

MUSIC FOR MINORS II

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www.musicforminors2.org

December 2010 - January 2011



For Every Child a Time to Sing!

December Highlights

Merry Christmas!



January and Beyond Highlights

Charlotte Diamond Music Workshop

January 12th 7-9 pm

Niles School, Fremont

Charlotte Diamond Concert

March 4th 7 pm

Castro Valley Center for the Arts



Fremont New Docent Graduation Class of 2010



CV New Docent Graduation Class of 2010

President's Message

Virginia Williamson, Board President

For every child a time to sing! With that as our theme for the year, we see an additional dimension to our mission of "nurturing a lifelong love and literacy of music in children's classrooms." Every child deserves to have a time to sing, and we want to reach even more children this year. To that end, everyone involved with Music for Minors II has been busy putting the pieces in place to launch an even greater year of keeping music alive in children's classrooms and lives.

Thank you to Carol Zilli and our wonderful Docent Training Coordinators, Sandy Shimkus, Lynette Pang and Rose Godfrey, who have just completed

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another course of training for the new docents graduating this month! Thank you to our new docents and to our dedicated returning docents for the gift of music you are prepared to give!

The Board has been working to organize the events that will take place this year. We welcome new Board members Teri Minnis, and Jaya Murthy, who are making wonderful contributions to our work together. Our Program Coordinator, Susan Lesh, has already begun working with her team to plan a wonderful concert opportunity for this year. And as always, the tireless efforts of our

Executive Director, Carol Zilli, inspire us all! She not only keeps a song in her heart, she truly is the heart of Music for Minors II!

We know how important music education is to a child's development, and we know, too, that we can accomplish more together. We want to reach even more children this year, and our many community donors are helping to make that a possibility. We thank them as well for their generosity and support! We are all working together to bring music into the lives of children! Let's SING!

Calendar of Events

January 12	CHARLOTTE DIAMOND MUSIC WORKSHOP	Wed	7:00-9:00 pm	Niles School, Fremont
January 8-9, 14-16, 21-23	Starstruck Theatre Presents Annie			Ohlone College Smith Center
March 4	CHARLOTTE DIAMOND IN CONCERT	Fri	7:00 pm	Castro Valley Center for the Arts

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 with your Yahoo ID. To register for a Yahoo ID, simply go to <http://www.yahoo.com/> and then click on "Sign Up".

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



Executive Director's Notes

Carol Zilli, Executive Director

“Hey, Ho, Winter’s Here. Hear the children singing; classrooms are ringing. Let’s make music for every child. Hey, Ho Winter’s Here!”

CONGRATS TO ALL!



And More Docents!
Ohlone College Graduation



And More Docents!
CV Graduation

As we come to the year’s end, Music for Minors II (MFMII) celebrates with joy the graduation of 28 new docents and 4 new schools joining the program which means that more than 1,000 additional students will be enriched by these enthusiastic new docents bringing MFMII’s service currently to over 5,000 children weekly.

Professional musicians, grandparents and parents, retired teachers and friends of the arts were among

the training classes, Hats off to all of our wonderful docents who fulfill our mission of music for every child.

MFMII thanks **Sandy Shimkus** for her outstanding service as Docent Training Coordinator/ Docent Mentor. Sandy’s monumental training tasks were always done with a smile and her countless hours of service are recognized and much appreciated. Thanks also go to **Rose Godfrey**, Castro Valley Training Coordinator assisted by **Lynette Pang** for their dedication and support that make the CV training possible. An additional note of thanks to Mette Graverrsen who substituted for Sandy for one training class and to Lelia Ng for her incredible technical assistance with our training materials online. We appreciate the docent sharing by our experienced docents as well **Jonna Carlile, Veera Kazak, Mette Graverson, and Lelia Ng**. The highlight of the CV evening training class was the power outage that occurred resulting in over 1 ½ hrs. of acapella and flashlight led songs and instruction – the show must always go on!

Thanks go to Shane Sharkey, new docent at Stanton Elementary in Castro Valley for his generosity and time in distributing free CDs to his training class members and MFMII, accepting the resource center assistant position at Proctor School, presenting at our Back to MFMII Night, and for having the interns in his business transfer all of the albums in our Niles Resource Center to CDs and MP3s. What a wonderful contribution to our music resources for all docent use. Shane's constant support and eagerness to learn demonstrated in the training class has been inspirational. Thank you Shane!

MFMII is grateful also for Cheryl McElhany, retired principal and administrator, who has written two grants for us. Cheryl's enthusiasm and expertise will enhance MFMII's growth in the Castro Valley area.

DIAMOND IS BACK!

