



Working...
In Harmony
... to keep music in children's classrooms and lives.

Upcoming Events

- October 2: Back to MFMII Nite at Niles School Auditorium, 7pm
December 7: MFMII Holiday Party
March 2013: SAVE THE DATE!!
MFMII 25th Anniversary Gala!

Contents

Page 3:

- Save the Date, 25th Anniversary
- Docent Training Starts
- Docent Job Opportunity
- \$1500 Niles Rotary Grant

Page 4:

- Welcome New Board Members

Page 5:

- Resource Center News

Page 6-7:

- Docent Training Coordinator and Docent Manager/Mentor News
- Docent Training Schedule

Page 8:

- Back to MFMII Night Flyer

Page 9:

- Calendar-at-a-Glance

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MFMII is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit.

September - October 2012

From the Board President, Virginia Williamson

It's **Back to Music for Minors II** for 2012-13!

Welcome to the start of the **twenty-fifth year** of Music for Minors II! We are celebrating twenty-five years of keeping music alive in children's hearts and lives – what an amazing milestone! This is going to be such an exciting year! As with all milestones, this important anniversary brings to mind how far we've

come. We think of the history of Music for Minors II -- how it began with an idea and a passion for bringing music into children's classrooms and lives, and how this organization has grown and changed from just a few classrooms and docents to a powerful musical presence in over twenty-five schools and children's programs, with more than 100 docents and volunteers, *(see next page)*



Executive Director's Message Carol Zilli

We're 25!! Still Keeping Music Alive!

It's hard to believe, but Music for Minors II is entering its 25th year of service to children and the community in 2013. It seems the years have flown by probably because of all the musical fun we have experienced. Our mission of nurturing the love and literacy of music in children's classrooms and lives continues as there are more and more children in need of music enrichment and were it not for MFMII, they wouldn't have any at all.



None of this can happen of course without our wonderful, enthusiastic, and dedicated volunteer music docents who are messengers of joy for children who cheer when they see their docents coming into their classrooms.

This school year we will focus on our dynamite docents in every issue of our newsletter, on our website, and at our events. They are the core of our program and we honor and appreciate their service.

We will also feature a little bit of our history throughout the year, recognize our hardworking Board of Directors, school liaisons and staff members and highlight some of our past and future musical events. *(see next page)*

(Board President's Message, cont.)

reaching over 4,500 children annually with the gift of music! Wow! This is truly something to celebrate!

We will launch this year with "Back to Music for Minors II Night" on Tuesday, October 2, at Niles School. Let's turn out and pack that auditorium with enthusiasm to get this important year off to a spectacular start!

Training has begun in Fremont and Castro Valley for the many new docents joining the MFMII family (see photos below). Plans are underway for workshops and events, and especially for our Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Gala celebration! This is going to be a wonderful year of music!

Virginia Williamson



In the above photos and those on the next two pages, Carol Zilli and Castro Valley docents-in-training work on pitch and melody with Charlotte Diamond's "Slippery Fish."

(Executive Director's Message, cont.)

Our heartfelt thanks to our returning, experienced docents in Fremont, Castro Valley, and Newark school districts as well as the teachers in the Extended Day Care Centers (EDCC) in Dublin and Pleasanton who were trained by MFMII.

As we confirm all our docents and classrooms served, we are thankful for the almost 5,000 children who will be served with weekly music lessons by almost 100 docents.

What Do the Experts Say?....

Researchers in brain development at Northwestern University are discovering how early music lessons have longtime benefits.

Recorded auditory brainstem responses of college students to complex sounds and those who had musical training in childhood had more robust responses – their brains were better able to pick out essential elements like pitch in the complex sounds even though their childhood lessons ended years ago

"To learn to read, you need to have a good working memory, the ability to disambiguate speech sounds, make sound-to-meaning connections and each one of these things seems to be strengthened with active engagement in playing a musical instrument." -- Professor Nina Kraus, Director of Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory, Northwestern University

It is amazing what the human brain can do and we are only discovering the tip of the iceberg. Researchers continue to draw out the many effects of the combination of stimulation, application, practice and auditory exercise that musical education provides thereby greatly improving cognitive skills.

