

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, we had our first concert on the yard in over a decade. "Luthers' Boots," a Johnny Cash tribute band on a tour commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cash's infamous Folsom Prison concert jumped at the chance to help raise funds for the Memorial Healing Garden project sponsored by the Asian Pacific Family Club, and simultaneously celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lifers Club. Thanks to the hard work of our crews, this event was a big success and hopefully a shining moment for the future of our Music Program. We were able to show that we can host events like this with leadership and organization, that our community in here is a responsible and respectful one appreciative of the opportunity to get out and enjoy a day of musical entertainment, and that allowing us more events like this in the future may not only be tolerable, but backed with encouragement and support. I saw nothing but smiles on the yard that day, and men exuding positivity. All in all, I feel like it was a great day for all of us.

We also are proud to say that our Music Theory classes are back in session! These classes have been the cornerstone of the program for many years and offering music education opportunities is one of the ways we hope to positively influence our community within these walls and give the men something constructive to do with their time. As lifers, I feel it is also our duty to do our best in encouraging rehabilitative qualities in the men who ARE re-entering the outside community so we can stop adding to our own numbers. After all, it is not a number to be proud of. I implore everyone to sign up for our classes and support the Music Program.

Lastly, I want to say that the Music Program is in dire need of donations to replace the worn out speakers and other equipment that has been lying around this institution for decades. Unfortunately we function solely on donations and are barely able to pull off these events with our current set of speakers and amps. If you are able to donate, or know someone who wants to, please send us a cd-28 or contact our Staff Advisor - Steven Finster, for outside donation approval. Our next concert will be in Activities on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We hope to see you all there!

Thank you for your support,

Jeremy Metelak Music Program Manager







