

West Palms Conservatory
14375 Del Gado • Victorville, CA 92392

December 13, 2007

To Whom It May Concern,

I am employed as a second grade homeroom teacher at a brand new elementary performing arts school in Victorville, CA. West Palms opened its doors in September 2007 to 750 students grades K-6. I was hired to work at this school because of the expertise I could bring to this school as an instructor qualified to teach Guitars in the Classroom, student guitar classes, and Roots of Rhythm.

I have been an instructor for Guitars in the Classroom since January 2006. Through my association with Guitars in the Classroom, I was invited to attend the one day Roots of Rhythm workshop in Anaheim in 2006. I was very enthusiastic about the program, so I attended the one week workshop during the summer of 2007, in anticipation of my opportunity to teach the class at West Palms.

West Palms has a daily elective block during the school day during which all students scramble to the class of their choice, with offerings in vocal and instrumental music, drama, dance, stage production, music composition, and foreign language. At this time I am teaching a guitar class for 20 fourth through sixth graders two days a week, incorporating elements from Guitars in the Classroom and Little Kids Rock, and I am teaching a group of 33 first and second graders a music class incorporating rhythm instruments, dance, art, props, and composition. I have used my Roots of Rhythm instruments in this class and have incorporated many things I learned at the summer workshop.

In February we will change our course offerings in the elective and offer students new opportunities. I will continue teaching my guitar group, and I will offer Roots of Rhythm to a group of fourth through sixth graders, with preference given to sixth graders first in selecting the class. We will complete ten or more ROR units from February to June, making all the instruments, plus a few more I have collected from other resources introduced to me at the workshop. In preparation for this February class, I have been gathering rhythm instruments, books and CD's, and have enlisted the help of our parent booster club in collecting recycled materials for instrument making as well as providing funding for consumables we will need to make the instruments. I am greatly looking forward to full implementation of Roots of Rhythm at West Palms Conservatory. I would be happy to submit photos or have visitation to the class when we begin operations in February 2008.

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