In MFMII we want music to be recognized as a powerful learning tool but even more importantly, we want everyone to know that music should be enjoyed for what it really is because it is LIFE! Let us KEEP MUSIC ALIVE for another 25!

Carol Zilli

Save The Date, March 2013 MFMII 25th Anniversary Gala

Mark your calendars and save the date for our mid-March 2013 25th Anniversary Gala in Fremont! This is an event you won't want to miss – great food, musical fun, entertainment, prizes, silent auction, and much more. Look for more details in our next issue and on our website.



Docent Job Opportunity

Music Intern needed to teach music/movement workshop once a week at an Oakland school located at 2454 Hearst Ave. Oakland 94602. For more information call Carmen Sims at 510-530-4745.

Thank you Niles Rotary For \$1500 Grant!

MFMII wishes to thank the Niles Rotary for their generous grant of \$1500 for support for our training and expansion program with new and improved technical equipment and music resources.

It was a pleasure for Carol to present MFMII to this fun-filled and enthusiastic group of community leaders. They too share the love of music in their weekly meetings and we admire their "Service above Self" motto. Thank you Rotarians! We greatly appreciate your support.

Docent Training Starts

Every fall since 1990, community volunteers have taken the Music For Minors II fall docent training class. Most of our trainees are parents, but retired teachers, grandparents and other seniors, college students, professional musicians, friends and neighbors, and business men and women of all ages, have taken the docent training class!

Classes were held at Ohlone College for our first 20 years and are now at the Fremont Adult School and Castro Valley Adult School.

This fall we thank our 40 new volunteer docent trainees for their commitment to MFMII and children needing music. This fall's classes represent volunteers from Oakland, Sunnyvale, Alameda, Berkeley, Union City, Hayward as well as Fremont, Newark, and Castro Valley.

MFMII is seeking expansion in all of these areas as the need is great.

Note the following docent training changes this fall:

FREMONT CLASSES: Fremont Adult School, Noll Center Rooms 2/3/4. Wednesday and Friday mornings 9:30 - 11:45 am from Sep 12 – Nov 16.

CASTRO VALLEY CLASSES: **Castro Valley Adult School, Room 3**, Monday and Wednesday evenings 7:00 - 9:15 pm. Sep 10 – Nov 14.

Returning docents, please join us for a refresher session or two!



MFMI Welcomes New Board Members: Ed Mateo and Lelia Ng

The MFMI Board of Directors welcomes two wonderful docents as members who have long been active in MFMI as excellent docents and liaisons.

Ed Mateo, who was trained in 2006, has served as a docent at Castro Valley Elementary School since then and last year set the docent record for teaching the most classes as he served 12 classes in grades 1-4!!! He has taught recorder, singing, rhythmic movement and some dance along with other simple instruments. Bringing in his saxophone has been a real treat for the children too. Ed is joining the board as Funding Director and has succeeded in getting classroom teachers at CVE many things through his online fund raising for them.



Welcome Ed! Your support over the years in our MFMI booths has also been much appreciated. You will be a wonderful addition to the board.

Lelia Ng, was trained in 2007 as a docent at Gomes School in Fremont and hit the ground running ever since including her strong liaison role and mentoring of many new docents including coordinating docent sharing sessions at Gomes which has been open to all docents in MFMI. She is involved in many school activities yet has found the time to join the board as Publicity Director.



Lelia's outstanding technical skills will be a real asset to MFMI. If you want something done, ask a busy person and that certainly applies with Lelia. Her positive and energetic personality is such an asset and we are excited to have her support in her new role.

