

LONG TRAIL SCHOOL

founded 1975

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Victor Wooten inspired students at Long Trail School

Dorset---On Tuesday, December 9, Long Trail School hosted world-renowned musician Victor Wooten for a series of small group and full school workshops. Thanks to a school community contact and funding from the Edwards Foundation Arts Fund, Wooten spent the day at Long Trail as his Grammy-winning group, Béla Fleck & The Flecktones, traveled to their next concert stop. Wooten is an innovator on the bass guitar, as well as a talented composer, arranger, producer, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist.



Wooten's interest and philosophy really energized the Long Trail community. He believes that "the most important thing is to be a good person. You can be the greatest bass player in the world, but if you're not fun to hang out with, no one will want you in the band." Using anecdotes from his life and observations, Wooten impressed students with the need to commit to what it means to learn. When he asked students why they wanted to be in his workshops, many responded that they wished to learn from him. He then asked where their notebooks and pencils were; he wanted them to have notes that can be referred to over and over again. He taught students to listen to the language of music when playing with others in order to create a more unified and responsive performance. At the end of his visit, he enchanted the audience with a performance. Students appreciated his keen interest in what they had to say and in their education. His effect on the musicians at the school was deep and lasting. Long Trail School trustee Charlie Rockwell commented, "It was wonderful to have someone so well respected in his field come to Long Trail to interact closely with our community. The students' response to him made it worthwhile. Exposure to excellence is an important part of the Long Trail School experience." Long Trail School combines rigorous academics and a personalized curriculum for grades 6-12. For more information, please contact Courtney Callo at 802.867.5717 x141.