


07/09/04 - 8:10 pm [Video & Link Available](#)

**'Don't Mess with La Musica de Tejas' CD**

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Texas musicians, especially our Latin groups, are gaining in popularity and recognition. Music programs in Texas schools are being threatened annually by budget cuts.

Musicians are banding together to keep the music ringing throughout the education system.

There are aspiring musicians who are spending their summer learning how to play a type of music -- a type of music they don't get to experience in school.

"As a private guitar teacher years ago, I saw a huge need for kids to play what I call

rhythm base instruments -- guitars, base, drums and piano to get together to play," President of Austin School of Music Dave Sebree said.

Now there's a new defense on the shelves at Waterloo Records and other stores promising to help school music programs.

"It is musical programs that are cut when it's budget cut time, but with the sale of a new CD, many educators are hoping that programs like this will be alive again in our schools.

The CD is a product of [the Texas Music Project](#) consisting of songs from Texas artists like The Los Lonely Boys, Del Castillo and Patricia Vonne. It's titled "Don't Mess with La Musica de Tejas," and the profits go back to support musical programs in Texas schools.

"When we heard about this project, we immediately wanted to be involved because just the thought of cutting the music program out of schools and not giving our children access what we had as children is very scary," Del Castillo band member Rick Holeman said.

Holeman says he is where he is today due to the music programs available to him as a student...and is passionate about preserving that for future students.

"I just hope the money helps to support changing the mind set of the whole system because if our children don't have that, access to seeds being planted into them when they are young and in developmental stages, there are going to be musicians that miss the boat," Sebree said.

So for now, the beginner musicians will continue soaking up what they can during summer rock camp in hopes that more of the Texas music CD's will fly off the shelves to support music programs in their schools.

**News 36 Video**

Here is the story:

- [Texas Music Project](#)