

MUSIC FOR MINORS II

37141 Second Street,
Fremont, CA 94536
(510)733-1189

www.musicforminors2.org

February-March 2010



Yes, despite the budget cuts, the arts live on because they must!

February Highlight

A DRUMM RHYTHMIC EVENT

Feb 23rd, 2010, 7 pm
Niles School Auditorium
37141 Second St, Fremont 94536

A not-to-be-missed unique drumming experience!
Free to all MFMII Docents and their teachers!



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March Highlights

MFMII Presents:

SHOWCASE 2010

"The Beat Goes On!"

March 19 7:30 pm
4760 Thoronton Ave, Fremont 94536

Come experience the sound of 300 Children Singing their hearts out!



DANCE! DANCE! DANCE!

March 31st, 2010 7:00 pm.
Jo-Ann Fread Dance Workshop
37141 Second Street, Fremont, 94536

Dust off those dancin' shoes for line, square, folk, and other rhythmic movement and steps. Free to all MFMII Docents and their teachers!



Come DRUM for Fun!

President's Message

Virginia Williamson, Board President

Things are definitely moving along in Music for Minors II! What a wonderful concert we enjoyed recently with Red Grammer! His enthusiasm is always contagious, and his songs definitely inspired us and touched our hearts. It was an exciting afternoon of music, laughter, warmth and fun for a delighted audience of children and families. Thank you to all our generous donors, our dedicated MFMII Docents and supporters, and a special thank you to our wonderful volunteers who helped make this exceptional event a reality.

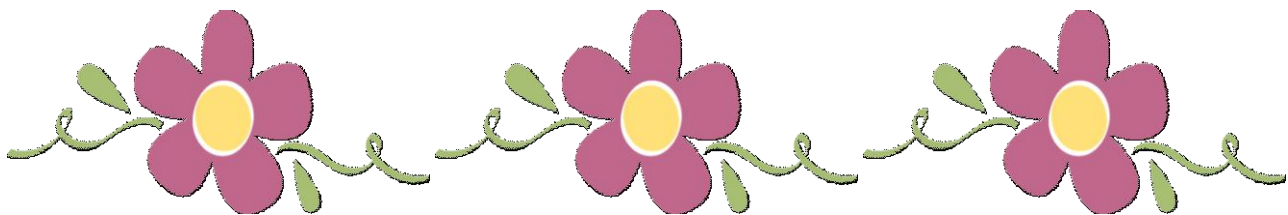
Our next exciting event will be the DRUMMM Workshop presented by percussionist, performer and art therapist, **Jeni Swerdlow**. This workshop will be presented on February 23 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Niles School Auditorium. This workshop has been planned especially for, and is FREE to current MFMII Docents. Classroom teachers and principals of MFMII schools may also attend free.

Admission is \$15 for anyone else who would like to attend. Don't miss this!

Plans are also underway for the 10th Annual Children's Showcase Concert coming up on March 19 at Harbor Light. This will be an exceptional and memorable opportunity for students to perform in front of an audience. Docents are preparing their students to showcase songs they have learned, and we are looking forward to an evening of musical enjoyment!

As each important event unfolds this year, I am amazed and inspired by the dedication of everyone involved in Music for Minors II. It takes many individuals working together to make each event a reality and to give life to an organization like MFMII. We are working together to bring music into the lives of children! In that effort, each person plays a vital role, and when we work together it is truly a symphony!

 ***Keep the Beat!*** 



MFMII & "In harmony" contacts

Executive Director - Carol Zilli: czilli@aol.com

Administrative Assistant - Sharon Filippi: 510-796-8578 sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor - Farnaz Parhami: fparhami@comcast.net



Calendar of Events

February, 2010

- Feb. 19 MFMII Mid-Year Evaluation Forms Due from Classroom Teachers
Feb.- Mar. New Docent Observations
Feb. 23 Drumm Workshop, 7-9 pm, Niles School Auditorium
Feb. 24 Showcase Meeting, 6:00 pm, Carol's Home
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March, 2010

- Mar. 3 MFMII Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Carol's Home
Mar. 8 Showcase Meeting, 6:00 pm, Carol's Home
Mar. 16 Showcase Walk-Through, 3:45 – 5 pm, Harbor Light
Mar. 19 Showcase 2010 "The Beat Goes On"
Mar. 31 Jo-Ann Fread Dance Workshop, 7-9 pm, Niles School
-



MFM II members & followers become a FAN of "Music for Minors II" on Facebook and please also FOLLOW us on Twitter! We need your continued support and promotion of MFMII.



Job Opportunity

Part time job sharing Docent Training Coordinator duties in Castro Valley with DTC Lynette Pang.

