

## “Class Act Pacific Symphony Program”

The Cypress School District has always recognized the importance of music and its link to student learning. In this time of budget and program cuts, one program being used to bridge that gap and continue providing a strong music program is Pacific Symphony’s **Class Act Program**.

Class Act is a program that strives to enhance existing school music programs by providing additional musical experiences with the Pacific Symphony. King School is one of the Cypress School District partner schools using the Class Act Program.

King’s student program typically starts with a “Prelude Assembly” in the fall or early winter. This assembly provides a grade-appropriate introduction to the composer of the year – Beethoven for 2010/11. Students learn the background and style of the composer, followed by an interactive class lesson conducted by a professional Pacific Symphony musician. A big part of the program is the teacher workshops provided for staff, along with background information and teaching resources that can be shared with students. In the spring there is a Family Night, with a mini concert that can be enjoyed by all. The year concludes with two big events, as students in grades 2-6 are treated to a free Pacific Symphony concert at Segerstrom Concert Hall, and Kindergarten – 1<sup>st</sup> grade students receive their own “Interactive Music Experience.” A BRAVO assembly wraps up the year, with all students involved in an interpretation of something they learned from the program. Participating schools pay about ten percent of the regular cost for the program, and at King School, the PTA pays for transportation to the concert.

The Pacific Symphony invites participation through a competitive application process each year. This is the Symphony’s 16<sup>th</sup> year offering the Class Act Program. Class Act is sponsored by Howard F. Ahmanson Jr. and has been selected as one of the nine most exemplary music education programs in the United States, by the League of American Orchestras and the National Endowment for the Arts.

We appreciate the support from the Pacific Symphony for this outstanding program.