

Professional Percussionist Works With Chelan Music Students

On Friday, November 13, the Lake Chelan School Music Department hosted a percussion clinic for students in grades 5-12 from the communities of Chelan, Pateros, and Waterville. The clinic was sponsored by Chinook Music of East Wenatchee and featured professional percussionist and private lesson teacher Mike Conrad. Mr. Conrad is a graduate of Central Washington University and currently teaches private lessons and works with marching percussion sections in the Wenatchee Area.

Unlike woodwind and brass musicians, percussionists are required to learn a multitude of different instruments for concert band, marching band, and jazz ensemble. Mr. Conrad worked for over 4 hours with these students on snare drum technique and the 40 standard rudiments, 4 mallet marimba playing, drum set techniques in rock and jazz studies, and marching percussion. Students even learned and performed a drum line ensemble as a culminating piece.

The clinic was an opportunity for the 38 musicians from 3 communities to build their own percussion skills while learning from a professional in the field. They also worked with their peers throughout the day to realize a finished product and built lasting musical relationships with students from across the region.

The clinic was organized by Stephen Burdick and Bob Soost (Chelan School District), and attended by Jonathon McBride (Pateros School District) and Will Chism (Waterville School District). We look forward to hosting additional workshops in the future in the areas of brass and woodwind techniques.



Chelan, Pateros, and Waterville Students