

ELECTRIFY YOUR STRINGS! ROCK ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE COMES TO Easton, Hingham and Qualters Middle Schools

WORLD-RENOWNED ELECTRIC VIOLINIST MARK WOOD TO PERFORM WITH STUDENTS June 10, 2017 @ 7:30pm Oliver Ames High School PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT MUSIC EDUCATION

Ticket Information: \$10 with advance online purchase at <u>www.oatickets.us</u> or \$15 at the door Rehearsals are open to the media. Please contact: Kim Pressey 401-497-1442

International recording artist and Emmy award winning composer Mark Wood, an original member of the multiplatinum selling Trans-Siberian Orchestra and creator of the revolutionary Viper electric violin, is bringing his groundbreaking music education program *Electrify Your Strings!* (EYS) to the middle school orchestras of Easton, Hingham and Mansfield. This exciting event will transform the student musicians into a full-fledged Rock Orchestra! Mark will be performing with the students on his handcrafted 7-string fretted electric Viper violin as part of the 2016-2017 *Electrify Your Strings!* "Victory Tour" on June 10, 2017 at Oliver Ames High School at 7:30pm. The audience will be entertained by Mark's original material, as well as his exciting arrangements of music by Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, and more. The 200 string students will perform in a live concert alongside Mark Wood, open to the public with all profits going to the school's music program.

The program – now in its 17th year – is a music education experience like no other. Wood and his team work directly with a school's orchestra director to tailor-design a rock orchestra makeover complete with a public performance at the end of the experience. EYS builds on the strong foundation in traditional music provided by music teachers; creating a partnership with educators that inspires students and boosts their self-esteem and motivation on stage and off. EYS has been featured on The Today Show, The CBS Evening News, and many more.

Mark Wood is the owner and operator of Wood Violins, the premier manufacturer of electric orchestra string instruments worldwide. He studied under Maestro Leonard Bernstein, is a Juilliard-trained violinist and Emmy-winning composer. In addition to his solo career and his work with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Mark has worked with Celine Dion, Lenny Kravitz, Billy Joel and more.

To prepare for this concert, Mark will be teaching the students improvisation, composition, and personal expression on their violins, violas, cellos and basses. Utilizing Mark's music arrangements that were sent to each district prior to this visit, the three middle school orchestras will perform together in a live concert alongside Mark Wood, open to the public with all profits going to the school music programs:

June 10, 2017 at 7:30pm Oliver Ames High School 100 Lothrop St. North Easton, MA Ticket Information: \$10 with advance online purchase at <u>www.oatickets.us</u> or \$15 at the door Rehearsals are open to the media. Please contact: Kim Pressey 401-497-1442

For more information on *Electrify Your Strings!* please visit <u>www.electrifyyourstrings.com</u> To find out more about Mark Wood, please visit <u>www.markwoodmusic.com</u> The Viper electric violin is one of several electric instruments manufactured by Mark's company Wood Violins – check them out at <u>www.woodviolins.com</u>.