



# Working... & In Harmony

... to keep music in children's classrooms and lives.

37141 Second Street  
Fremont, CA 94536  
510-733-1189  
www.musicforminors2.org

## Upcoming Events

Friday, December 9 5:30pm  
• MFMIII Holiday Party

Saturday, February 11 2pm  
• Charlotte Diamond Concert



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## From the Board President, Virginia Williamson

With a chill in the air and the crunch of fallen leaves underfoot, we know the days are flying by, autumn is here, and soon it will be the holidays! I hope everyone is enjoying these splendid fall days!

Everyone involved in Music for Minors II has been working to lay the foundation needed to be back in classrooms, keeping music alive in children's lives. Our "Back to Music for Minors II Night" was a wonderful success and an energetic kickoff to our year! What a joy it was to see so many new and returning Docents and to see the enthusiasm they will bring to the classroom!



New Docent training is now complete, and we congratulate our graduating docents and welcome them to the Music for Minors II family! We also welcome back our dedicated returning docents. It's with deep appreciation that we acknowledge them for the wonderful gift of music that they will bring to their students this year!

The Board has also been working on the events that will take place this year. Plans are in place for another wonderful concert, and discussions are underway for some exciting workshop opportunities as well! There is much to look forward to!

With a song in our hearts, we move forward to make our theme a reality: "For every child a time to sing!" May you have a song in your hearts as well, and may you enjoy a wonderful holiday season!

## Executive Director's Message - Carol Zilli

*Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy Holidays to all!* It's hard to believe that it's that time of year again when it feels like we just started the school year. Time flies when we are having musical fun.

We've been very busy these past two months with docent training and beginning a new year of bringing music to local school children. Read on to learn about our new docents, our exciting *(continued on next page)*



(Executive Director's Message, cont.) Back to MFMII Night, and our plans for a 24-Carrot Afternoon with the wonderful Charlotte Diamond.

I would like to wish all of you in MFMII and all the Friends of MFMII, a joyous holiday season filled with family, food, fun and song of course. "Tis the season to be jolly" despite all of our challenges these days. There is nothing like music to feed our hearts and souls and keep our spirits high.

On a personal note, I'm thrilled to report that our MFMII family is growing with the birth of my first grandchild Luciana Maria. She is a treasure and her gurgles and coos are music to this Nonnie's (that's Italian for grandma) ears! See you at the holiday party on December 9<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate our 23rd year of service to children and embark joyfully on year number "24."

## MFMII Welcomes 24-Carrot Charlotte Diamond Back to Fremont



Our good friend Charlotte Diamond has released a wonderful new CD, "24 Carrot Diamond." We are very excited to showcase her new music and sponsor Charlotte in concert on February 11, 2012 in Fremont at Harbor Light on Thornton Ave.

Please see the flyer in this newsletter and spread the word as we want to sell out the 1000+ seating venue for a concert and a half! Just think of the sound that would create with that many people joining Charlotte in her outstanding musical creations! Look for MFMII student performances as well on stage with Charlotte. So docents, start sharing

Charlotte's wonderful music. Hats off to Concert Chair, Susan Lesh, who is working hard with her committee and will be giving more details on this wonderful family and community event.

## Holiday Family Fun Potluck

The holidays are upon us and we invite you to join our MFMII Family as we connect with old friends and make new ones at the MFMII Family Fun Potluck: **Friday, December 9th from 5:30 – 9:00 pm at the home of Sandy Shimkus!**

Meet the newly trained Docents, Board Members, Liaisons, Advisory Council Members and Staff as we celebrate this festive season with an **all new** family contest to win a great prize, and a **new** craft room with games for the kids!!

We will still enjoy our ornament exchange and our annual sing-a-long. We look forward to a fun-filled evening for the entire family! Bring a prospective docent or board member too!!!



Watch your email for additional details and an Evite. Please RSVP by December 6th to Sue Lesh at: [susanlesh@comcast.net](mailto:susanlesh@comcast.net) or Sharon Filippi at [sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net).

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these events from MFMII (and our friends)!

