

Clef Notes

July 2025

Judy Proud, Editor



Music, Celebration, Community, Harmony Monterey County Pops! Continues to Deliver

In a landscape where music events face unprecedented challenges and cancellations, Monterey County Pops! stands as a beacon of hope and creativity. Over the years, we focused not just on delivering music, but on crafting immersive experiences that resonate deeply with our audience. Our FREE outdoor concerts on the lawn are designed to foster intimacy and community. Families are welcome to enjoy the performances in a relaxed setting, where they can truly connect with the music and each other. Our unwavering commitment to providing consistent, unforgettable live experiences has led to an enthusiastic return of our audiences each year, who find joy and fulfillment in our events.

The cancellation of numerous local celebrations, including the Artichoke Festival, July 4 festivities in Spreckels, the Salinas Veteran's Day Parade, Salinas Valley Food and Wine Festival, and more, highlights a concerning trend within our communities. Factors such as rising expenses, loss of sponsorship, volunteer fatigue, and diminished donor support have collectively contributed to this situation. These cancellations not only affect community spirit but also the local economy, emphasizing the need for renewed support and engagement from residents and businesses alike to revive these cherished events.

Monterey County Pops! exemplifies the growing trend towards intimate music gatherings, where community and connection take center stage. By prioritizing authenticity and belonging, Monterey County Pops! not only enhances the concert experience but also sets a new standard for how musical events can unite individuals, encouraging a sense of togetherness that resonates long after the final note is played.

Not only our FREE, live holiday concerts, but our incredible outreach programs are designed to bring professional musicians right into the heart of our community, ensuring that everyone, from the curious young minds to the wise and seasoned hearts of our seniors, can revel in the pleasure of music. Our mission is to bring professional musicians into our elementary schools; into middle and high school "Residencies" with side-by-side clinics and a joint concert at the end of the day with our professional musicians and students, to our visits to senior care facilities to bring joy to those that cannot attend our live performances. By creating these unforgettable experiences FREE to the schools and senior care facilities, we aim to ignite a lifelong passion for music in our participants and craft cherished memories that will resonate through the years.

So, join us on this harmonious journey, because when it comes to music, there is truly something for everyone!

To learn more or get involved or support our efforts in any way, visit our website www.montereycountypops.org.
For information about booking Monterey County Pops! Email carl@montereycountypops.org or call 831 484-5511

