

Manual Alumni Student Recognition Association

811 South Griswold Street

Peoria, Illinois 61605

The Manual Alumni Student Recognition Association believes in current and future Rams! For this reason, we have developed a plan to reinvest in the arts at Manual and its feeder schools.

During a busy summer, we completed the following:

1. Met teachers and principals at the Annie Joe Gordon Community Learning Center, the Elise Ford Allen Academy, Whittier, and Trewyn
2. Donated a recorder for all 2nd through 4th grader at each school (Thanks to Alumnus Jamere Jackson)
3. Developed partnerships with local music stores and the Kiwanis Club
4. Disseminated a list of classroom grants
5. Suggested a curriculum for teaching recorders (Thanks to alumna Amy Nash Jones)
6. Suggested supplements to the arts curriculum (Thanks to alumna Amy Nash Jones)
7. Recruited volunteers to assist and offer music lessons in feeder school classroom (for the recorder, keyboards, and the ukulele)
8. Collected petitions and letters to honor Mr. Graves, Manual's former band director
9. Proposed and the renaming of the Manual auditorium/music wing to honor Mr. Graves
10. Scheduled multiple winter performances at Manual and its feeder schools
11. Initiated music education days for first through fourth graders at Annie Jo Gordon Community Learning Center (Thanks to instructor Jones and music volunteers Karen Holmes, Cindy Youngren, Ronald Little, and Gail Hintze)
12. Contributed to maintenance of orchestra instruments at MHS
13. Expanded the number of members of alumni band members on social media page
14. Scheduled an alumni band performance for February 10, 2023
15. Coordinated music performances at Manual feeder schools (Brianna Thomas)
16. Coordinated a music performance for the Manual High School Orchestra at local retirement villages and nursing homes
17. Organizing an instrument petting zoo
18. Created a partial scholarship (private lessons) for Manual band and orchestra students
19. Organized a street and building naming ceremony for Mr. Graves
20. Coordinating a school visit from renowned cellist Christine Lamprea
21. Coordinating discounted private lessons at Annie Jo Gordon and Trewyn

The MASRA offers a special thanks to those who wrote letters and signed the petition. We look forward to working with former band Rams and others to make this investment a sustainable effort.