz Baseman, Pre-Orchestra
- Felisha Garcia, Juniors & Pre-Orchestra
- David Giertz, Orchestra
- Isabel Guerrero, Pre-Orchestra
- Tyler Reilly, Violin Coach
- John Orzel, Brass/Woodwind Coach
- Greg Smith, Brass Coach
- Alex Declet, Teaching Assistant

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- Mary & Don Wurtz

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/11/17</td>
<td>Phoenix (Advanced Orchestra) Performance at the Salinas Rotary Club @ 12:30pm at the CSUMB @ Salinas City Center (1 Main St)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/11/17</td>
<td>Pre-Orchestra Field Trip @ 3:30pm to the CSUMB Recording Studio (Marina, CA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/12/17</td>
<td>Orchestra Field Trip @ 3:30pm to the CSUMB Recording Studio (Marina, CA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/13/17</td>
<td>Field Trip Day to Monterey and Sunset Center to view a Rehearsal of the Carmel Bach Festival @ 10am-5:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/16/17</td>
<td>Phoenix (Advanced Orchestra) Performance at the Cowboy Music &amp; Poetry Rodeo Event @ 2:00pm at Sherwood Hall in Salinas</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/19/17-7/21/17</td>
<td>Pre-Orchestra Workshop at the Kinship Center (124 River Rd) @ 10am-1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21/17</td>
<td>YOSAL Choir Dress Rehearsal with the Carmel Bach Festival @ 2:30pm at the Sunset Center (Carmel)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/22/17</td>
<td>YOSAL Choir Performance with the Carmel Bach Festival Family Concert @ 11am at the Sunset Center (Carmel)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/26/17</td>
<td>Dress Rehearsal for Summer Concert @ 3pm at Kammann Elementary School (521 Rochex Ave)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/27/17</td>
<td>Summer Concert &amp; BBQ @ 3pm at Kammann Elementary School (521 Rochex Ave)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/28/16</td>
<td>Last Day of YOSAL Summer Session</td>
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