



# News to Note

Issue #5

October 2018

## Without Skipping a Beat:

On September 24, Accent Pontiac launched its third year of programming. In addition to continuing to grow our program at our Walt Whitman Elementary School, we have also launched a second school partner site in Pontiac: Alcott Elementary School. This year we will serve approximately 260 students with during-school bucket band classes and after-school brass, woodwind, and bucket band classes. We look forward to presenting performances, taking our students on field trips, and bringing guest artists into our partner schools throughout the year.

## A Note From Our Director, Tina Rowan

As we begin an exciting new school year, I can't help but start by reflecting back to the summer. This summer, we had a two-week program – double the length of our 2017 summer program! This additional week allowed us to truly explore the impact Accent Pontiac is having on our students – our students built stronger relationships with one another and with our staff and volunteers, they participated in field trips, they performed twice, they led workshops with students in other Pontiac summer camps. They progressed on their instruments, and they had FUN! We are ready to take this energy and translate it into a wonderful school year!

*I so enjoyed the final presentation of the Accent Pontiac summer camp. The children were energized with music, mentoring, and friendship. On par with the joy in their hearts was the joy evident in those that looked on – recording with their phones and clapping with their hands. You can't measure the delight in a parent's heart. – Rev. Dr. Nate Phillips, Kirk in the Hills Senior Pastor*



## Staff Update

Accent Pontiac is thrilled to welcome seven new members to our team!

Mary Ann Mohring: Director of Resource Development  
Alex Krawczyk: Program Manager/Lead Brass Teaching Artist  
Kening Law: Site Coordinator  
Natalie Frakes: Program Assistant  
Ebony Simms-Peoples: Program Assistant/School Liaison  
Ryan King: Lead Woodwind Teaching Artist  
Chelsea Koziatek: Assistant Woodwind Teaching Artist

Learn more about our new staff members at [www.accentpontiac.org/staff](http://www.accentpontiac.org/staff). We are happy to report that many of our staff members from last year are also continuing on our team.





## Program Highlights

### July 7: Canvas Pontiac

Accent Pontiac Performance Bucket Band students were featured performers at the 2018 Canvas Pontiac Awards Celebration at Elektriccity in downtown Pontiac.

### July 30 – August 10: Summer Program

Accent Pontiac hosted a two-week summer program at Kirk in the Hills, offering classes in Bucket Band, Brass, Movement, and Composition, as well as breakfast, lunch, and recreation each day. Highlights of the summer program include performing and leading workshops for students at Pontiac's Baldwin Center summer program, a field trip to Waterford Lanes and Jump Zone, and a final performance at Kirk in the Hills to showcase student progress.

### September 9: Kirk in the Hills Homecoming Picnic

Accent Pontiac Performance Bucket Band students performed at the Kirk in the Hills Homecoming Picnic.

### September 24: First Day of In-School Bucket Band

Second and third grade students at Walt Whitman Elementary School and fifth grade students at Alcott Elementary School had their first day of Accent Pontiac bucket band classes.

### October 3: Count Day

Accent Pontiac Performance Bucket Band students performed during lunch periods at Walt Whitman Elementary School on Count Day.

### October 8: First Day of After-School Programming

Students at Walt Whitman Elementary School participated in the first day of after-school brass and bucket band classes. Students at Alcott Elementary School participated in the first day of after-school woodwind classes. All after-school student participants also receive snack each day.

*I was impressed by the proficiency that the children are gaining on their instruments, the composition that they wrote, the self-confidence they showed, and more. Most of all, I was so very happy to witness the joy and pride that the children clearly felt in what they had accomplished.*

– Barbara Littleton, Accent Pontiac Board Member

**Kirk in the Hills**  
**5K RUN WALK**  
 November 24, 2018

Proceeds Benefit Accent Pontiac

[kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org) • [accentpontiac.org](http://accentpontiac.org)

Join us for the Kirk in the Hills Run/Walk on Saturday, November 24, 2018! Accent Pontiac students will perform and all proceeds benefit Accent Pontiac. Registration and sponsorship information available at:

<http://www.kirkinthehills.org/serve/5k-runwalk>

## El Sistema USA

**PRESTO**

Program for Rising El Sistema Organizations

We are honored to announce that Accent Pontiac has received the PRESTO grant from El Sistema USA 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](http://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



## Upcoming Events

**October 30, 6:00 p.m.:** Trunk or Treat Performance

**November 24, 9:00 a.m.:** 5K Run/Walk

**December 1, 11:00 a.m.:** Holiday Extravaganza Parade & Performance

**December 3 – 7:** Artists in Residence Workshop Week

**December 20, 5:00 p.m.:** Whitman Winterfest Performance

Additional performances and field trips will soon be added to our calendar.

Stay up to date on our website: [www.accentpontiac.org/program](http://www.accentpontiac.org/program)