



News To Note

February 2021

Without Skipping a Beat

While this school year began like no other, Accent Pontiac has continued to find ways to stay connect with our students through music. In February 2021, Accent Pontiac implemented small-group, in-person programming at Kirk in the Hills, providing music instruction, homework help, dinner and transportation. We hosted during-school classes for 2nd and 3rd grade students at Walt Whitman Elementary School. We launched a pilot partnership with Michigan State University to lead a beatmaking and song-writing class for Accent Pontiac students. **Most importantly, we continued to change lives through music!**

COVID-19 Arts and Creative Community Assistance Fund

Accent Pontiac is one of five organizations to receive support from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and CultureSource through this fund. **Thank you!**



Learn more about the impact of this grant program through articles from The Oakland Press and Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan at <u>www.accentpontiac.org/media</u>.

The kids I connected with in Accent Pontiac are all so proud to be part of it! One student even brought his bucket drum and sticks to music class today [at the Pontiac Middle School] and used them in all of our music activities. Accent Pontiac students are strong leaders!

-Vickie Crouse, Music Teacher, Pontiac Middle School

We Need Your Help!

Volunteers are needed to prepare and deliver meals for up to 10 students at Accent Pontiac classes Mondays—Fridays in March and April. Find more information and sign up at <u>www.accentpontiac.org/get-involved</u>.



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Program Highlights

November 7: Green Bucket Run

Kirk in the Hills hosted the 3rd Annual Green Bucket Run (formerly Kirk in the Hills 5K) to benefit Accent Pontiac on a beautiful fall day in November. Thank you to our student performers, sponsors, volunteers, and all the participants for making this a safe, joyful and successful event!

February 15—19: El Sistema USA National Symposium

Accent Pontiac staff and students had the honor of participating in the 2021 El Sistema USA National Symposium! Accent Pontiac teachers Dr. Tia Harvey, Dr. Remus Webb, Sarah Cracknell and Marisa Jacques led a creative music-making session with 100 students, including 4 Accent Pontiac students. In addition, all students virtually rehearsed and performed the world premiere of "What We Will Be" as part of the symposium. Watch the performance at <u>www.vimeo.com/514116081.</u>

Accent Pontiac's **2019—2020 Annual Report** is now available at <u>www.accentpontiac.org/annual-report.</u> Check out Accent Pontiac's journey and impact over the past year!



Thank you to our funders!

Upcoming Events

March 19, 7:00 p.m.: Virtual Winter Student Performance April 23, 6:00 p.m.: Nibbles and Notes Virtual Cooking Fundraiser June 11: Golf Fundraiser

More information will be available in the upcoming weeks at <u>www.accentpontiac.org/events</u> and on Accent Pontiac's Facebook page. **Subscribe** at <u>www.accentpontiac.org/subscribe</u> to receive all event updates.

