



Adopt the Arts

May 2025

Where Music Unlocks Opportunity, Fuels Creativity, and Creates Community

Rosewood Avenue Elementary: Where Adopt the Arts Began—and Continues to Thrive

Rosewood Avenue Elementary in Los Angeles holds a special place in the heart of Adopt the Arts—it's where our very first program launched in 2012. Today, under the guidance of music teacher **Molly Shelby** and with strong support from **Principal Linda Kaye-Crowder**, our mission continues to flourish.

A Space Designed for Inspiration

Last summer, ATA transformed Rosewood's music room into a space that fosters creativity and calm. The newly renovated classroom now features a mindfulness corner and a live music stage, giving students a beautiful and functional space to explore music. This renovation aligns with our curriculum that acknowledges the mind-body-spirit connection we have with music, incorporating mindfulness and body awareness into every lesson.

Adopt the Arts: By the Numbers

2,600 Students Currently Served by ATA

- Rosewood: 248 students
- Vista Del Monte - 480 students
- Della S. Lindley - 575 students
- Bubbling Wells - 670 students
- Agua Caliente - 626 students

Instruments & Resources Provided

- All schools received brand new Casio mini keyboards
- Della S. Lindley and Rosewood received full drum kits
- Bubbling Wells to receive a full drum kit in August 2025 to kick off the new school year
- Drum pads, Djembe drums, rhythm sticks, and steel drums purchased for all schools



Lasting Impact

Music Every Week

Thanks to ATA's support, every student from TK through 5th grade receives consistent, high-quality music instruction with a full-time music educator. From the earliest grades, students are immersed in a world of sound and learning through:

- Singing and movement
- Piano, ukulele, and percussion
- Exposure to genres like classical, jazz, blues, multicultural music, and musical theatre

Our curriculum is culturally diverse and designed to help build skills that benefit children academically, emotionally, and socially—the exact approach we foster at Rosewood and expanded to our Coachella Valley schools.

Time for Growth

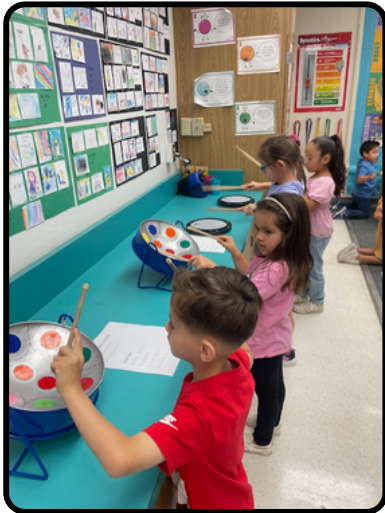
These formative years are critical for children. Music education:

- Increases cognitive function and improves whole brain health
- Builds social skills including empathy, teamwork, and emotional intelligence
- Increases self-confidence

At our adopted schools, music is more than a class—it's a vital part of nurturing the whole child and setting students up for bright, successful futures.

A Stage for Every Student

Each class performs multiple times a year in vocal showcases for friends and family in the school auditorium. The program also highlights cultural celebrations through performances during Hispanic Heritage Month and Black History Month.



The Changels

The Changels (“Angels of Change”) are an honor choir of 85 diverse elementary school students across five Adopt the Arts schools in Southern California. The Changels use choral music to bring people together, sharing a message of unity, learning songs from a wide variety of genres and performing for local and national audiences.

The Changels perform at festivals and celebrity events across Southern California, serving as proud ambassadors of Adopt the Arts. In preparation for live performances the Changels work with renowned Emmy-nominated choreographer Jennifer Hamilton and “So You Think You Can Dance” past contestant Carly Blaney.



A True Rock & Roll Fantasy

Adopt the Arts students have been busy making musical memories this spring! In April, select members of the Changels were invited to audition for the opportunity of a lifetime when they joined rock legend Paul Rodgers of Bad Company in a professional recording session at Good Noise studio in Palm Springs. Under the co-production guidance of our founder Matt Sorum and accomplished musician Bruce Witkin, the students recorded a special rendition of the Bad Company classic, "Rock & Roll Fantasy." This collaboration not only provided students with hands-on recording experience but was also filmed as part of our ongoing project showcasing the impact of music education.

"Music has the power to transform lives – I've experienced it myself and seen it countless times throughout my career," said Paul Rodgers. "Working with these young, talented and very engaged singers is an opportunity to pass along not just technical knowledge, but the passion, joy and spirit that comes from musical expression."

[Watch the official video here!](#)

[See the Changels interview Paul Rodgers and Matt Sorum!](#)





Special Thank You to Dr. Tony Signoret

As the school year draws to a close, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Tony Signoret, Superintendent of Palm Springs Unified School District, who will be retiring this year.

Dr. Signoret's unwavering support has been instrumental in the success of our Coachella Valley expansion. His belief in the power of music education and willingness to partner with Adopt the Arts has allowed us to reach over 2,300 students across the district's elementary schools.

"What's different about Adopt the Arts is their long-term commitment to these students," Dr. Signoret has noted. "This isn't a one-time celebrity appearance – it's part of a comprehensive approach to music education that's making a real difference in our schools and community."

With 34 years of experience as an educator, Dr. Signoret has consistently prioritized spending time on school campuses, meeting with administrators, observing classroom instruction, and attending school programs and events, including all of our Adopt the Arts programs.

Thank you, Dr. Signoret, for your partnership, leadership, and dedication to ensuring that all students have access to the arts. Your legacy will continue to resonate through the music in our classrooms.

We wish you all the best in your retirement!

A Note From Matt



"Music was a big influence in my life since I was a kid and I've seen firsthand how music can change your life. When I was a kid, I wasn't great at school...I was always searching for the one thing that I was good at...the one thing that really sparked my creativity and imagination.

For me, that was music. It was then, and still is, what drives me everyday. There's really nothing like seeing the impact music can have on a child's life. I'm proof of that.

What's different about ATA is that we don't just drop in with funding and instruments and then dip out. We're committed to long-term growth for these kids through music, creating a foundation for creative learning and self-confidence, while helping build stronger connected communities."

2024-2025 EVENTS & PERFORMANCES

Recording Studio Experiences

- GoodNoise Recording Studio working session with Matt Sorum
- Studio session with Paul Rodgers from Bad Company recording a reimagined "Rock & Roll Fantasy"

Prestigious Performances

- Rock For Responders concert to benefit L.A. first responders
- Stardust district event featuring Changels Coachella Valley choir and Bubbling Wells Rock Band
- Acrisure Arena performance and Firebirds game
- LA Fleet Week 2025 - full Changels choir
- Vista Del Monte participated in the Multicultural Festival at the Palm Springs Air Museum

Celebrity Engagement

- Coachella Valley school adoption assemblies with founder Matt Sorum
- American Idol Winner Taylor Hicks visited Agua Caliente and Della S. Lindley elementary schools offering inspiration and insights through live performances and Q&A sessions with students

Community Outreach

- The Palm Springs Festival of Lights Parade will feature The Changels once again on December 6, 2025



How You Can Help

Adopt the Arts Foundation is dedicated to providing underserved elementary schools with high-quality music education, curriculum, and resources that empower students with the music knowledge to learn, develop, and grow.

Your support helps us expand our reach to more schools and impact more children's lives through the power of music.

To donate or get involved, visit www.adoptthearts.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!