**Dec 3:** Ohlone Community Chorale, The Many Moods of Christmas ([www.smithcenter.com](http://www.smithcenter.com))

**Dec 9:** MFMII Holiday Family Fun Potluck

**Jan 20 – Feb 4:** "Hairspray" at Stage 1 Theatre ([www.stage1theatre.org](http://www.stage1theatre.org))

**Feb 11:** Charlotte Diamond Concert

**Feb TBA:** Orff Workshop with Maddie Hogan

**March TBA:** Dance Workshop with Jo'Ann Fread



## Cheers for New Docent Volunteers!

MFMI began the year with the training of about 30 new docent trainees in both Fremont and Castro Valley who committed three hours weekly at training classes and many more hours at home preparing to teach in the classroom.

MFMI is once again blessed with the addition of some wonderfully talented and dedicated new volunteers who will definitely bring musical joy to the children we serve along with our many returning experienced docents.



New docents graduated on November 16 at Proctor School and on November 18 at the Fremont Adult School as families gathered to help celebrate all their accomplishments. Look for these new enthusiastic docents in Fremont and Castro Valley School District Schools.

***Pilot Mini-Training Program A Success!*** MFMI thanks all of the 20 classroom teachers who attended our first mini-training. Everyone learned many songs and musical activities to integrate into their curriculum. Class participants ranged from pre-school teachers to sixth grade teachers as well as a wonderful music specialist from FUSD who shared and received music enrichment that he will use in his lessons. It is our hope that these teachers will join us in our music workshops in February and March and encourage others to participate too.

The strong community support exemplified by these individuals and institutions has always been essential to MFMI's success. Music is the great universal language that heals and uplifts people so that they strive for greatness. Thanks to these dedicated educators, our theme remains, *"For Every Child, a Time to Sing!"*





## MFMI Thanks Supporters and Volunteers!

A special thank you to **Sandy Shimkus** for her zillion of hours in working with Carol Zilli to produce the training materials for the classroom teachers and docent trainees. Sandy's dedication to MFMI is simply unbelievable and the joy with which she works is inspirational.

**Rose Godfrey** also deserves recognition as our wonderful Castro Valley Docent Training Coordinator for all her efforts to support Carol in preparing the new volunteers for their docenting. Rose is a veteran docent at Vannoy and the "Dancing on the Rooftop" Queen!

**Lelia Ng and Sandy Shimkus at Gomes** deserve huge THANK YOUS for all their computer genius in providing files and ongoing rich music resources for all of our docents in such an easily accessible way. Their focus on this aspect of resources for our docents is invaluable and much appreciated.

MFMI thanks **Shane Sharkey of Big Toe Audio** in Castro Valley for his time and talents in helping Carol produce a CD/MP3 of training songs for which we have no accompaniment. Carol felt like a recording artist in his studio with the headsets and mike. Thank you Shane for also being a dedicated docent at Stanton teaching all those 4th grade classes in just your second year of docenting while also taking on the Proctor School Resource Center Assistant position. Shane is also converting our albums to CDs in our resource centers which will greatly benefit all docents.



A huge thank you to **Steve Giudici** and the staff at the **Fremont Adult School** for their cooperation and support so we could offer our MFMI docent and classroom teacher training programs this fall. Our room was just wonderful and we greatly appreciate the professional and warm hospitality of Steve and staff which made our training experience so successful.

MFMI wishes to thank the Castro Valley Rotary Club for its generous grant of \$500 which will be used for music materials for the Proctor Resource Center. We greatly appreciate the Rotary's support as many docents and children will have hands-on musical experiences with these resources. Hats off to Lynette Pang, our new Funding Director/Grant Writer who wrote this grant.



## Liaisons Support Key to New Docent Success

With docent training ending, a new group of docents will be entering the classrooms. They need to be welcomed and included into our MFMI family and that is where you Liaisons are so essential.

Liaisons are key to keeping the program strong by calling monthly meetings, keeping in contact with docents, and helping to advertise the MFMI program. Think communications in many ways whether emails, meetings, phone calls, texts or meetings in the parking lot at school.

Also, there are several ways you can help with promoting MFMI such as: placing a newsletter article in your school newsletter and/or PTA/PTO newsletter, putting a link on your school website to MFMI, and helping advertise the upcoming Charlotte Diamond concert in February.