Music for Minors II is proud to present **Charlotte Diamond in Concert** on Friday, March 4th at 7 pm. once again and for the first time ever, in Castro Valley at the beautiful **Castro Valley Center for the Arts** on Redwood Road. This renowned children's recording artist has been a loyal friend of MFMII since the early 1990's and a strong advocate for quality music for children. Charlotte's words, "the song is just the beginning of a life time of music," capture her focus and passion for making this a better world for children through music. Charlotte will preview her concert for us in a MFMII sponsored music workshop on Wed. January 12th to be held in Fremont at Niles School at 7 pm. Charlotte's workshops are outstanding as she invites all docents, classroom teachers and the community-at-large to experience the joy of her music and learn how to integrate it into school curriculum. Look for MFMII students performing on stage with Charlotte in the concert for a thrill of a lifetime and an unforgettable experience. See concert and workshop flyers enclosed in this newsletter and mark your calendars. Don't miss these exciting events that will capture your heart and inspire you to keep on singing!



Charlotte Diamond and the Hug Bug

Hats off to Mei Mei! Gomas Docent Mei Mei has been working very hard to help promote the Diamond Concert and support MFMII by spreading the word via her online networking which inspires us all to do the same. Selling 60 tickets alone for our Diamond Concert 2 years

ago, Mei Mei is committed to even more this time so get your tickets early before this sell-out performance happens. Details in attached flyer.

BACK TO MFM II, a STRIKING SUCCESS!

Pictures speak a thousand words as does this photo capturing the electricity between Taiko Drummer Terry Eustice and docent Margaret Hall. 40+ gathered on their drums for an exciting drumming experience that really struck the rhythm of the year at our Back to MFMII Night. Simply by the use of simple rhythmic patterns and words, we were able to follow our leader and experience drumming success. YOW!



Taiko Drummer and Docent Conversing

Great food, musical fun, and holiday games with friends of MFMII marked our Holiday Brunch on Sunday, December 5th. Docents, Board Members, Staff and Liaisons along with their families joined in the spirit of the season. A highlight was the dramatization of the 12 Days of Christmas - leaping Lords and geese a-laying made for great laughter as everyone sang their hearts out.



Holiday Party Sing Along at Sandy Shimkus's House

Another highlight was introducing some of our new Advisory Council members: Lily Mei, Fremont Unified School District Board Member, Leo Hinkel, retired principal and administrator and former MFMII President, and Margaret Thornberry, President of the Fremont Cultural Arts Council. We look forward to introducing the other Council members soon.



Two Turtle Doves and 12 Days of Christmas!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all as we conclude another year of service to children and embark on a new year of musical fun and enrichment. May peace and joy fill your hearts and homes always.

*For Every Child a
time to sing!*



Letter from a Student

hi mrs. carlile,
im sure you do not remember me what-so-ever! hahaha but i attended parkmont the same years as brittany and ashley hess. i wanted to let you know that you and mrs. hess helped me to get where i am today. F.A.M.E. and "music for minors" was pretty much the start to my future!
since i left parkmont, i joined band and i have been playing the french horn for 7 years now and the viola for 3, i have joined my high school choir as well as the oratorio society up at cal state hayward.
i am currently one of the assistant directors for the golden gate boys choir and bell ringers (which we are taking a trip the day after christmas to rome, we were invited back to sing for the holy father!). right now i am at chabot and will be going into the teaching credential program at cal state hayward for music ed and will then persue a masters in conducting.
i want you to know that you and mrs. hess hold a very special place in my heart and that i have not forgotten about a single moment in class with you two. i have even taught my boys solfege with the song you taught us, "cookies made of do!" i cannot express how much i am grateful and the only thing i can say is thank you from the bottom of my heart!
yours truly,

~joseph rodriguez

Docent Manager / Docent Training Coordinator

Sandy Shimkus – Gomes Docent

Many of the new trainees have started teaching their classes and have been doing an outstanding job. Following are some of the things that have been going on.

I observed [Sugitha Suppiah](#) teach her first class at Mission Valley and I know that the children loved her. She did an outstanding job. She focused on beat and rhythm while singing a holiday song.

I watched [Kristen Gomez](#) lead her class in a Holiday show at Dougherty Elementary School in Dublin. The children were amazing. They sang with such enthusiasm, beauty and style that it made me smile and wish for more.



One of our new trainees is quoted below with his first experience in the classroom. I hope you are as inspired by his experience as I am:

[Shane Sharkey](#):

"I had the most incredible day yesterday teaching my first three classes for the 1st graders at Stanton. While I was not perfect, I went with the flow and learned A LOT as I went through each class. The fact that I'm teaching 5 classes per week is going to make the learning process go much faster. I had the same lesson plan for all three classes, but each class ended up being a little different, as I was trying different things as the classes went along, depending on how the songs were going. My biggest problem (if you want to call it a problem) was all the questions and comments the kids had as I was trying to go through the songs. They all had their hands up wanting to tell me that, "my brother is in a band" and "I played the guitar one time" etc. I'll learn how to handle the random questions and comments as we go along, and I'm sure the kids will learn the structure of the class as we continue as well. There were some funny comments like, "You're cool!" and "You look like a girl" (because of my hair) so I went with the flow and said, "how about we do a song where I can sound like a girl." (We did A-Chick-A-Boom which was not on the lesson plan but I thought it was a good chance to play on the comment about looking like a girl.)"

