

MUSIC MAKES US WHOLE

Music Makes Us Whole—launched at the beginning of January—is several dozen Minnesota non-profit and for-profit organizations that believe every child deserves a rich music education. MMEA and Classical MPR are co-leading the group and MNSOTA is delighted to be one of the partners. Each organization will use the same message and call attention in social media, newsletters, concert programs and/or from the stage. Please consider adding information to your program’s website, newsletters or parent communications:

“Music Supports Whole Learners, Whole Communities and Whole-Life Benefits. Call a local principal or superintendent

and ask how music is doing in your school. Learn more at musicmakesuswhole.org.”

School principals and administrators will likely turn to music educators to get information for parents. Please reach out to your school colleagues, and review teacher resources at mmea.org/advocacy.

Whole Learners: Music training *stimulates nearly every region of the brain*, strengthening those regions used for complex math and abstract-thinking skills. Students with 1+ year of high school music experience improve their ACT scores: 4% higher on Math and 7% higher on English.

Whole Communities: Music training can assist in creating a better learner

and *help reduce the achievement gap*. Low-income students who took music lessons in grades 8-12 saw math, reading, history, geography and social skills *soar by 40%* compared to non-music students.

Whole-life Benefits: Music students gain *the skills employers most want* of teamwork, communication, problem-solving. 83% of adults with *incomes higher than \$150,000* participated in music.

These real-world benefits, alongside the simple and profound gift of daily music-making in a child’s life, make music essential.

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Learn more, including sources for the citations above, at musicmakesuswhole.org. †