There are so many fun activities coming up like the Holiday Family Fun Event on Friday, December 9th and workshops in February and March. We would love to see all our docents at these events and personal invitations from you would make all the difference in their attendance.

Keep a look out for emails and evites regarding parties, concerts and workshops. We love to share fun, music and stories and we need to get together to do this.

The holidays are upon us and we want MFMI to be part of your celebrations. Enjoy!

## Fun and Frolic at Back to MFMII Night!

Back To MFMII Night was a real hit with about 40 new and veteran docents, board members, and advisory council members gathering to make great music together on a wide variety of musical instruments and creative body percussions. The *Cup Game* shared by Lelia Ng of Gomes Elementary was a real hit challenging all of us to keep the beat and pass the cup in our circle of fun. Brains were definitely enriched by the experience.

MFMII thanks one of our Advisory Council members, former City Councilman Steve Cho, who joined us that evening and was a real sport by participating fully in all the fun-filled musical activities.



## Join the Yahoo Group for MFMII Docents

Are you a member of our Yahoo group "music4minors2"? If not, you're missing out! Stay in touch with other MFMII docents - share ideas and be inspired! Keep up-to-date with current MFMII events! And so much more!

Membership is by invitation only. If you would like to join, please email [lynette\\_pang@yahoo.com](mailto:lynette_pang@yahoo.com).

## Coming Soon: A New Website Design!

Much work is happening behind the scenes on the MFMII website. We are busily updating the site's style and organization. We expect to release a more user-friendly and attractive resource to you by Christmas! We'll be adding some fun photos of school children with MFMII instruments such as those below. If you'd like to have your class photographed, please contact Christina Melnarik at [ccniles@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ccniles@sbcglobal.net).



## Resource Center News by Veera Kazak

I hope you are having a great year and are making the most of the wonderful materials and instruments that we have available at our resource centers. Please remember to keep cupboards securely locked and ensure that items are checked out in the Check-Out binder. You can see what items are available at each resource center by going to the Yahoo groups / Files / Resource centers - then select the appropriate spreadsheet.

Thank you to **Nancy Kwok** for taking on the position of Resource Center Assistant at Glenmoor School in Fremont. Nancy is currently a docent at Parkmont School.

If you would like to see a particular item/instrument at an RC near you, please let me know.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving with your families! *Veera*



### Leitch Resource Center Assistant Needed - A Great "Behind the Scenes" MFMII Role

We are still in need of a Resource Center Assistant for the **Leitch** Resource Center. This is a wonderful opportunity for those who prefer to work **"behind the scenes."** If you can help or if you know anyone that could perform this role, please contact Veera Kazak on 510 793 3801 or email [vrkazak@yahoo.com](mailto:vrkazak@yahoo.com). Here is a brief job description for this position:

- Oversee the use of items, maintain the RC in an organized way.
- Help conduct yearly inventory of the RC.
- Make sure there are enough sign-out/quick check/reserved list sheets in the binder.
- Check sign out sheets for tardy returns.
- Ensure latest copy of inventory list is available - print from MFMII yahoo groups.
- Check for poor condition of any items on the inventory sheet. Keep records.
- Take broken instruments out of circulation. Repair/replace when possible.
- Reorganize the area as needed, to keep space used efficiently.
- Gather and file "wish lists" from docents, suggestions of items that the RC should have and send it to Veera Kazak, so that when money is available these lists can be consulted.
- Time needed: about 1 hour per month.

Remember you don't have to be musical or take a training class for this important position that enables our docents to easily find their materials for the children. MFMII welcomes you to our social events as you would definitely be a member of the MFMII family.

### Music K8 Magazines/CDs For Each Resource Center

We are still in negotiation with Plank Road Publishing, but due to copyright issues we are not allowed to put their online files on our website/yahoo group.

Therefore the board has decided to go ahead and buy Music K8 magazines and CDs for all the four resource centers, as in previous years.

### Music Express Magazines/CDs to be Ordered

I will shortly be ordering a trial copy of Music Express magazine / CD and student magazines for the resource centers. Some schools are currently using these and find them useful.

Let me know what you think and maybe we can subscribe for the year, if you find it worthwhile. You can find more information at:

[www.musicexpressmagazine.com](http://www.musicexpressmagazine.com).





