# **UNS & SENSULUS** OSLO & STORM GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS

**Richard Ballinger** Director/President **Sue Kehoe** Vice-President Kathy Ashcroft Secretary **Carol Bond** Treasurer **Lavonne Walker** Membership Cheryl Smith Fundraising

## January 17, 2017

## Dear Vero Beach Orchestra Supporters,

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The Oslo and Storm Grove Middle School Chamber Orchestra has been invited to perform in the 29th Annual Winter Park Ski-Music Festival in Winter Park, Colorado this March, 2017! Select School Orchestras from across the country have been invited to perform in the Music Festival, receive professional adjudication and professional group clinical instruction. The Oslo and Storm Grove Orchestras are both Superior rated programs by the Florida Orchestra Association and have garnered much praise both within our community and abroad. With over 220 orchestra students in the Orchestra programs between the two schools, 60 perform in the Chamber Orchestras.

The non-profit Orchestra booster for Oslo and Storm Grove (OPUS, Inc.) is currently assisting with fundraising for students needing financial assistance. Oslo Middle School has students are in particular need, as the school was recently federally designated as a Title One school with 76% of students living at or below the poverty level. Travel is a luxury that most cannot afford.

Our goal is to find sufficient funding to enable all students to attend. This will finance travel, lodging, recreation activities, food and all of the benefits from participating in the Festival.

If you are interested in contributing to help these hard working students toward their trip, please **make checks payable to OPUS, Inc.** and mail to:

### OPUS, Inc. c/o Richard Ballinger, P.O. Box 1783 Vero Beach, 32960

Donations may also be made conveniently online at www.opusvb.org/fundraising

We are very appreciative of the support we receive from the community and enjoy performing for you. We have a few events coming up in January, February, and March as well as our Spring Concert on May 5, 2017 for the Community to enjoy and to support these talented students. Please see our website at <a href="http://www.oslorchestra.org">www.oslorchestra.org</a> for more information.

For any questions, please contact Mr. Ballinger at opusvb@gmail.com or call 772-564-3952.

Sincerely,

Richard Ballinger OMS & SGMS Orchestra Director

### Oslo & Storm Grove Middle School Orchestras

480 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W. Vero Beach, FL 32962 \* 6400 57<sup>th</sup> Street Vero Beach, Florida 32967 \* 772-564-3952 Email: <u>richard.ballinger@indianriverschools.org</u>; <u>opusvb@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.osloorchestra.org</u> \* \* OPUS is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization dedicated to the advancement of string music in Indian River County through the support of the String Orchestra Programs at Oslo and Storm Grove Middle Schools