

Pacific Beach Middle An IB World School

Local Bands Support PBMS Music Program

Pacific Beach Middle School (PBMS) Music Association held its annual PB Palooza Music Festival and fundraiser on September 17 at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club. The event has been a tradition since 2017 and raises money for the school's music program while featuring performances by bands associated with the middle school and Mission Bay High School (MBHS). This year's lineup showcased The Preservationists, Eric Wesling Trio, Josie and Friends, School of Rock House Band, and newcomers, Taconacho and Dr Mr.

PBMS currently engages more than 250 of its 620 students in eight instrumental and choral ensembles, including Beginner Grade Strings, Beginner Grade Band, Intermediate Strings, Intermediate Band, Orchestra, and Concert Band. The school introduced Choir and Jazz Ensemble this year as well. The ensembles build on the music introductions taught at Crown Point Junior Music Academy, Pacific Beach Elementary School (PBE), Kate Sessions Elementary, and Barnard Mandarin Magnet Elementary School, and provide PBMS students with the opportunity to explore and expand their musical skills prior to high school.

Sixth-grade PBMS student Dante S. is the lead singer and bassist for Taconacho. The band, which was formed during the pandemic, also includes his sister Marlowe, a third-grader at PBE, on the drums and two of their family friends on keyboard and guitar.

"The most exciting thing about coming to PBMS was joining the music program," explains Dante, who auditioned for and was accepted into the school's inaugural jazz ensemble this year. "I like having the experience of performing with a large group of musicians. It is really important to learn a musical instrument in life because it allows us to express feelings through music. The best part is when we musically connect and feel that we have given a great performance."

Coming up next for the PBMS music program is Pacific Beachfest on October 6 where the band will engage locals in an exciting repertoire of their favorite hits along with, presumably, a standing ovation or two. Stay in tune with the PBMS Music Association so you don't miss out on any of the high notes.

For information on Pacific Beach Middle School or to find out about the District's School Choice program, visit <u>sandiegounified.org/schools/pacific-beach-middle</u>. For information about the PBMS Music Association or to make a donation, visit <u>www.pbmsmusic.com/</u>.

Image options

- **Image 1:** Pacific Beach Middle School Music Association's annual PB Palooza event brought local musicians, such as up-and-comers Taconacho/DrMr, and their diehard fans together for a good cause.
- Image 2: Local band Taconacho/DrMr features students from Pacific Beach Middle School and other San Diego Unified schools.



