

To: CCSD Elementary School Principals
From: Nancy Schkurman, CCSD Elementary Fine Arts Coordinator
June Eshelman, Coord./Dir., UNLV Summer Orff-Schulwerk Teacher Training
Subject: Orff Music Certification and graduate credit opportunities for your music and interested classroom teachers
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Would you like to see your music teacher begin next year with more training, fresh ideas, and new activities to implement our district's Orff music curriculum? Would you like to see your regular education teachers use multiple techniques to reach the diverse learning styles of your students and bring up reading scores at the same time? Of course you would!

Did you know UNLV hosts one of the nation's top Orff Schulwerk Certification Teacher Training Programs and that the training is not just for music teachers? It's true! The Level I training is appropriate, fun and beneficial for any of your regular education teachers who can read simple treble clef music. The Level I course is rich in its integration of movement and sound into children's literature. The infusion of movement, rhythm, and sound into reading instruction increases fluency, understanding and retention. Children's storybooks, poems and rhymes are consistently used throughout the Level I training.

Please take a moment to preview this summer's course brochure, and share it with your music teacher and any regular education teacher who likes to (or you would like to see) incorporate more movement and sound into their study of children's literature. The staff development received through this course will enable and encourage your teachers to become better teachers and more fully utilize the district's fantastic Orff Schulwerk music curriculum in and out of the music classroom. It's a true "win-win" situation. Your music teacher will use more literature and the classroom teacher will make the study of literature more engaging and meaningful. In addition, there is an extra bonus. When compared to the cost of sending your teachers to a national conference, (held during the school year and requiring the hiring of substitute teachers), this is a much cheaper and more intensive way to improve your teachers' skill level, and give them the tools to become better teachers. (My apologies to the year round schools as they would still have to obtain subs for the summer training.)

This course can meet the needs of the beginning, intermediate and advanced music teacher. We even have people returning after completing all three Orff Certification Levels to repeat a Level to revitalize their skills and study with different instructors. Three of the five instructors hired for this 10 day course are or have been CCSD instructors who know the challenges of our district. (Sue Mueller, formerly at Parson ES, Kay Lehto, currently at Gilbert ES Magnet & Cathy Ameling at Hoggard ES Magnet. All of instructors are nationally known presenters and respected members of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. We are one of the few AOSA approved courses to offer all three levels of Orff Certification. The course meets the requirements for 3 graduate credits from UNLV.

Don't miss this opportunity to get this great training for your music and regular education teachers. Several teachers from CCSD have received support from PTA grants at their individual schools or through the use of their school's staff development monies. Please share this brochure with your music teacher and other interested humanities and regular education teachers. If you feel so inclined, encourage their enrollment in the course. I'm sure any financial help your school could manage would be appreciated, and the pay back for your students will make it well worth your while. In addition please display and/or share the enclosed flyer designed to encourage your regular education teachers to consider enrolling in Level I.

Questions regarding the program should be directed to June Eshelman, retired CCSD elementary principal and course director, via CCSD InterAct or Orffjune@aol.com.