Requirements:

1. Attend one of the weekly evening sessions from mid Sept. through mid Nov. 7-9:15pm.
2. Set-up at 6:00 pm. and clean-up from 9:15-9:30 or 9:45 pm. depending on session.
3. Be punctual, dependable, enthusiastic and supportive of trainees and MFMII program.
4. Communicate via e-mail and phone when needed to trainees and MFMII staff.
5. Have good organizational and recordkeeping skills.

Compensation: \$ 12.00 an hour. If interested or know of someone, please call MFMII 510-733-1189 or e-mail czilli@aol.com.

This is a great opportunity for a docent to be refreshed with training classes while supporting MFMII however the position is open to all MFMII volunteers or the community.

Executive Director's Notes

Carol Zilli, Executive Director

HAPPY NEW YEAR ONE AND ALL! And what a great way to kick off the new year with one of MFMI's best friends, **RED GRAMMER!** Our concert on Sat. Jan. 30th was just "wonderful" as Red once again fully engaged the audience and especially parents on stage and off with his fun-filled songs. Opening with his golden acapella version of "**Over the Rainbow,**" Red had us all mesmerized and captivated for the rest of the concert.



One of the highlights of the show was when our fantastic docents joined the parents on stage with Red and took their important parts in Wimoweh!



Children were delighted with "**Tickle**" as they took great pleasure tickling their parents and friends right on beat. It was sheer joy to have this talented heartfelt artist with us who even sang requested songs to children as he autographed and took pictures with them. Check out Red's website to see the great shots of children filled with joy.

MFMI wishes to thank our concert committee capably chaired by **Susan Lesh** for their dedication and hard work to make the event a success: **Virginia Williamson, Sandy Shimkus, Sharon Filippi, Lisa Hansen, Johann Devakumar, Catherine Pearson, Betty Cole and Carol Zilli,** pictured below.



We also greatly appreciate the support of our wonderful docents who attended with their families and friends and the community-at-large who came to support MFMI's mission in the schools. A special thank you to our donors for the event as well: **Bill Graham Foundation, Allegro Music, J Lombardi Farms, Fremont Printing, Hilton Newark/Fremont, Pick it Right, Trader Joe's, Starbucks, Auto Mall RV and Boat Storage, Interim Advantage,**

Don M. Nguyen, Gift Gallery, Black and White Printing, and Susan Hoch. Cheers for Linden Tree Children's Books in Los Altos for their generosity and support once again.



DON'T MISS IT! TOTALLY UNIQUE AND FREE TO ALL MFMII DOCENTS!

MFMII presents an exciting first ever DRUMM Workshop for the community to spread the joy of drumming. Internationally renowned and popular in the USA, **Jeni Swerdlow** will help you discover your natural sense of rhythm, connect you with interesting people through music-making, teach you the ancient art of drumming and help you release stress while having lots of fun. Be sure to call the voice mail 510-733-1189 or contact sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net to reserve your seat. See enclosed flyer in this newsletter for details and for distribution to others.



SHOWCASE IS COMING to prove that despite budgetary cuts in arts education, "The Beat Goes On!" Over 300 students from 7

MFMII schools will be participating in this wonderful event that provides students a professional performance opportunity for a large audience. Thanks to our dynamic docents, children will have a chance to unite with students from other schools and feel the excitement of joining their voices with so many others in the powerful opener and closer for the show. Drama, singing, rhythmic movement, boomwhacking, and much more await you. Don't miss MFM II's 10th Showcase 2010 on March 19th at 7:30 pm. at Harbor Light in Fremont. Experience the joy of hearing children sing and see first hand what music can do for them and you! For tickets call 510-733-1189 or e-mail sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net.



LET'S DANCE! Jo-Ann Fread will be back on March 31st at

Niles School to once again get us dancing, hopping, sliding, and stomping in her fun-filled and "guaranteed to lose weight" workshop. Do-si-do with your partner or lift a parachute for "**La Raspa**" – with Jo-Ann it's always pure fun. Bring a friend along too to join in the fun. The dance workshop is also FREE TO MFMII DOCENTS. See enclosed flyer in this newsletter for more details and for your distribution to others.

THANKS to the Candle Lighters philanthropic organization in Fremont, MFMII has received a wonderful grant for docent training equipment and a wide variety of music materials for docents and children including autoharps, xylophones, drums, handbells, assorted percussion instruments, student white boards, etc. etc. Look for these items in our resource centers soon.



As we continue to see more severe cuts in arts education, MFMII is as determined as ever to maintain our mission of keeping music in children's lives as children can't wait for future funding and only

pass through their early education once in their life time. This requires our mutual efforts to continually seek funding sources and donors who share our commitment to the value and need for music in all of our lives but especially those of children in their formative years. MFMII seeks your help in this effort to acquire financial support especially for our docent training program which consists of sponsorship in the following areas:

- Volunteer docent trainee tuitions to Ohlone College or the Castro Valley Adult School and training materials
Cost: \$ 100 per trainee
- Sponsorship of one classroom for ½ hour weekly music lessons per school year
Cost: \$ 130-195 per school year

- Sponsorship of our concerts, workshops, and showcases.

