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Media advisory

Orenco Elementary School Celebrates 400th Orca Live! Broadcast

Student-run TV show has provided students with invaluable experience anchoring, directing, mixing, and filming

February 1, 2023, Hillsboro, OR - On Friday, February 3 Orenco Elementary School will celebrate the 400th broadcast of its student-run television show, *Orca Live!* Students from past crews will be returning to the school to anchor the special show and reflect on previous seasons.

The show began in November 2004, thanks to the vision of the school's principal and generous grant funds from Intel and other sources. Throughout the years, *Orca Live!* Has received tremendous support from Orenco's Booster Club, the Hillsboro Schools Foundation, Nike, Synopsys, and Orenco staff.

Teachers Tom Bunker and Mike Futter began the program together, and even though Bunker retired in 2011, he still helps as a volunteer.

Students direct and anchor the broadcasts, and work the mixer board, audio board, and camera for their shows, which air approximately every other week. Typical broadcasts include a focus on grade-level learning as well as photographs from throughout the school, though the students have also tackled special projects like commercial parodies, detective dramas, and silent films. They even had a chance to interview actress, singer, and songwriter Miranda Cosgrove when she was in town to perform at the Washington County Fair in 2012.

Three hundred eighty-six students have been part of the *Orca Live!* Crew over the past eighteen seasons, including this year's team. Participating in *Orca Live!* has provided students with a very unique experience, taught them valuable technical skills, increased their public speaking skills, and overall has been a bright spot in their educational careers.

Please join current and former students to help celebrate all they've accomplished over 400 broadcasts. Their special event will record at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Media may arrive at 2 p.m. and are asked to check in at the main office (22550 NW Birch St., Hillsboro).

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