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United States

# Mesa Community College Music Ensemble Wows with 'Odds & Ends' Performance

MCC's Performing Arts Center dazzles with 'Odds & Ends,' showcasing student and Valley musicians in a diverse musical spectacle. A testament to music education's power.



Shivani Chauhan

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Mesa Community College Music Ensemble Wows with 'Odds & Ends' Performance

Mesa Community College's Performing Arts Center became the epicenter of musical talent on February 27, as the college's Community Band, Concert Band, and Community Orchestra joined forces to present a concert titled "Odds & Ends." This performance not only showcased the diverse musical talents of MCC students and Valley musicians but also marked the transformation of a former Harkins Theater into a thriving venue for one of the nation's largest community college music departments.

## From Cinema to Symphony

Under the guidance of Sue Anne Lucius, the MCC music department chair, the Performing Arts Center has evolved from its cinematic roots to a bustling hub for musical excellence. The "Odds & Ends" concert was a testament to this transformation, featuring a wide variety of musical works that highlighted the skills of the MCC Community Band, Concert Band, and Community Orchestra. The evening began with the Community Band's rousing rendition of J.P. Sousa's "Hands Across the Sea," followed by performances of "A Longford Legend" and Alfred Reed's "Alleluia! Laudamus Te."

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included "Sailing with Whales" by Rossano Galante, which captivated the audience with the sounds of an Orca Whale, and Howard Hanson's "Love Duet" from Merry Mount Suite. The band concluded their set with Karl L. King's "Barnum and Bailey's Favorite." The evening's performances also shone a spotlight on student talent, with Chanson Peck and Jacob Bozicevic, both students, contributing as soloist and composer, respectively.

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### A Night of Musical Diversity

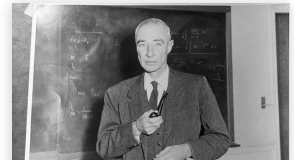
The Community Orchestra took the stage to perform the Overture from Otto Nicolai's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and the "Concerto for Alto Trombone and Orchestra" with Peck as the soloist. The world premiere of Bozicevic's "An American Tapestry" added a contemporary touch to the night. The event culminated with the orchestra's rendition of the Berceuse and Finale from Igor Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite," leaving the audience in awe of the musical diversity and talent present within MCC's music department.

The "Odds & Ends" concert not only demonstrated the exceptional abilities of MCC's students and the Valley's musicians but also highlighted the Performing Arts Center's role in nurturing and showcasing these talents. As the music department continues to grow, performances like these serve as a beacon of the transformative power of music education and community engagement.

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