



Del Huff
Executive Director

Celebrating Two Month of Cayo School of Music and Arts

On Sunday, March 29 at 4:00 PM, we are planning a major event at CSMA. We will be hosting our first OPEN HOUSE. We want to invite the entire community to celebrate with us, including parents, grand parents, family and friends.

This will be a very special time of recognition for the students.

Each will be receiving a certificate of completion, either for two months of lessons or completing a 6 week course.

This is the poster we hung in the community to invite people to join us.

*Words Sometime Fail to Express
The Beauty of the Easter Message*

But sometimes, music communicates in a way words can't. Among the top 4 most powerful songs that describe the meaning of Easter is the song **Because He Lives**. This cherished gospel hymn was written by Bill and Gloria Gaither in 1971.

They composed this hymn during a time of personal and societal upheaval. Gloria was having serious pregnancy issues with their third child, and they were witnessing the turmoil of the late 1960's and early 1970's, including social unrest and distrust in institutions. Amid these challenges, they found hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which inspired the lyrics of "Because He Lives". Sounds familiar, right? Are we not experiencing those same issues, if not worse, today? Then, as we journey through this time of Lent, culminating in the death and resurrection of our Lord, why not take time to meditate on the words of this song, and maybe if you are familiar with it, sing it through occasionally to remind us of God's love for each of us?

The hymn's message of assurance and hope has resonated with countless individuals over the decades. It encapsulates the confidence and peace that faith in the living Christ provides.

1 God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow!
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future, and life
is worth the living, Just Because He lives!*

Friends, we wish you blessed assurance, hope, and peace found only in the living Christ, as we celebrate His resurrection.

Have a blessed Easter celebration.



Praise the Lord, He Hears and Answers Our Prayers.

Last month we shared an urgent, unexpected need for work to be done on our camp van, and, it needed new tires. Because of the faithfulness of our friends, God's people. Very shortly after we shared the need, money came in specifically for this project. This is what Adi shared with us after receiving the funds for the van.

God is good! The camp has wheels! The van is running well now, ready for the work that has to be done at the Camp. Wheels and clutch works well, it passed the yearly technical inspection. We are so grateful for to all of those who supported this project to help this Ministry in Romania at Friendship Camp. *God bless you abundantly and reward you with everything that He knows that is best for you.*

Getting Acquainted With More of Our Teachers and Supporters of Cayo School of Music and Arts

The Lord has brought together some wonderfully talented people, who have embraced the vision we have for the school. The first family I would like to introduce in this letter are the Gouds. What a joy it has been to get to know them. I'll let their story give testimony as to how the Lord brought them, not only to Belize, but also to work with us now, and hopefully in the future as well.



Hi, yes, we're the Gouds. Our family is from Dundas, Ontario, in the golden horseshoe area of Canada . We came to Belize in March 2020 on a family vacation. The whole family loved it. The Lord opened up doors favor for us to stay, and the rest is history!

We have a heart for ministry, specifically for community outreach and the Lord has blessed us in so many ways. We established a non-profit ministry called Fire & Glory Ranch, and look forward with great anticipation to the possibility of collaborating efforts with Del Huff and his vision for evangelism and outreach.

Our family loves music and the arts and have been involved in various aspects all our lives. We love the vision of Cayo School of Music and Arts (CSMA) and fully support the Huffs in their God sized vision to bring this school to life in Belize! John & I were 2 of the first students in Carolyn Carr's oil painting class. What a way to begin supporting the school. It is such an enjoyable, relaxing 2 hours each week. And our instructor is the best. She is known and respected across Belize for her paintings of Belizean daily life and culture.



John also plays classical guitar, I play drums and djembe. Our oldest daughter, Ariel, plays violin, piano, ukulele and is a gifted worship leader. She is also the violin teacher at the CSMA. Our middle daughter, Aliyah, plays violin and is a talented artist, and, our youngest, Judah, is a student at CSMA, learning to play piano. We are so thrilled to be part of the vision and look forward to all that the Lord has in store for CSMA, not only in our community but beyond, throughout Belize as students not only learn to use their talents and creativity for the Lord, but also share the beautiful message of the Gospel through special music events and evangelistic outreaches.



Our Second Featured Teacher Is Nek Gonzalez



Hi, my name is Nek Gonzalez. I am happily married and we have two children. We have lived for several years on the edge of the Spanish Lookout, Mennonite Community. I have been working at one of the shops in town that has a small music department as a sales person and demonstrator of the various instruments. But, I am extremely excited for this new opportunity to be a teacher at the Cayo School of Music and Arts. I teach bass guitar and acoustic guitar at the moment, but maybe later, other things.

Actually, I was born in Belize. In my young adult life I went to Guatemala City to study music. I was there for two years. My main subjects were music theory, bass, guitar and voice.

My musical journey started when I was only 5 years old. And between the ages of 5 and 10, I studied an instrument called the Bandolim. It is a very unusual instrument. Many people ask why learn such an unusual instrument? It's like a big bass guitar but it looks a little like a mandolin but much larger. It was my grandfather who wanted me to learn this instrument and so he taught me how to play it. Now I am 38 years old. But even as I began studying such an unusual instrument, I learned to enjoy or maybe, I can say love music and it became the central part of my life. I began to experiment with the instrument just trying to create songs and tried making different sounds. That curiosity led me to study music more seriously.



As I got older I played in different groups, not necessarily Christian groups, and in between, I took time to do more musical studies, not only in Guatemala City but also more recently I have been studying, when I can, online. I am still honing my craft, my art, It seems there's always something new to be learned, when our hearts have the desire to do so.

I'm also a Christian. I serve through music in my church. This journey has been long but it's been incredibly fulfilling. Now I strive to use my music as a way to influence people and especially the youth and children. My goal is

to connect them to the Gospel using the avenue of music to direct them to a Christ centered life. Through every note and lyric of a song I hope it will lead them to a better understanding of who Jesus is and bring them to a deeper commitment and a strong faith and love for Him, and in turn, they will learn to share this experience with Christ with others.

And now with the opportunity of teaching at the school, I pray that through music this contact with my students will have a lasting impact on their lives. ***Reaching hearts and changing lives.*** My desire is that what music did for me, I can pass on to my students and see lasting changes in their lives.

Using music and art to the glory of God involves dedicating creative talents as acts of worship, reflecting God's character, and fostering spiritual connection rather than mere entertainment. It means creating to honor Him, sharing truth through beauty, and using arts in missions to bring peace through God's Word. Friends, please pray that this will be evident through the ministry of the Cayo School of Music and Arts. Thank you.