



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

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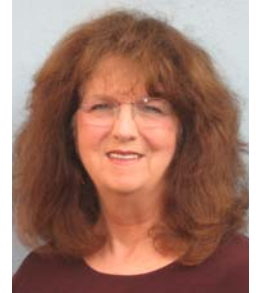
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Children's Russian Choir Flyer

## From the Board President, Virginia Williamson

It's that time again ... with a new school year beginning, Music for Minors II is ready and eager to be back in children's classrooms! Welcome back! I hope you have had an enjoyable summer, with opportunities to enjoy activities that refresh and renew you! September is always exciting! This month holds the promise of new beginnings, seeing new and familiar faces, and having renewed energy for this work that we love so much! I'm looking forward to the coming year in Music for Minors II – to working together toward the common goal of bringing music into the lives of children!



The Board recently had a wonderful time together reflecting on the program in the past year, building on successes and addressing challenges as we planned for this upcoming year. Along with our wonderful Executive Director, Carol Zilli, we are all enthusiastically committed to supporting this vital program, to the recruiting and training of more outstanding docents and to increasing our presence in the classrooms of our communities.

So, welcome back! Everyone involved in Music for Minors II welcomes the beginning of another exciting year of bringing the gift of music to children! We welcome the involvement and participation of all who help to make this program successful. Thank you to each of you! And now... *For every child, a time to sing!*

## Executive Director's Message - Carol Zilli

*"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, & life to everything." Plato*

Music for Minors II agrees with the wisdom of the ages and now enters its 24th year of service to children in our schools. Our mission of nurturing the love and literacy of music in children's classrooms and lives continues. We respond to children's great need for music for their healthy development and academic success, especially in these challenging times. We hope summer vacation renewed and refreshed



*(continued on next page)*

*(Executive Director's Message, cont.)* everyone and that this school year brings you continued joy as you share wonderful musical experiences with children. The MFMII Board has already been busy with a retreat and general planning for the school year!

We introduce three new board members who join our hardworking Board of Directors led by Virginia Williamson. Welcome Christina Melnarik, parent at Niles School in Fremont who will be our new Webmaster and Historian; Rachel Bello, docent at Stanton School in Castro Valley, Publicity Director; and Lynette Pang, returning board member after a few years hiatus who will assist me with grant writing as Funding Director. Our thanks to our returning board members for their continued dedication and service.

On the horizon will be Back to MFMII Night on Sept. 27th, an exciting new docent and teacher training, concerts, music workshops, special docent sharing gatherings, and much more. Mark your calendars for the upcoming highlights in September and October as you won't want to miss them and be sure to check out the website and newsflashes via e-mails for more fun-filled musical events this fall and winter!

## Docent Training has a New Home & Format!

Docent Training 2011 continues with the two options of training in Fremont or Castro Valley. Three-hour classes will be held once a week for 10 weeks and are supplemented with school site shadowing of docents, classroom observations, and gradual transition into the classroom. Learning the tricks of the trade from experienced docents at times convenient for the trainees provides more flexibility for our volunteers and provides them with hands-on exposure to what it means to be a docent early on in training.

FREMONT CLASSES: Fremont Adult School, Noll Center Room 5/6. Friday mornings 8:45 - 11:45 am. Sep 16 – Nov 18.

CASTRO VALLEY CLASSES: Proctor School Art Center. Wednesday evenings 6:30 - 9:30 pm. Sep 14 – Nov 16.

See the flyer on page 6 of this newsletter for more information. Prospective docents are welcome at the first official class on Sep 14 in Castro valley and Sep. 16<sup>th</sup> in Fremont.

## New Mini-Training for Classroom Teachers!

For the first time, MFMII will offer a special mini-training for classroom teachers on the **FOUR TUESDAYS IN OCTOBER** at the Fremont Adult School campus from 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

Teachers in Fremont, Newark, and Castro Valley are able to **earn staff development hours** for this training which will reinforce their curriculum through music the MFMII way. The class is open to all teachers and MFMII continues to seek other districts' approval for the staff development hours.

We are very excited about this new training that will empower teachers to add more music into their daily planning for student success. Help spread the word about this new MFMII venture!

