



2022-23 Gift of Music Grant Recipients

Bringing Jazz to Life in CU submitted by Mike Allen, John Currey, Brian Ford, Kim Branch, and Robin Heltsley, Champaign Unit 4 instrumental music teachers. Funds will support professional visiting artist Ron Carter (Professor Emeritus Northern Illinois University) for a 3-day residency focusing on intense study of jazz music in historical and cultural context with Centennial, Central, Jefferson and Edison music students.

Latin Jazz Concert submitted by Jeff Dare, Curtis Viselli, Jaclyn Turner, Kim Branch, and Teneka Richardson, educators at Edison Middle School. Teachers plan to bring 100 6-8th grade strings, band, and general music class students to ***Con Alma y Fuego*** presented through the Krannert Youth Performance series at the University of Illinois.

Studying the Lion King-Broadway in Chicago submitted by Emily Kuchenbrod from Kenwood in Champaign. 64 fifth-grade students and chaperones will travel to Chicago to explore exhibits at the historic ***Field Museum*** and see a production of ***The Lion King*** at the Cadillac Palace Theatre. Students will prepare for this trip through media analysis, group discussion, and creative activities prepared by the music specialist and classroom teachers.

Jabari Dreams of Freedom- Krannert Youth Series submitted by Karinsa Moline from South Side in Champaign. 3rd & 4th Grade students will attend the Krannert Youth Series production called "Jabari Dreams of Freedom", which features a story set in current events that harkens back to the Civil Rights era. Students will experience a performance filled with Civil Rights history, as well as hip hop music, dance, and humor. Students will have been studying Civil Rights era musicians over the course of the school year, so this will be a culminating event for them to attend this performance.

Violas and Violins submitted by Curtis Viselli from Edison Middle School. Funds will be used to purchase 4 violins and 1 viola that will be used by Edison orchestra students and other 5th grade students beginning on these instruments.

Guest Clinician for Centennial Choir submitted by Stefanie Eustice, Choir Director at Centennial High School. Funds will be used to for visiting artist and clinician in developing 50 CHS choir students.

Gift of the Music grants are provided to K-12 schools in Unit 4