

New Musical Times for St Louis Students

'Educate, Empower, Uplift' is the motto for the Lift For Life Academy (LFLA) a charter school located in St Louis, MO, and their newly installed outdoor musical instruments are helping students achieve all three of these goals.

The 'LFLA' provides educational services to students from grades six to twelve and is run independently from public school districts. It is a school of exploration where they teach with love and respect while building a strong community. Very proud of their students, the 'LFLA' considers itself more of a family than just a school.

Marshall Cohen, LFLA Executive Director and Co-founder explains why he decided to invest in a musical outdoor area and outlines the benefits they are experiencing.

I wanted the outdoor musical instruments to serve as reinvestment in exposing our younger students to music while adding new energy to the playground. Based in a relatively low-income area, many of our students are not exposed to musical instruments at home, and therefore giving them a chance to play on real instruments during recess and lesson-times would benefit not only their musical skills but also impact their social, linguistic, and behavioral development.

I found the harmonized and robust musical instruments that I wanted through Percussion Play. When it came to deciding which outdoor musical instruments to go with, I prioritized instruments that could get the most students involved and were colorful, and nature-themed, to add a fresh new look to the school.

We now have a totally engaging creative outdoor space having selected two diatonic Rainbow Cavatins, a Rainbow Trio Ensemble with bongos, metallophone, and chimes, and finally a 'major' bunch of Harmony Bells.

Our students are often underserved and have often not been afforded the same musical experiences as others. These instruments allow them to not only create music but to create beautiful music which may lead them to be musicians of the future. Our outdoor musical instruments are helping our students create their own voice and space of creativity; they are continuing to push our students to achieve higher goals.



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 PercussionPlay®
Outdoor Musical Instruments