

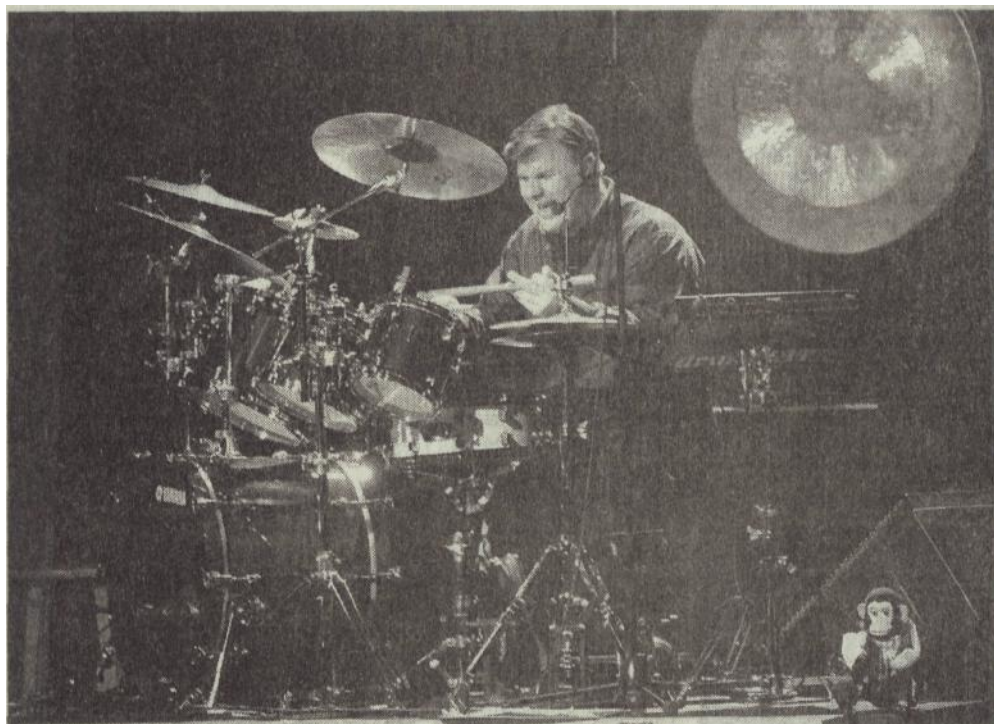
Percussion Discussion drums up enthusiasm

Wham! Bam! Slam! No, 1,600 Antioch third graders - with 200 teachers and parent chaperones in tow - weren't watching Batman and Robin rock 'em and sock 'em. They were at the El Campanil Theatre on Feb. 27 hearing music specialist Ken Bergmann think outside the drum in Percussion Discussion.

The kids were mesmerized by Bergmann's tongue-in-cheek banter, theatrical flourishes and artful bag of musical tricks. He employed cow bells, triangles, wood blocks, shakers, boxes, cabasa, gangokal, a four-octave rosewood marimba, Brazilian samba, a six-piece Yamaha custom drumset - even a folding chair. The exotic instruments hailed from South America, Europe, the United States and the far reaches of Bergmann's own garage. The show ran the gamut from swing, Latin, jazz, rap and rock, as well as the ragtime music of Scott Joplin and the Baroque music of J.S. Bach.

The Concert 4 Kids event was sponsored by the Antioch Music Foundation and was made possible by grants from the East Bay Community Foundation and the Keller Canyon Mitigation Fund, in conjunction with Contra Costa District 5 Supervisor Federal Glover's office. Percussion Discussion was recorded for broadcast on Channel 24 March 9 at 7:30 p.m. and March 12 at 8 p.m.

—Submitted by Walter Ruehlig



DAN ROSENSTRAUCH/STAFF

Teacher plays to his own beat

THE ANTIOCH MUSIC FOUNDATION brought Antioch music teacher Ken Bergmann's "Percussion Discussion" program to the El Campanil Theatre on Friday. Bergmann performed before about 1600 third-graders where he got kids excited about music through a variety of percussion instruments from across the globe.