

# HIGHLAND OAKS SCHOOL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*A Caring Community of Respectful Scholars*  
*Principal - Patti Mattera*



October 1, 2018

Dear Highland Oaks Families:

We wanted to update you on the changes to the Highland Oaks Designing Dads Performing Arts Program for the 2018-19 school year. We are very excited to welcome Keely Milliken and her team to Highland Oaks. Keely is the founder of Centre Stage in Monrovia. She has over 20 years of professional experience in music and theatre. She is passionate in bringing performing arts to the community and to the young generation. Not only is Keely teaching at Highland Oaks, she also teaches performing arts in other elementary schools.

The program consists of:

- Grades TK - 3 instruction once a week, starting October 19th.
- The Show Choir program for grades 4 and 5 (optional) before school two days a week. A flyer with more information and how to sign-up will be sent home soon.
- 2 daytime Spring performances in April 2019 at Highland Oaks.

As you all may or may not know, the district is funding a band/orchestra/music program for all 4th and 5th grade students in Arcadia this year. Students are pulled out of class each week for one hour. In order to still have our 4th and 5th graders experience the performing arts program without another pullout from class each week, the staff, Keely, and the Designing Dads Parent Board came up with a fun and creative alternative.

We will be offering 4th and 5th grade students:

- Show choir to all who want to join
- And 2 performing arts opportunities.

Designing Dads will fund a performing arts related field trip. Also an interactive experience that will be brought into the school.

Funds will also be used to continue to improve lighting and sound in the MPR.

Lastly, we will be kicking off the next Designing Dads fundraiser this week with Step It Up! Your child will be bringing home a flyer this Thursday, Oct 4.

Thank you so much for your support in enhancing the educational experience for every student at Highland Oaks. If you would like more details on the program, please email [highlandoaksdd@gmail.com](mailto:highlandoaksdd@gmail.com)

Thank you,  
Patti Mattera and Designing Dads Board