Both Ed and Lelia have been honored by MFMI as recipients of our In Harmony Service Award for their outstanding service to MFMI. Once again MFMI is blessed with dedicated and caring people who go above and beyond to promote our mission of bringing music to more and more children in need. Thank you Ed and Lelia for all you do for MFMI!



Welcome to another year with MFMII. I was busy over the summer trying to learn to play the ukulele with some other docents and ordering some new instruments for the resource centers. The resource center at Proctor School in Castro Valley will soon have a new cabinet. Thank you to former docent, **Steve Harrington**, for installing this for us. I have 15 new de Rosa bongo drums in bright colors to add to it. I hope you enjoy using them..

WANTED! Resource Center Assistants for Glenmoor, Proctor, & Leitch/Warm Springs

The Resource Center Assistant job is to:

- Oversee the use of items.
- Maintain the RC in an organized way.
- Help conduct yearly inventory of the RC (June).
- Label Music K8 magazines/CD with MFMII and its code. Place in folder - every 2 months.
- 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 of suggestions of items that the RC should have, so that when money is available these lists can be consulted.

The time commitment for each RC assistant is about 1 hour per month. If you can help or know of anyone who can, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Presidential Certificate Opportunity

Would you like to receive a letter from the president, a certificate and a pin for all the volunteer hours you do for MFMII? We are pleased to let you know that we have been approved as an Official Certifying Organization for the President's Volunteer Service Awards program. You will need to create an account and remember to log your MFMII volunteer hours at www.presidentialserviceawards.gov. Any individual, family, or group can receive Presidential recognition for volunteer hours earned over a 12-month period or over the course of a lifetime at home or abroad. The following are the eligibility requirements: Bronze level: 100-249 volunteer hours; Silver level: 250-499 hours; Gold level: 500+ hours. If you want more information, feel free to contact Veera Kazak at vrkazak@yahoo.com.



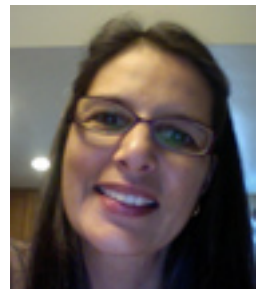
Veera

Resource Center Inventory Update

I have finally entered all the data from the RC inventories back in June into the RC inventory spreadsheet. The latest list can be found on the yahoo group and will also be available on the website, in the docent login area. All the items are sorted by resource center, and you can do a search for a particular item. Hopefully you can find what you are looking for.

Guitar Available

If anyone is interested in learning guitar please let me know. I have a new guitar that was donated to MFMII recently, from lilypants.com.



Docent Training Coordinator and Docent Manager/Mentor News

by Sandy Shimkus

Welcome Back! The year is already off to a great start.

Castro Valley docents had a sharing session this summer to get the docents excited and energized to get ready for a new school year. Fremont docents followed soon afterwards with a sharing session in early September. These sharing sessions are a fun way to learn new songs, revisit old songs with new ways to teach them and to reconnect with the fabulous docents we have in our organization. One of our new trainees was even able to come to the Fremont docent sharing and see first-hand what we are all about.



Thanks to the recruiting efforts by **Carol Zilli** and all of the liaisons, docents, board, and staff this is going to be an amazing year for training of new docents. One of the many recruiting opportunities we had was at the Castro Valley Fall Festival. We had hundreds of children that stopped by our booth to play instruments while we talked to their parents and grandparents about our program. One of our very talented docents, **Shane Sharkey**, brought his ukulele and played songs to entertain the the festival patrons. He helped to bring in more people to the booth with his rendition of the hit song “Whistle” and other fun songs. He was joined by another of our talented docents, **Melanie Smith**, who entertained everyone with her recorder. It was a fun afternoon with music and friends. Thanks to all of you for helping to build our wonderful program.



