



BURLINGAME COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## Music for Burlingame School District Students



### *BCE and Music*

BCE's supplemental funding to Burlingame School District (BSD) is critical because the state of California no longer funds Music specialists. Since 1981, Burlingame parents, teachers, administrators, businesses and community members have supported BCE and our schools by raising money for programs that are no longer paid for by the state through tax dollars. *In fact, property tax dollars go to Sacramento and less than 50 cents of every dollar is returned to the Burlingame School District.*

### **Quality Music Education**

#### ***Benefits for Today and Tomorrow***

Each of us wants our children to achieve success in school, success in employment, and success in the social structures through which we move. Participation in quality music programs, like those supported by BCE, is proven to help children achieve these goals.

### **Twelve Benefits of Music Education**

Music instruction, during the formative school years, brings countless benefits throughout life, including:

**1** Early musical training helps develop brain areas involved in language and reasoning. Musical training physically develops the part of the left side of the brain known to be involved with processing language.

“Sequential, skill-building instruction in music can greatly improve children's performance in reading and math.”  
*Martin Gardiner, Alan Fox, Faith Knowles, and Donna Jeffrey Nature*

**2** There is link between music and spatial intelligence. This kind of intelligence, by which one can visualize various elements that should go together, is critical to the sort of thinking necessary for everything from solving advanced mathematics problems to packing a book-bag with everything needed for the day.

“Music instruction can enhance spatial reasoning performance, a critical higher-brain function necessary to

perform complex tasks including mathematics.”  
*Frances Rauscher, Ph.D., Gordon Shaw, Ph.D.,  
University of California, Irvine*

**3** Students of music learn to think creatively and to solve problems by imagining various solutions, rejecting outdated rules and assumptions. Questions about the arts do not have only one right answer.

“College admissions officers cite participation in music as an important factor in making admissions decisions. They claim that music participation demonstrates time management, creativity, expression, and open-mindedness.”  
*Carl Hartman, The Associated Press*

**4** Students who study music are more successful on standardized tests such as the SAT. They also achieve higher grades in high school.

“Students who had received music instruction scored higher in the SAT than students with no music program participation.”  
*Profile of SAT Program Test Takers, The College Entrance Examination Board*



**5** Music instruction provides children with a glimpse of other cultures. This teaches them empathy and provides a bridge across cultural chasms, leading to a respect of others at an early age.

“Music has a great power for bringing people together. With so many forces in this world acting to drive wedges between people, it’s important to preserve those things that help us experience our common humanity.”  
*Ted Turner, Turner Enterprises, Inc.*

**6** Students of music learn craftsmanship as they study how details are put together and what constitutes good, as opposed to mediocre, work. These standards demand a new level of excellence and require students to stretch their inner resources.

“In addition to learning the valuable lesson that it takes hard work to achieve success, music education provides students with a strong sense of determination, improved communication skills, and a host of other qualities essential for successful living.”  
*Edward H. Rensi, President and Chief Operations Officer, U.S.A. McDonald’s Corporation*

**7** In music, a mistake is a mistake. It is only by hard work that a successful musical performance is possible. Through music instruction, students learn the value of sustained effort to achieve excellence and the concrete rewards of hard work.

“Studying music encourages self-discipline and diligence, traits that carry over into intellectual pursuits and lead to effective study and work habits.”  
*Michael E. DeBakey, M.D., Baylor College of Music*

**8** Music study enhances teamwork skills and discipline. In order for an orchestra to sound good, all players must work together harmoniously towards a single goal, the performance, and must commit to learning music, attending rehearsals, and practicing.

“Music is about communication, creativity, and cooperation, and, by studying music in school, students have the opportunity to build on these skills and enrich their lives.”  
*Bill Clinton, former President, United States of America*

**9** Music provides children with a means of self-expression. Everyone needs to be in touch at some time in his life with his core, with what he is and what he feels. Self-esteem is a by-product of this self-expression.

“Students in the arts are found to be more cooperative with teachers and peers, more self-confident, and better able to express their ideas. These benefits exist across socioeconomic levels.”  
*The Arts Education Study, Columbia University*

**10** Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on “doing,” as opposed to observing. Employers are looking for multi-dimensional workers with the sort of flexible and supple intellects that music education helps. In the music classroom, students can also learn to better communicate and cooperate with one another.

“Music education aids students in skills needed in the workplace: flexibility, the ability to solve problems and communicate, creativity and innovation, the ability to learn new skills, and a drive to strive for excellence.”  
*Joseph M. Calahan, Director of Corporate Communications, Xerox Corporation*

**11** Music performance teaches young people to conquer fear and to take risks. A little anxiety is a good thing as it will occur often in life. Dealing with it early and often makes it less of a problem later. Risk-taking is essential if a child is to fully develop his or her potential.

“I believe music education is one of the most creative ways we have to find the gold that is buried just beneath the surface. Children have an enthusiasm for life, a spark of creativity, and vivid imaginations that need training... training that prepares them to become confident young men and women.”  
*Richard W. Riley, U.S. Secretary of Education*

**12** An arts education exposes children to an incomparable educational experience.

“Studying music elevates children’s education, expands students’ horizons, and teaches them to appreciate the wonder of life.”  
*Richard W. Riley, U.S. Secretary of Education*

## Contribute to BCE Today

### Ensure that Burlingame School District Has Music

Your contribution to BCE ensures that our children receive quality music programs delivered by trained specialists. In addition, your tax-deductible donation remains entirely in the Burlingame School District, directly benefiting our children.

Families are asked to contribute \$500 per child or whatever they can.

**Pay by Mail:** Send check or credit card info in BCE envelope

**Pay Online:** Go to [www.bcefoundation.org/donate](http://www.bcefoundation.org/donate)

**Get Matching Funds:** Check with your employer about their matching gift program.



**Burlingame Community for Education Foundation**

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BCE Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.