

News Release
For Immediate Release

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Members of the Sugar Beets are playing their soulful, joyful music. Children will be blowing bubbles, watching jugglers and eating coconut bliss ice cream and a celebratory cake. Parents, faculty and students alike will have a chance to win door prizes.

These are among the activities happening at the end of the year event on Thursday the 17th from 5:30- 8:00p.m, celebrating the success and 10 year anniversary of the Village School. The school, borrowing space from Ridgeline Montessori, located on 2855 Lincoln Street in Eugene, Oregon is a K-8 charter school which enrolls around 120 students.

The Village School is the first public charter school in the United States that uses Waldorf/Steiner methodology without any official affiliation with Waldorf Association of North America or any other Waldorf entity. The alternative method school was first envisioned by Sally and Matthew Bigongiari in the fall of 1997 and many obstacles and trails occurred in the process of achieving its charter.

“It was a really exciting time” says Matthew. “There were days where we would fill the district auditoriums full of people chanting for our school.”

The doors opened in the fall of 2000 and since then, the school has become a model for other charter schools in the Northwest. The Village School was certified an Oregon Green School last year and continues to be active and involved in the community.

The schools teaching methods focus on integrating the arts into the curriculum and use hands on approach to learning.

“Many children who are unable to succeed in other public schools come to the Village School and are able to do really well,” says Matthew.