[In other news](#):

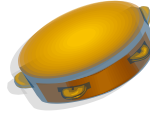
The Gomes docents have been meeting monthly to share songs and ideas. This month they learned several hand bell songs for the holidays, learned a Hanukah dance and learned some fun moves from [Christine Broadwin](#) to the song "Blitzen Boogie".

I would like to encourage all docents to get together to share songs. It is a great way to put together your lesson plans and to get advice when needed. It is also a lot of fun. Talk to your liaison about setting a date for sharing.



Resource Center Update

Veera Kazak (Resource Center Coordinator)



I am pleased to say that we now have assistants for all the MFMI resource centers. Please join me in welcoming Margaret Hall, a former docent, who will be the assistant at Niles. Robyn Padilla, also a former docent, will be the Glenmoor assistant and Karen Watkins is continuing as the assistant at Warm Springs. A brand new docent Shane Sharkey will be the assistant at Proctor school in Castro Valley. All the contact details for the assistants and addresses for the RCs can be found on the Yahoo groups. Shane has also graciously volunteered to transfer the albums and cassettes that we have at the Niles RC, onto CD/mp3 format. Hooray!

If you have any requests for items for the RCs, please let me know. I recently ordered some more copies of the Share the Music series Teacher Edition manuals for grades K-4, for both the Niles and Castro Valley RCs. I know Carol always raves about them in training, so please use them, as they have great songs and lesson plans. Remember to check the bookshelf behind the curtain at the Niles RC for many useful books and the teacher edition manuals.

Wishing you all a happy musical holiday and lovely to see old and new faces at the MFMI holiday party at Sandy's house.

Volunteer Help Needed

Photographer

Go to MFMI events and capture shots from amazing moments of the event. Work with Board Historian to arrange for photo shooting in music classrooms at schools.

Go to music classrooms and capture shots of Children and Docents in Action Upload and organize digital photos to MFMI yahoo group.

Please contact Farnaz Parhami fparhami@comcast.net, Board Historian if interested.

MUSIC FOR MINORS II

WORKSHOP

CHARLOTTE DIAMOND



Will share her insights about working with Children and show you how to teach them wonderful songs using sign language and props. **Handouts are included.**

Celebrating over 25 years of success in Children's Music, Internationally renowned award-winning children's recording artist and educator, Charlotte inspires with her cultural and character-building educational music that touches and captivates the heart!



"For every child a time to sing"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011

7:00 - 9:15 P.M.

NILES SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

37141 SECOND STREET, FREMONT

Because this is a teaching workshop, we request the attendance of adults

FEE: MFMII Docents, Participating MFMII Teachers – **FREE**

Other Educators and General Community - \$10 per person

TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT: Call MFMII at 510-733-1189, or email sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net

Music for Minors II www.musicforminors2.org Nurturing the love of music in children

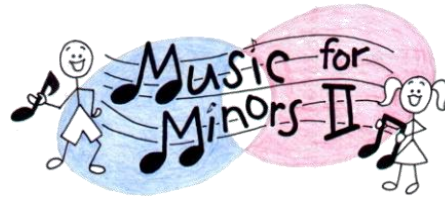
Coming March 4th 2011 Charlotte Diamond in Concert. Save the date! Contact MFMII for Tickets and information!

Music For Minors II, proudly presents a Family Concert with

Charlotte Diamond



Celebrating over 25 years of success in Children's Music, internationally renowned, award-winning children's recording artist and educator, Charlotte inspires with multi-cultural and character-building educational music that touches and captivates the heart!



"For Every Child a Time to Sing"

Friday March 4th at 7:00 pm

**Castro Valley Center for the Arts,
4400 Alma Avenue, Castro Valley, CA**

Recommended for ages 3 to 99

Join Charlotte for a wonderful evening as she sings classics such as "I am a Pizza", "Looking for Dracula", "Octopus (Slippery Fish)", "Four Hugs a Day" and songs from her latest CD !

Tickets: \$12 per person, and Group Rate (15 or more): \$10 per person

Advanced purchase recommended:

- ❖ *By MAIL (Music for Minors II, 37141 2nd St., Fremont, CA 94536) with check by February 28th*
- ❖ *By PHONE (call 510 - 733-1189)*
- ❖ *By E-MAIL (sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net)*
- ❖ *By PAYPAL (musicforminors2@gmail.com)*
- ❖ *By FAX (510-713-9879)*
- ❖ *At Door if Available*

Proceeds benefit MFMI, 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 🎵

