

## **Grant Money Brings Music to Schools**

The Lexington Philharmonic and Fayette County Public Schools recently announced a musician residency pilot program, called Partners in Education, which will expand the orchestra's educational programs for students.

The pilot program will include fourth and fifth grade classrooms at Dixie and Arlington Elementary Schools and includes seven visits from a Philharmonic musician and concerts for the kids. The hope is that in future years, the program can be expanded to other grade levels and other schools in the district.

"It's really great to work in a community that's so supportive of our kids," said Fayette Schools Superintendent Stu Silberman. "We're appreciative of all that the Lexington Philharmonic is doing to enhance arts education in our schools."

The program is made possible through the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation's "Fortissimo: Philharmonic Fund for the Future" campaign, which raised \$500,000 and then received a matching half million from the W. Paul and Lucille Caudill Little Foundation.

"The innovative aspect of this program is it places a musician in a classroom environment and that musician makes a personal connection with the students in the class. The teaching artists will talk about their instrument, how music moves them, as well as influences their work, and how to enjoy the orchestra experience," said Lexington Philharmonic director of education Joe Tackett. "When the students attend the full orchestra concert in March they will be able to seek out the musical ambassador on the stage and feel a sense of ownership in the performance."

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