## Upcoming MFMII Events

### **Docent Training**

- Fremont Adult School - Fridays  
Sep. 16 - Nov. 18, 8:45-11:45 am
- Castro Valley Adult School -Weds  
Sep. 14 - Nov. 16, 6:30- 9:30 pm

**Newark Days Community Faire**  
Sunday, Sept. 18 12:00-4:00 pm

**Back to MFMII Night at Niles**  
(New Ideas/Activities by Docents)  
Tuesday, Sep. 27 7:00 – 9:15 pm

**Teachers Mini-Training**  
Tuesdays, Oct. 4–25 6:30–9:30 pm

**Teacher Mini-Training Grad**  
Tuesday, Oct. 25 8:30–9:15 pm



### ***Meet the Board & Staff!***

*Back: Sue Lesb, Carol Zilli, Virginia Williamson, Sharon Filippi. Front: Rachel Bello, Jaya Murthy, Christina Melnarik. Not shown: Lynette Pang, Veera Kazak, Sandy Shimkus, Rose Godfrey.*

## Thank You Ohlone College, FAS, and CVAS!

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MFMI would like to thank Ohlone College for their tremendous support since 1990 when our docent training class was established there. Because of Ohlone College, MFMI was able to train hundreds of volunteers who served thousands of children. Without Ohlone's support, these youngsters would not have had music in their classrooms and lives. We especially thank: **Dr. Gary Soren Smith** for his support in the initial years; **Dr. Walt Birkedahl**, Division Dean, for his constant encouragement and promotion of MFMI and music for children and adults in general; and **Chris Booras**, current Director of Theatre Operations.

We look forward to working with **Steve Giudici**, Principal of the Fremont Adult School, as we begin our 2011 Fall Docent training series at this new location. We also recognize **Jerry Green**, Principal of the Castro Valley Adult School, for his outstanding support since 2005 and for his willingness to serve on the MFMI Advisory Council.

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!"



## New Grants Support MFMI's Work for Children

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MFMI thanks the Alameda County Art Commission Artsfund Grants program for the \$1,800 grant for our training program and general administrative needs and the Western Digital Foundation for the \$3,000 grant to be used for our docent training and support needs.

These recent grants greatly help MFMI provide the quality training that is the core of our program's success. As we look to the future and our 25th silver anniversary in 2013, let's renew our commitment to music for children and adults so we help build a strong society and culture.

## In Harmony Service Award Winner: Veera Kazak

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MFMI recognized an outstanding docent / liaison / board member, **Veera Kazak**, at our year-end dinner last June for her dedication and service to MFMI.

The award honors a volunteer who goes above and beyond the call to service. Veera certainly has demonstrated that as an active docent and liaison at Parkmont School in Fremont and a hardworking Resource Center Director on the Board.

Veera's quiet but steadfast manner provides such a support to the organization as she humbly goes about making a real difference in children & adult lives. Congratulations Veera!



## MFMI Thanks Volunteers

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MFMI also wishes to recognize some of our former In Harmony Award recipients over the years who are still serving: **Sandy Shimkus, Lelia Ng, Mette Graversen, Rose Godfrey**. We are grateful for these excellent role models.

Our thanks to new board member historian/webmaster/newsletter editor, **Christina Melnarik**, for our new MFMI logo featured in this newsletter and for her efforts in the creation of our new MFMI promotional poster for liaisons at each school we serve. Your creative talents are much appreciated.

### Welcome to Another Great Year Ahead!

I am excited about the coming year and all that we will accomplish as Docents. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and have started pulling out your music resources.

### Castro Valley Kid's Choir

MFMI wishes to promote veteran docent Olga Lewis' (Proctor School) new Children's Choir in Castro Valley. See the flyer on page 8 for more details about this exciting new enrichment for children provided by an outstanding docent and musician with a beautiful voice and heart. No auditions required.

### 300+ MP3 Songs & Song Sheets Now on CD !!

This year we are adding something new for Docents Use ONLY.

All of the Song Sheets from the Binder as well as over 300 MP3 songs will be loaded onto a disc that you can load onto your computer.

The CDs will be passed out to all of the new trainees as well as all of the current docents.

Many hours of labor by High School students went into scanning all of the Song Sheets and locating MP3 songs. We so appreciate their service!

### Docent Recognition: Lelia Ng

Starting with this issue, each newsletter will acknowledge the accomplishments and contributions of one of our many special and important docents.

Lelia is a Gomes Docent & Liaison who was trained in 2007. She is a very warm, caring, fun, and smart person. Some of the best things about Lelia is her love of children, dedication to the program, ability to make our lives as docents easier through the use of technology, and her friendship.



Lelia and Her Son

Lelia is the creator of the *Docent Only Website* that has links to YouTube videos of many of our favorite songs. On these videos, you can watch Carol or another Docent teach a song as many times as you want so you are better prepared to teach the song in the classroom. She also has added several posters to the site that you can print out and use in your classroom. Lelia has many wonderful ideas on how to enhance the MFMI program and we've incorporated many of them.

You can find Lelia at Gomes on most days helping out on many other projects besides Music for Minors II. Lelia's enthusiasm is infectious. She is always willing to lend a hand and help anyone who needs it. I encourage everyone to watch her teach music to the children. She has the ability to make magic happen in the classroom where she introduces the children to new songs and includes all of the lessons she learned in training as well as some new ones. Thank you Lelia for all that you have done and will do in the future.



2010 Children Showcase: 300+ children performed for a 600+ audience

### Two Resource Center Assistants Needed - Great Chance if You Prefer to be "Behind the Scenes"

We are in need of Resource Center Assistants for the **Glenmoor**, and the **Leitch** Resource Centers. 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 do 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 attend our social events as you would definitely become a member of the MFMII family.

### Updated Copies of Inventories Online

Latest copies of the inventories are available on the MFMII Yahoo groups, under files - resource centers.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the inventories at the end of last year. We finished the Niles inventory in record time - I couldn't have done it without you.

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

Wishing you all a wonderful musical year, Veera

### Music K8 Magazines and CDs Now Online

We will no longer be getting hard copies of the Music K8 magazines and CDs, as we are trying out the new online version this year. Please bear with us while we work out the best way for you to access them. Lyric PowerPoint files of the songs are available on the Yahoo groups, in the files section.

### Cassette Music Now On CD

A big thank you to Shane Sharkey for continuing to transfer the old cassettes/records onto CD for us. The following CDs are now available in all Resource Centers:

- The Art of the Spanish Guitar
- Polka Dot Pony
- Music America Loves Best
- Having Fun with Ernie and Bert
- Duck Wars
- Bullfrogs & Butterflies



### Thank You RC Assistants!

A big thank you to **Karen Watkins** who has been the RC assistant at Leitch/Warm Springs for many years and also **Robyn Padilla** who was the assistant at Glenmoor.

Docent **Shane Sharkey** continues as the assistant at Proctor School in Castro Valley and former docent **Margaret Hall** is the assistant for the Niles RC.

# Help Children Learn the 4 "R"s

Reading - 'Riting - 'Rithmetic - **Rhythm!!**

Use **music** as a powerful teaching tool and join students in experiencing the joy of music!!

Help keep music in our schools and experience an exciting opportunity by becoming a Music for Minors II Docent!

## **Why train with Music for Minors II?**

- ♪ Discover and share your love of music with children and make the music-curriculum connection in their classrooms!
- ♪ Have access to resource centers filled with instruments, posters, and CDs
- ♪ Receive a binder with over 300 songs for K-6, and CD's with 60+ songs
- ♪ Experience fun, hands-on sessions with adults who have the same love of children and music
- ♪ Connect with MFMI for continued support and shared tips from fellow docents

## **When and where is the training?**

Mid-September through mid-November annually

**FREMONT** – Fremont Adult School 510-793-6465  
4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont, CA 94538  
Friday mornings 8:45 – 11:45 am

OR

**CASTRO VALLEY** - Wednesday evenings, 6:30-9:30 pm  
Proctor Elementary School, 17520 Redwood Road  
Through Castro Valley Adult School



**Special Training for Classroom Teachers** on 4 Tuesday evenings in October from 6:30-9:30pm at the Fremont Adult School, 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont 94538. Fremont teachers can receive staff development units by taking this class.



## **To apply & for more information:**

Go to the MFMI website: [www.musicforminors2.org](http://www.musicforminors2.org)  
call MFMI at 510-733-1189 or email [czilli@aol.com](mailto:czilli@aol.com)

Our mission as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization is:

"To nurture a lifelong love and literacy of music in children's classrooms and lives"

# 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

13 Mon 6:00p Staff Meeting Carol's  
 13 Mon 7:00p Board Meeting Carol's  
 TBA Music Workshop TBA  
 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

### 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

9/9/2011

Castro Valley Adult and Career Education presents the:

# Children's Russian Choir After-School Enrichment Class

**SING** with the newest, most exciting group  
in Castro Valley for children!

**LEARN** proper singing techniques  
in a fun, comfortable environment.

**ENJOY** singing songs in Russian and other Slavic languages.

*All K-5 children Welcome - No pre-training required*

Proctor Elementary School Arts Center

Mondays and Thursdays, 3:25 - 4:25 pm

Sept. 19 - Dec. 8 (except Thanksgiving) 11 weeks

Tuition Fee: *Only* \$ 170



Olga Orlyanskaya Lewis  
Music Director

**Register in Person:** Castro Valley Adult and  
Career Education Office:

4430 Alma Avenue, Castro Valley

Or by Phone: 510-886-1000



**About our Music Director:** Olga Orlyanskaya Lewis graduated from the State Conservatory of Odessa, Ukraine in 1999 with a major in Choral Conducting and has been leading children's' choral groups in the East Bay for several years.

For more information, contact Olga : [olgalewis@gmail.com](mailto:olgalewis@gmail.com) ~ 510-329-8154