



**POMONA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
2051 Pomona Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
(949)515-6980 / Fax (949) 515-6891

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to write a letter in support of Pacific Chorale Academy (PCA), a partnership between Pacific Chorale and Newport-Mesa Unified School District. As Principal of Pomona Elementary School, one of the Pacific Chorale Academy's participant schools, I have seen first-hand the positive effects Pacific Chorale Academy has on students and their families.

I had the pleasure of attending Newport-Mesa's district vocal concert where Pacific Chorale Academy singers performed for administrators, teachers, parents and community members. The students not only demonstrated great satisfaction with their performance, but they provided an opportunity for their families to witness their children's success as well. After the performance I heard one father enthusiastically tell his daughter, "¡ Que bonita musical!" while he beamed with pride.

The pride that students and families felt was well deserved. The students in Pacific Chorale Academy demonstrated significant growth in their musical abilities and developed important character traits like perseverance, responsibility, and cooperation. They attended two extended practices weekly, and for many of them, this was the first time they had been part of a meaningful team experience.

While I saw growth in every student who participated in Pacific Chorale Academy, there are a few students that I think are worth highlighting. Luis is a student that came to Pomona in second grade. His special education Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicated that he was far below grade level academically, and that he had a very difficult time paying attention. Luis made progress in second and third grade, but he made exponential growth in fourth grade. I attribute a great deal of this improvement to his participation in Pacific Chorale Academy. The Pacific Chorale Academy staff supported him so he attended consistently, and the program gave him the outlet he needed to be seen by others. He exited special education in his fourth grade year, and he became one of the leaders of his fourth grade cohort.

Luis's success is mirrored by the success of Iris and Jennifer, two students who struggle academically, and found a place where they could succeed and be celebrated. Destiny, another PCA member, has a difficult home life, and the Chorale served as a positive support system. Her teachers noticed her smiling and holding head higher, and she also significantly improved academically. Valerie is another member and one of our school's top students academically. Pacific Chorale gave her an opportunity to become more well-rounded and social.

The positive effects of Pacific Chorale Academy are many, and Newport-Mesa Unified greatly appreciates all that Pacific Chorale Academy has brought to our students and community. If you would like to talk to me more about Pacific Chorale Academy, please feel free to call me at 949-515-6890.

Sincerely,

Megan Brown  
Principal, Pomona Elementary