This requires our mutual efforts to continually recruit new volunteers and seek funding sources ...etc. Please contact MFMI if you can become a donor or know of someone or a business or grant source for us to pursue. We would greatly appreciate your help in this area which is vital to the expansion of our services to children and our volunteers.

Remember the whole world needs music as it lifts our spirits, feeds our brain, nurtures the heart and soul and releases the stresses that we face in today's challenging times. Music benefits the whole child, unites a classroom, school, families, society, nation and world. We can accomplish so much when we are motivated, supported and inspired and that's what happens when we make music together. Let us continue the mission with joy! 🌸

RED and FRIENDS at CONCERT END



Making more friends while autographing.



Sharing personal experiences and making lifelong connections.



MFMI keeps a song in the heart of America.



Docents' Corner

MFMII DOCENTS/SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



HATS OFF to all of our wonderful docents and schools for their commitment to music in children's lives. Your service has had a great impact on children and classroom teachers and we hope you are enjoying every minute of sharing music with them. This newsletter highlights the amazing recruitment and docent supportive efforts and dedication of **Gomes School** docents over the years and especially this year with their 14 DOCENTS!!! covering 668 students in 30 classrooms.

Experienced Gomes docents are forever mentoring one another and especially new docents in their regular docent sharing get-togethers which invite nearby docents to attend as well. Your support of our MFMII workshops and events is also commendable. MFMII is continually grateful to **Docent Lelia Ng** for her ongoing technical genius in providing You Tube and yahoo group resources for all docents. Gomes docents also provide wonderful performance opportunities for their students in holiday and spring performances. MFMII recognizes you for your great example of enthusiasm, high standards, sacrifice, and commitment to the MFMII mission. 🌸



DYNAMITE DOCENT

Ed Mateo is definitely a dynamite docent this year teaching 9 CLASSES at Castro Valley Elementary School. Ed has been sharing the love of music with many classes each year but this one might be his top number. When talking with Ed he smiles and says he just loves it. Being a sax player, Ed has found sheer joy sharing recorder lessons with the

children who earn their recorder karate black belts in no time under Ed's great docenting. MFMII is honored to have such a dedicated, fun-loving, and enthusiastic docent.

Congratulations Ed on growing children's brain cells with instrumentation. We can just see the future clarinet and sax players evolving from your classes. Keep up the great work. 🌸

AWARDS

MFMII salutes some of our wonderful docents for their award recognition at their schools. The prestigious **PTA's Golden Oak Service Award** awarded by the PTA was received by **Veera Kazak** at **Parkmont** and **Marilyn Williams** at **Gomes School** in Fremont.



Marilyn has been docenting for MFMII for the past 6 years and Veera for 3 years.

Veera has also been our Board Resource Center Director. The G.O.S.A. is given to someone who exemplifies the highest standards of volunteerism in a variety of areas and both Marilyn and Veera definitely qualify. **Catherine Pearson**, first year docent, is not new to volunteerism as she received the **PTA Honorary Service Award at Parkmont School**. We are all so proud of **Docents Deepta Avantsa** (2nd yr.) and **Michelle Hertel** (1st yr.) who received the **PTA Special Person Award**.

It is a pleasure working with all of these wonderful moms who represent the tops in service to not only their own children but others in need. We look forward to highlighting other wonderful docents and volunteers in future issues and at our year-end recognition dinner. Please forward docent news to Sandy Shimkus at any time as we know you are all doing such fine service.

GOMES 3rd GRADERS SHINE at AWARDS EVENT!

MFMI docents were honored with special awards for their service to the school. MFMI docents **Mette Graversen, Christina Broadwin, Joy Suh, Namita Maunder, Mei Mei, and Lelia Ng** led the enthusiastic children in three wonderful songs which included playing kazoos to the William Tell Overture and sporting shades for "I'm an Agent for Change." The highlight was singing and signing "America the Beautiful" and inviting the audience to join in. See the beautiful pictures enclosed and the great group picture of the dedicated Gomes docents whose teamwork is a model for our MFMI schools. 🌸



RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT,

Now is the time to plan for our 21st fall training classes. Here are some tips to help others consider volunteering in MFMI. Remember we all wear the recruitment hat and especially when we are involved in a MFMI activity or event. However there are many other opportunities to share the program and many may not realize them when they exist. So for your recruitment pleasure:

1. Ask people if they have heard about MFMI. Great conversation while standing in lines.
2. Talk about your volunteering in MFMI at parties, sports events, exercise classes, businesses you patronize. Share your enthusiasm and the dire need for music in children's lives.