## Music for Minors II Proudly Presents ...

# Charlotte Diamond

In a Family Concert  
at 2pm



*This internationally renowned, award-winning children's recording artist and educator inspires with multicultural and character-building educational music that touches & captivates the heart!*

Join us at **Harbor Light**

4760 Thornton Avenue, Fremont, CA 94536

**Saturday February 11, 2012**

Tickets ages 3 & up: \$12 per person in advance, \$14 at the door

Group Rate (20 or more, advance purchase only): \$10 per person

Advanced purchase recommended:

- ❖ By MAIL (MFMII, 37141 2nd St., Fremont, CA 94536) with check by Jan 30
- ❖ By PHONE (call 510 - 733-1189)
- ❖ By E-MAIL ([sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net))
- ❖ By PAYPAL ([musicforminors2@gmail.com](mailto:musicforminors2@gmail.com))

Proceeds benefit MFMII, a 501-3(c) non-profit providing music education in classrooms through trained docents who nurture the love of music in children 🎵 [www.musicforminors2.org](http://www.musicforminors2.org) 🎵

# Holiday Family Fun Potluck Invitation



## Music for Minors II Holiday Family Fun Potluck 2011



### Join Us for Holiday Fun !!

Join our MFMII Family as we connect with old friends and make new ones! Meet the newly trained Docents, Board Members, Liaisons, Advisory Council Members and Staff as we celebrate the season with an ALL NEW Family Contest to win a great prize, and a NEW craft room with games for the kid's!!

We will still enjoy our optional ornament exchange and our annual sing-a-long. This will be a great evening for the entire family! Bring a prospective docent or board member too!!!



### The Basics

When: **Friday, December 9, 2011**  
Time: 5:30 - 9:00 pm  
Host: Sandy Shimkus (510-657-7659)  
Docent Manager/Docent Training Coordinator  
RSVP: December 6<sup>th</sup> to: [susanlesh@comcast.net](mailto:susanlesh@comcast.net)



### Potluck and Such!



Please let us know the dish you plan to bring:

\* Appetizers \* Salad \* Main Dish \* Dessert \*

If participating in the ornament exchange please  
bring a wrapped ornament (\$5.00 limit)





# 2011-2012 Calendar-at-a-Glance

## Calendar-at-a-Glance

2011-2012

FOR EVERY CHILD, A TIME TO SING!



### August

27 Sat 1 30 p Board Retreat Santa Cruz

### September

2 Fri 9 30 a Liaison Orientation Carol's  
 7 Wed 7:00p Niles Orientation Niles School  
 12 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 12 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 14 Wed 6 30 p Training - Castro Valley Proctor School  
 16 Fri 8:45a Training - Fremont Fremont Adult  
 10 11 Sat/S Castro Valley Fall Festival  
 18 Sun n-4pm Newark Days Newark  
 All Resource Centers Open  
 27 Tue 7:00p **Back to MFMI Night** Niles School  
 and Docent Sharing

### October

10 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 10 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
  
 4 Tue nights Teacher Training Fremont Adult School  
 Docent Placement Sheet due

### November

14 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 14 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 Training Graduation  
  
 16 Wed 8:00p Castro Valley Proctor School  
 18 Fri 11:00a Fremont Fremont Adult

### December

9 Fri 5-8p Holiday Family Fun  
 Invoicing schools begins

### January 2011

9 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 9 Mon 7:00p Board meeting Carol's  
 Docent Sharing Get  
 TBA Together TBA

### February

11 Sat 2:00p Charlotte Diamond Concert Harbor Light  
 13 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 13 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 TBA Orff Workshop with Maddie Hogan Niles School  
 Docent Mid-Year Conference Form due  
 Classroom Fees Due

### March

12 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 12 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 TBA Dance Workshop with JoAnn Fread Niles School

### April

16 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 16 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 National Volunteer Week/Docent Recognition School Sites

### May

11 Fri End-of-Year Recognition Lunch  
 14 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 14 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 Year-End Evaluations/Reports due  
 Return all Resource Center materials

### June

Resource Center Inventory  
 23 Sat Board Meeting/Retreat Carol's  
 Budget Committee Meeting TBA

### July

*HAPPY SUMMER BREAK!!*

### August

11/17/2011