All of the new trainees are full of enthusiasm and are excited about the program. We are back to the twice a week training which allows us to better connect with the trainees. The training format has changed slightly this year and we are excited that we will be introducing a training session that will bring docents into the Docent Training classroom to teach songs, teach a full lesson, and to share ideas. We will also be videotaping docents in the classroom and sharing the video with the trainees so they can learn about

teaching styles, and watch the interaction between the docents and the students. Trainees will still need to complete two docent observations in the school classroom. We will schedule those as soon as we get the Docent Teaching Schedules. See the attached Docent Training Schedule and please join us any time you want to sit in on a class and refresh your memory of what Carol has taught us.



Looking forward to a fun and fabulous year!!

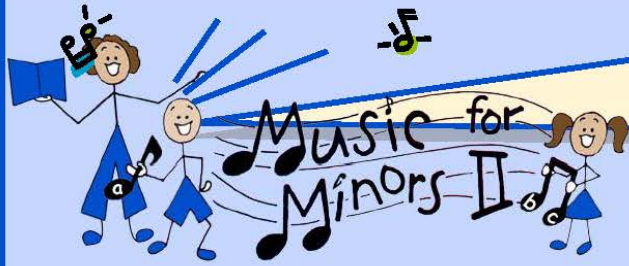
Sandy

Docent Training Schedule

Music for Minors II Docent Training

2012 Curriculum and Schedule of Classes - Fremont/Castro Valley

#1: September 5, Wednesday	ORIENTATION SESSION Resource Center Overview and tour - Niles Elementary School Resource Center from 7:00pm – 9:00pm
#2: September 10, Monday (CV) and September 12, Wednesday (F)	INTRODUCTION & CLASS OVERVIEW, 30 MIN LESSON, OPENERS AND GET AQAUINTED SONGS, INTRODUCTION TO FRAMEWORK
#3: September 12, Wednesday (CV) and September 14, Friday (F)	INTRODUCTION TO THE FRAMEWORK AND GUIDE, INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC THEORY, BEAT AND RHYTHM,
#4: September 17, Monday (CV) and September 19, Wednesday (F)	BEAT AND RHYTHM CONTINUED, INTRODUCTION TO KODALY, INTRODUCTION TO INSTRUMENTS
#5: September 19, Wednesday (CV) and September 21, Friday (F)	THE SINGING VOICE, KODALY FOR THE YOUNG, PITCH AND MELODY-- Simple Drawings, Curwyn signs, Storytelling, Solfege,
#6: September 24, Monday (CV) and September 26 Wednesday (F)	PITCH AND MELODY CONTINUED--
#7: September 26, Wednesday (CV) and September 28, Friday (F)	HARMONY, PART SINGING, ROUNDS- CMD DETAIL & SONG APPLICATION--
#8: October 1, Monday (CV) and October 3, Wednesday (F)	MUSIC SERIES RESOURCES- MCGRAW HILL, MUSIC K-8, MUSIC EXPRESS, SILVER BURDETTE, WEE SING
#9: October 2, Tuesday (CV and F)	BACK TO MUSIC FOR MINORS II NIGHT (Instruments and Sharing)
#10: October 3, Wednesday (CV) and October 5, Friday)	**MINI-PRESENTATIONS #1**
#11: October 8, Monday (CV) and October 10, Wednesday (F)	GENERAL TEACHING GUIDELINES Class management situations, teaching tips and positive behavior songs (class Management songs)
#12: October 10, Wednesday (CV) and October 12, Friday (F)	LESSON PLANNING- GROUP PROJECT
#13: October 15, Monday (CV) and October 17, Wednesday (F)	EMOTIONAL EXPLORATION, SEQUENCING, FUN/SILLY SONGS AND MOTOR SKILLS, DYNAMICS, METER, TEMPO, MOOD
#14: October 17, Wednesday (CV) and October 19, Friday (F)	ORCHESTRAL LISTENING-- Instruments of the orchestra, musical form and listening activities
#15: October 22, Monday (CV) and October 24, Wednesday (F)	MINI PRESENTATION #2
#16: October 24, Wednesday (CV) and October 26, Friday (F)	ORFF METHODS--Instruments, games and improvisation
#17: October 29, Monday (CV) and October 31, Wednesday (F)	VIEWING DOCENTS IN THE CLASSROOM
#18: October 31, Wednesday (CV) (change TBD) and November 2, Friday (F)	MAKING THE TRAINING /TEACHING CONNECTION
#19: November 5, Monday (CV) and November 7, Wednesday (F)	MEET EXPERIENCED DOCENTS AS THEY SHARE THEIR SONGS/ACTIVITIES
#20: November 7, Wednesday (CV) and November 9, Friday (F)	OVERVIEW-- Overview of Lesson Plans, CMD Method, Teaching Guidelines and Docent Requirements, Trainings Over, Now what?
#21: November 12, Monday (CV) (change TBD) and November 14, Wednesday (F)	**FINAL PRESENTATIONS (Begin)**
#22: November 14, Wednesday (CV) and November 16, Friday (F)	**FINAL PRESENTATIONS (Finish)**
Graduation!!!	



