

Press Release: Immediately

Title: Lipton Daniel Family Makes Challenge Grant to Support K-12 Music Program

Contact: Pamela Swan, Executive Director, (707) 433-1223 pswan@hefschools.com



The Healdsburg Education Foundation (HEF) has announced a pledged challenge grant of \$10,000 from Doug Lipton and Cindy Daniel in support of the HUSD K-12 Core Music Program.

The Healdsburg Education Foundation (HEF) is in the process of raising \$40,000 to support Music Education at the Healdsburg Unified School District. The Lipton Daniel Family’s challenge grant provides a great opportunity to leverage this donation with community support, and ensure that music instruction is available for all of our students for the full school year. “Music is a vibrant part of our community, particularly with our jazz festival, and an important part of life,” says Cindy Daniel. “Cultural literacy-which includes musical literacy, is part of a good education. It should be integrated into the core curriculum of academic programs everywhere and for everyone.”

This year alone, community funding is needed to cover the costs for the Core Kinder– 12th grade Music Program, including the Recycled Rhythm program for our 3rd and 4th graders, the 5th Grade Beginning Band Program, a music teacher for the Junior High Band Program, and the Junior High and High School Jazz Band Programs.

Much of the K-12 Core Music Program is funded by our community due to budget cuts. “If it weren’t for HEF and our generous parent and community donors – there would be huge gaps in our music program,” stated Randy Masselink, the HJH and HHS Music Instructor.

Annie Millar, HUSD Director of Curriculum and Instruction asserts, “The research proves that music education has a profound effect on student academic and social performance, in addition to retention rates. But most importantly, music provides an ideal environment for our students to communicate their love of music, their creativity and their feelings - in a safe and nurturing environment.”

The Lipton Daniel Family challenge grant builds upon the generous donation recently made by Charlie Palmer’s Dry Creek Kitchen from proceeds of the 2010 Pigs and Pinot event, which funded the Recycled Rhythm Program for 3rd and 4th graders. HEF is currently approximately \$25,000 from its fundraising goal for this year’s music programs.

If you would like to make a donation to support music in our schools and help match the Lipton Daniels Challenge Grant for K-12 Core Music, you can donate online at hefschools.com or contact Pamela Swan, HEF Director, at 433-1223 or P.O. Box 1668, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

###