Without Skipping a Beat…

Accent Pontiac is halfway through its third year in Pontiac. Here’s this year’s progress so far:

Schools served: 2
Students served: 260
Student Performances: 10
Guest Artist Experiences: 4
Field Trips: 2

A Note From Our Director, Tina Rowan

This year, I had the distinct honor of co-chairing the El Sistema USA National Symposium in Detroit, Michigan. From January 29 to January 31, teachers, administrators, parents, and students from El Sistema-inspired programs across the country gathered to share, listen, and learn about social change through music programs. Three Accent Pontiac staff presented as part of this national conference, sharing best practices we’ve implemented on amplifying student voice and composition as key components of our programming. In addition, 20 Accent Pontiac students performed as part of the symposium, even though school was cancelled that day! Performance Bucket Band students helped conference attendees compose their own piece, and Woodwinds students participated in a collaboration with students from other Detroit-area programs. In the past, I’ve been inspired to see students from other programs perform and lead at these national conferences. What a wonderful feeling it was to see OUR students on this national stage!

Accent Pontiac is part of the first PRESTO grant cohort, which will match donations to Accent Pontiac up to $20,000. Please consider donating today to double your impact!

Donate online at www.accentpontiac.org/get-involved or by check payable to Accent Pontiac and mailed to: Accent Pontiac
1340 W Long Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Accent Pontiac’s 2017-2018 Annual Report is complete!

Check it out on our website:
www.accentpontiac.org/about

The fact that Accent Pontiac parents, family members, and students were able and enthusiastic about participating even though school was cancelled indicates that they have done the hard work of creating intrinsic motivation, a want to perform, and a family/team atmosphere with the students and families served.

- Dan Trahey, Music Education Consultant
### Program Highlights

**October 30: Trunk or Treat**  
Accent Pontiac Performance Percussion and Brass students performed at the Pontiac community’s Trunk or Treat event.

**November 24: Kirk in the Hills 5K Run/Walk**  
Accent Pontiac students performed and participated in this 5K event raising funds for Accent Pontiac.

**December 1: Holiday Extravaganza Parade**  
Accent Pontiac students participated in the Holiday Extravaganza Parade in Pontiac and our Woodwind Students had their premiere performance at the Pontiac Public Library.

**December 3-7: Composition Workshop Week**  
Accent Pontiac hosted 3 guest teaching artists to work with our students for an intensive workshop week, where students composed their own music and performed twice at the end of the week.

**December 20: Parent Showcase**  
Accent Pontiac students drew a large crowd for their parent showcase at Whitman Elementary School’s Winterfest.

**February 11: Detroit Pistons Field Trip**  
Thirty Accent Pontiac students attended a field trip to Little Caesar’s Arena to attend a Detroit Pistons basketball game.

**February 13: Count Day Guest Artist Performances**  
Accent Pontiac hosted two Detroit bands to encourage student attendance by performing during lunches on Count Day: Woodward Horns and Modern Element.

### Save the Date!

**Rock ‘n’ Art$ at the Flagstar Strand Theatre**  
May 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Accent Pontiac will proudly host with partner Funding the Future a family-friendly musical concert featuring an original student composition promoting financial literacy and providing an exciting additional element to the Pontiac Arts & Culture Crawl.

**Music at the Market at Lafayette Market**  
June 1, 6:30 p.m.  
Accent Pontiac will present our first annual Music at the Market fundraising event in downtown Pontiac. Featured guest artists include the Accent Pontiac Percussion Brass and Woodwind ensembles, along with recognized local talent. The evening includes a strolling dinner, followed by a live auction.

### Upcoming Events

- **March 8:** Field trip to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Classical Roots concert
- **March 21:** Tumbao Bravo Performance and Workshop  
  *Funded in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council*
- **April 28—May 3:** Composition Workshop Week
- **May 3, 7:30 p.m.:** Rock ‘n’ Art$
- **June 1, 6:30 p.m.:** Music at the Market

Stay up to date on our website: www.accentpontiac.org/program

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Check out our article in the Oakland Press!  
*I feel proud*: Accent Pontiac music education serves hundreds of elementary students, fundraiser upcoming  
Photo Credit: Natalie Broda—The Oakland Press