



August 2015

Dear CEA Family,

Welcome to the beginning of a fantastic 2015-2016 school year! I have spent the summer being inspired by our children learning and growing in our summer adventures.

We've been planning schedules, welcoming new faculty members and just building a school year. Construction is almost finished in the Conservatory – new administrative offices, 13 individual music studios, and a wonderful ensemble room. I've spent a week meeting with every teacher and getting uplifted and amazed at the knowledge, love, and passion they bring to Conchita.

I was asked this summer by a high school administrator what was the special ingredient that made our students so strong and well-rounded. I could not come up with an answer so I posed the question to my teachers. Here are some of their answers.

- Exposure to life
- Security
- Support
- Challenging academics
- Connection
- Common sense
- Laughter
- Consistency
- Arts and sciences
- Time

But the two most mentioned are the two I started this note with – what they give and receive from their parents and their students – love and passion.

Thank you for your support. Thank you for appreciating and recognizing the uniqueness of Conchita. And most of all, thank you for the love and the passion you feel for your children and their education.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maribel Z. Diaz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the bottom.

Maribel Z. Diaz