



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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JEFFERSON SCHOOL CHILDREN ENJOY A PERFORMANCE BY HARPIST ENKI BELLO

Plainfield, NJ – January 14, 2019 - Children and staff at Plainfield’s Jefferson Elementary School enjoyed a performance and musical interpretations by harpist, Enki Bello, who visited the school Thursday.

Ms. Bello has been recognized as a “pop harpist” for her move from the traditional rhythms to a more modern mix of contemporary music using an electric harp. She performs the music of artists such as Taylor Swift, Luis Fonsi/Justin Bieber, and Celia Cruz, as well as her own compositions such as “Dameló, Damelo.” Ms. Bello adds flare to her performance by combining lights and background music with her electric harp.

Jefferson School’s Principal, Ms. Telaya Parham said, “Students and staff raved about Ms. Bello’s energetic performance. It’s critical that our students be given the opportunity to make cultural connections inside and outside the classroom.”

Ms. Bello answered questions from the children who were interested in knowing how she got started and why she chose to play harp. She said her parents, Jaime and Alma, were her first teachers as both were harp players. Later she studied at the Academy of Harp in her native Bogota, Colombia, for over ten years. She is also a writer and a composer of her own songs such as, “Dameló Damelo (kiss me, Kiss me),” a song she performed publicly in New York’s Times Square to great reviews.

Many of the children said they had never seen a harp or a harpist. They said along with the music, they liked Ms. Bello’s message to “persevere and follow their dreams.”

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