Calling all
Docents &
Trainees! It's...

BACK TO MFMI NIGHT !!

We're 25!! Still Keeping Music Alive!

When? Tuesday, October 2, 2012, 7pm - 9:15pm
Where? Niles Elementary School Auditorium
37141 Second Street, Fremont, CA
RSVP !! Sandy Shimkus (shimkuss2@yahoo.com) by Sept 30, 2012

ENJOY AN EVENING PACKED WITH LEARNING & FUN!

- Exciting Docent demos of favorite songs & Activities
- Meet new Docent Trainees, Liaisons & MFMI Board and Staff members.
- Refresh your teaching of instruments with boom-whackers, choir chimes, recorders, xylophones, & more!
- Connect with old friends, and find out what exciting events MFMI will be sponsoring this year!
- Enjoy handouts, refreshments, and door prizes!

Don't Miss It !

Calendar At A Glance

Calendar-at-a-Glance 2012-2013

FOR EVERY CHILD, A TIME TO SING!



September

5	Wed	7:00p	Niles Orientation	Niles School
10	Mon	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
10	Mon	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
10	MAW	7	Training - Castro Valley	Proctor School
12	W/F	9:30a	Training - Fremont	Fremont Adult
8	9	Sat/S	Castro Valley Fall Festival	
	Sun	n-4pm	Newark Days	Newark
			All Resource Centers Open	
28	Sat	6:30p	25th Anniversary Meeting	Sandy's

October

2	Tue	7	Back to MFMI Night and Docent Sharing	Niles School
5	Fri	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
5	Fri	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
			25th Anniversary Meeting	
			Docent Placement Sheet due	

November

9	Fri	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
9	Fri	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
			Training Graduation	
			25th Anniversary Meeting	
14	Wed	8:00p	CV Docent Graduation	CV Adult School
16	Fri	11:00a	Fmt Docent Graduation	Fremont Adult

December

7	Fri	6:00p	Holiday Family Fun	Sandy's house
			Invoicing schools begins	
			25th Anniversary Meeting	

January

2011

9	Wed	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
9	Wed	7:00p	Board meeting	Carol's
			25th Anniversary Meeting	

February

			25th Anniversary Meeting	
6	Wed	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
6	Wed	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
			Docent Mid-Year Conference Form due	
			Classroom Fees Due	

March

6	Wed	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
6	Wed	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
			25th Anniversary Gala Event	Fremont

April

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

May

			End-of-Year Recognition	
8	Wed	6:00p	Staff Meeting	Carol's
8	Wed	7:00p	Board Meeting	Carol's
			Year-End Evaluations/Reports due	
			Return all Resource Center materials	

June

			Resource Center Inventory	
30	Sun		Board Meeting/Retreat	Carol's
			Budget Committee Meeting	TBA

July

HAPPY SUMMER BREAK!!

9/25/2012