

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the fabulous Ms. Courtney M. Evans into our Marcos de Niza Fine Arts, MFAA and Choir family.



Many of you may already know Ms. Evans since she was the choreographer for the Pops Concert with Mr. Shryock. Our Fine Arts department, Darin Shryock and myself are extremely excited that Ms. Evans will be continuing on with Shryock's vision for the Choral program and may even have a trick or two up her sleeve in the future.

If you would like to meet Courtney Evans and welcome her to the Marcos family before the school year begins, please join us at Quatiere (Southwest corner of Mill and Alameda) on June 13th at 6pm. Dinner will not be provided but if you would like to sit down and eat with your family, Ms. Evans will be moving around from table to table to get to know everyone. There will also be a CDP Calendar meeting to begin the evening at

4:30pm. CDP officers need to be present, but all parents are welcome to show up and learn more about the Choir & Theatre events for the year.

"I am so excited to be joining the Fine Arts family at Marcos de Niza High School. I am excited to continue the legacy of this well established choral program. I am from Phoenix, Arizona and completed my Bachelors in Choral Music Education from NAU. I am honored to have received the "Outstanding Future Choral Educator of the Year Award" from the Arizona Music Educators Association and the NAU "Outstanding Graduating Senior in Music Education Award". I am so fortunate that I was able to work with Darin Shryock this last year and plan on maintaining the same high standards of vocal performance and musical theatre that he has ingrained in these programs." - Ms. Evans

We thought it might be beneficial to provide some interesting facts about Ms. Evans, so you may get a better understanding of her background. Ms. Evans graduated high school

form Horizon in Scottsdale. As a student, she sang in both of the advanced ensembles, as well as choreographing all of their shows (for each choir). When Ms. Evans graduated, she decided to pursue a music education degree from Northern Arizona University. While at NAU, she was highly active. She was the president of “Jacks on Broadway” which is a student run & directed musical theatre review that allowed her to choreograph and direct the music, on top of her presidential duties. Not only did Ms. Evans sing in and play piano for all of the NAU choirs, she was also in the “Sedona Academy Chamber Singers (the professional choir in Northern Arizona) and in “Unaccompanied” a nationally recognized, award-winning A Capella group (the group just released their first professional recording last fall). Finally, during her senior year at NAU, Courtney became the interim artistic director for the Flagstaff Youth Choir. Currently, Ms. Evans is the accompanist for the Mesa Community College summer music camp and will be teaching at a summer camp in Iowa for gifted students interested in the arts, as the musical music director, choreographer, director, music/dance teacher, etc. She continues to choreograph for high school and community choirs throughout the greater Phoenix area and serves as clinician/adjudicator for choral festivals.

“I couldn’t be more pleased with the selection of Ms. Evans as the new choir director at Marcos de Niza High School. It was a strange, yet fortunate journey that led to her selection. I served on the ACE Board that awarded her the Outstanding Future Educator Award but had no idea that her path would lead to our doorstep. You are in good hands. Ms. Evans is passionate, talented and has high expectations. Trust her vision and resist the urge to say “but this is how we’ve always done it.” I know if you do something once at Marcos, it’s a tradition. It’s now time to create new traditions. Lift each other up and lift up Ms. Evans as you write a new chapter.” - D. Shryock