

Mencio, Santos

From: Mireles, Matthew
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:30 PM
To: Mencio, Santos
Subject: FW: St. Mary's Music COVID-19

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Dr. Matthew Mireles
Chair, Department of Music
Director of Bands


ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The Catholic and Marianist University
One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, Texas 78228

www.stmarytx.edu

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Executive Board of Directors
Youth Orchestras of San Antonio

 **changes kids' lives through**

From: "Mireles, Matthew" <[redacted]>
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 6:37 PM
To: "Alpar, Eva" <[redacted]>, "Balderas, Jonathan" <[redacted]>, "Dancy, Christopher" <[redacted]>, "Devora, Analina" <[redacted]>, "Flores, Natalia" <[redacted]>, "Angelo, Megan" <[redacted]>, "Avila, Matthew" <[redacted]>, "Barrera, Alexander" <[redacted]>, "Brigman, Zoe" <[redacted]>, "Duplessis, Haley" <[redacted]>, "Estrada, Alyssa" <[redacted]>, "Garcia, Ileana" <[redacted]>, "Kennet, Arianna" <[redacted]>, "Hartmann, Mikaela" <[redacted]>, "Lozano, Christian" <[redacted]>, "Noyola, Diego" <[redacted]>, "Rivera Gonzales, Etien" <[redacted]>, "Talamantes, Raul" <[redacted]>, "Avalos, Juan Eduardo" <[redacted]>, "Garza, Joshua" <[redacted]>, "Gutierrez, Geoffrey" <[redacted]>, "Mirabal, Adrianna" <[redacted]>, "Rubio Gomez, Denzel" <[redacted]>, "Stevens, Christian" <[redacted]>, "Tapia, Nicholas" <[redacted]>, "Arizmendi, Maxx" <[redacted]>, "Barry, Jared" <[redacted]>, "Ichavez, Brandon" <[redacted]>, "Lawson, Starr" <[redacted]>

"Moctezuma, Martin" , "Rodriguez, Ivan"
"Murillo, Olivia" , "Tiner, Skylar"
"Vanegas, Daija" "Leary, Kelly"
"Magera, Allison" "Mullin, Diego"
"Mejorado, Eryn" "Perkins, Kirsten"
"Olivarez, Ralph" "Lada, Jaiden"
"Chavez-Torres, Cecilia" "Duran Martinez,
Clarissa"

Subject: St. Mary's Music COVID-19

Dear students, (please read in entirety)

To start the school year, we aimed to advance musically, academically, and professionally in an effort to empower ourselves with the strongest of our educational capabilities. Now, we are in an unprecedented time for our university community, and society as a whole, testing our resolve, judgment, foresight and resiliency. It is now for us to be dedicated to engaging this new challenge collectively. The near future may be an inconvenience, but it is important that we remain sensitive to all details involved and proceed strategically. These are times when success is only achievable with a heightened sense of community, and thoughtfulness. With our shared goodwill, we will discover and design learning excellence in this new environment.

What we know currently.

- St. Mary's has extended Spring Break an extra week. o This is happening for a myriad of reasons, but always know that myself, the music faculty, and the upper administration are working to find the best outcome to ensure everyone's safety, while still having impactful educational experiences.
- We are currently scheduled to resume classes In Person - On Campus on March 23, 2020. o This could change at any time.
 - o The university's decision is not taken lightly, and is being fully assessed.
 - o The Critical Incidence Response Team is meeting regularly and monitoring the rapidly changing coronavirus situation.
 - o I get updates regularly, and will relay pertinent information to you.
 - o Stay in close communication with us for all updates.
- I am currently training the music faculty to teach remotely, in case the university does decide to move everything online.
- I have been in numerous discussions with music professors and department heads around the country sharing creative ideas for successful teaching and learning in music departments specifically. My preparation began last week in an effort to advance our readiness.
- If that time comes, know that I already have numerous plans to maintain effective music teaching and learning. o This includes ensembles, private lessons, classes, and advising.
- I take your education very seriously, and make measured decisions to promote the best environment for success. Please work with me so we can find the best course of action.

What you should do next.

- Have your instrument, books, and other resources with you in case we move online. The department will be open next week for anyone needing to come and get their belongings.
 - o Instruments are still checked out to you, and may be taken home.
- Stay in close communication, and check email regularly.
- Know that we are in this together. o Help each other, and be part of the solution.
- Ask me questions before you make assumptions.
- Promote a good sense of community and thoughtfulness.

This is the challenge of our time, as we are up for the task. Together we can be a model for how people should help each other, learn together, and have the will to overcome. I am here for anything you need, and always will be.

Take care of each other.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew Mireles
Chair, Department of Music
Director of Bands

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