



DE ANGELIS VOCAL ENSEMBLE, INC.

CALIFORNIA MISSION MUSIC PROJECT

The program "Music of New Spain: Exploring California's Missions" is crafted specially for Orange County fourth graders whose curriculum includes the study of California missions. While educating and benefitting fourth graders, the performance will appeal to many audiences as it will coincide with de Angelis' October 25th 2014 program, *Mission Music* to be presented at Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano.

Student audiences will learn what musical life in the New World might have been like by studying and performing works found in archives from California missions and Mexican Cathedrals. The musical time period spans about 200 years, from early Renaissance to early Classical and includes works from some of the first American-born composers. The integrated approach to this program will draw from the Social Studies, Visual and Performing Arts and English Language Arts disciplines.

When fourth-grade students recognize the artist within themselves and experience the importance of the arts in learning, excitement reigns. In their study of California history, fourth-graders learn that the arts can help them discover the rich cultural heritage of their state as reflected in the visual and performing arts. They discover their own ability to communicate through the arts and use music notation, knowledge of structure and style and advanced technical skill to create works of art. At this age and in this grade, they begin to understand that the arts are more than images or notes on a page, rather elements that combine to create meaning and beauty.

School concerts are planned for Orange County elementary schools, focusing on those located in underserved communities.