



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

WWW.NCPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG

Alice Zincone, TVI, NCBT/Art, Cultural Arts Representative
Rebecca Rommen, TVI, Music Instructor
Governor Morehead School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
301 Ashe Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27606

Russian Duo
3003 Euclid Heights Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Dear Terry and Oleg,

It was such a pleasure to have you perform at our school this week. It is very obvious that you are passionate and knowledgeable about Russian culture and heritage, as well as music. Your classical training and mastery of your instruments shone throughout the concert beautifully, and was a wonderful example to our students of all that can be accomplished with hard work. "High caliber talent!" was the way one staff member recalled the performance. The students found Oleg's "tricks" with the balalaika and the comedic relief greatly entertaining. "I liked the cool instruments, especially the balalaika," was a student comment collected after the concert. The rapport you and Oleg share demonstrated to the students a good working relationship. You, Terry, facilitated the direction of the performance seamlessly and provided the much-needed descriptive comments helpful for our students to understand your actions more deeply.

We most enjoyed the interaction your performance provided for our students. Both of you connected with the audience effortlessly. Our students loved playing the percussion instruments with you and Oleg. Your focus on the collaborative nature of ensemble music performance kept them engaged and excited. "[It was] bonding for everybody, staff as well as students," commented a residential life trainer.

Equally engaging and exciting for the students and staff was the dancing! Because of our small population, everyone was included. One student commented, "Everyone could participate, and nobody was left out." It provided an opportunity for our students to work on listening skills, body movement/awareness, teamwork and learning kinesthetically, an important component of the curriculum for students with visual impairments. Terry, you were fabulous at describing what the students were going to be doing, be it dancing or playing percussion instruments. Your concise step-by-step directions helped everyone feel successful. The students enjoyed the "Troika" so much that one student taught it the next day to the PE teacher who was not able to attend the performance. Another said, "I liked how they connected the history to music and dance,"

On behalf of the staff and students of GMS, we thank you for such an entertaining and educational opportunity and wish you all the success you deserve. Bravi!

Alice Zincone and Rebecca Rommen

Alice Zincone Rebecca Rommen

EDUCATION SERVICES FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Barbria Bacon, *Superintendent* | Barbria.Bacon@esdb.nc.gov
2303 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2303 | (919) 733-6382 | Fax (919) 715-2206
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER