

CLIFTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.clifton.k12.nj.us

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Instruments are picked up starting in September for the school year and returned to Clifton music teachers in June. Students enrolled in the Integrated Summer Enrichment Experience, I.S.E.E., program are permitted to keep their instruments for the duration of the program.

Currently, between 100-200 students at each middle school, Christopher Columbus and Woodrow Wilson, and over 400 students throughout Clifton's elementary schools benefit from Music Angels for strings or band.

"The Music Angels program is another example of the extraordinary work that Clifton Public Schools does to ensure that all students have the opportunity to shine," said Clifton Superintendent, Dr. Danny A. Robertozzi. "This is a community at its best, coming together for children. And what better way than to give the gift of music education."

Shang Lee, who has been teaching in Clifton for fifteen years, said, "We only had about ten string instruments when I first started. We now have 140 instruments, and that's just in the elementary schools. That's 140 more musicians that we would not have had without Music Angels."

Leshowitz continued, "There have been times where parents have had tears in their eyes, stating how grateful their family has been for this opportunity. Students' eyes just light up when they see their instruments for the first time."

Several individuals and businesses send annual donations to Music Angels. The winter and spring concert programs include a list of all donors. "We appreciate donations of any size. Generally, our Music Angel recipients seem to take practice and music very seriously. I truly believe that they appreciate the extraordinary opportunity to be a part of the music world."

Anyone interested in donating an instrument or money to the music angels program can contact Mr. Leshowitz directly at jlshowitz@cliftonschoools.net or 973 594 4199 for further information.

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