3. Encourage people to visit our website: www.musicforminors2.org.
4. Keep a supply of 4 R's flyers in your car - opportunities arise when you least expect them.
5. Invite parents to your MFMI classroom to see the program in action.
6. Help promote our community events: DRUMM and Dance Workshops, Showcase, Concerts, Training.

If everyone in MFMI just recruited one new docent, liaison, or board member we would have over 100 new volunteers. How easy is that! Let's make volunteers and donors our goal in 2010 so that MFMI can enter a new phase of its mission and reach thousands of more children with music enrichment. 🌸



"When you give, you stop at nothing."

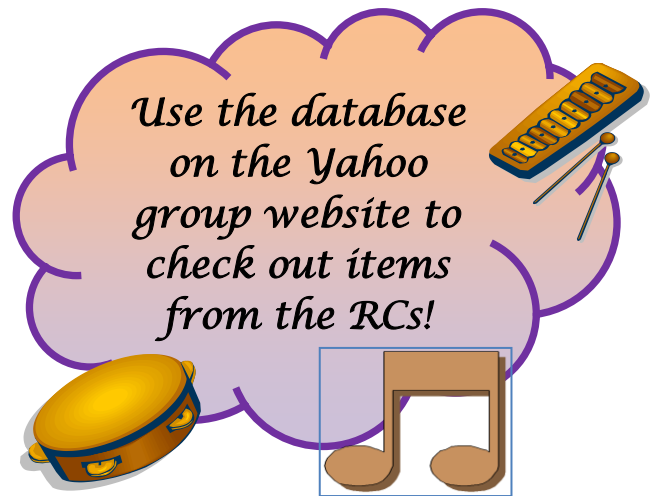
Resource Center Update

Veera Kaza (Resource Center Coordinator)

After much searching we have finally found an assistant for the MFMI Resource Center in Castro Valley. Please join me in welcoming **Jan Meissner** as the new Resource Center Assistant at Proctor School. If you have any wish lists for the resource centers please let me know.

Please remember to use the database on the Yahoo groups, when you check out items from the resource centers. We have now received the Candle Lighter's Grant, so

look out for some new instruments coming to the RCs soon. 🌸



MFMI II Fall Docent Graduation at Ohlone College



Certified Trainees in the Class of 2009 - Ready for musical fun with children!

We are in need of the CV graduation pictures so that we can highlight them in the next issue. Please forward them to Farnaz, newsletter, fparhami@comcast.net.



Honoring the dedication, hard work, and service of Docent Training Coordinator Sandy Shimkus.



Hip Hip Hooray for another group of wonderful new docents!



DRUMMM



JOIN US - and Build Connections through Rhythm

MFMI: Docents, Classroom Teachers and School Principals.

Community-at-large: College Students, Seniors, Retired Teachers, Relatives and Friends of Children and the Arts

Come and learn how to express yourself on drums and be able to teach the children to do the same!



presents

Drummm Workshop

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

7 – 9 p.m.

Niles School Auditorium

37141 Second Street, Fremont CA



Percussionist and art therapist Jeni Swerdlow is a dynamic and engaging facilitator, trainer, presenter, and performer. Since 2000, Jeni's interactive DRUMMM events have captivated thousands of participants at hundreds of events in the United States and abroad. She is best known for her playful attitude and innovative strategies that inspire drumming with freedom and confidence among diverse populations.

Workshop participants will enjoy a fun, stimulating experience while team-building and developing bonds between each other

Workshop is free to all MFMI Docents, Classroom Teachers and Principals of MFMI Schools

Non-MFMI Participants: \$15.00 Fee by 2/12/2010; \$20.00 at Door - Space is limited

RSVP: "To reserve your seat and handouts" call: 510-733-1189 or

Email: sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net

www.musicforminors2.org

Dance! Dance! Dance!

JOIN US - One and All!

MFMI: Docents, Classroom Teachers and School Principals.
Community-at-large: College Students, Seniors, Retired Teachers,
Relatives and Friends of Children and the Arts

Come and learn how to share musical movement and folk dances with children.



presents

Jo-Ann Fread Dance Workshop

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

7 – 9 p.m.

Niles School Auditorium

37141 Second Street, Fremont CA

Jo-Ann Fread is a gifted mentor dance teacher and kindergarten teacher at Warwick School in Fremont. She is also the founder of Star-Brite Children's Theater which provided an opportunity for children to perform and learn how to present theatrical productions in the Tri-City area.

Workshop participants will have fun learning while experiencing dance and movements from around the world.

Workshop is free to all MFMI Docents,
Classroom Teachers and Principals of
MFMI Schools

Non-MFMI Participants: \$15.00 fee
(Includes Handouts)

RSVP: 510-733-1189 or Email sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net

