



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

April 3, 7-9pm: Jo-Ann Fread
Dance Workshop, Niles School
Auditorium

April 21: MFMII Booth at YMCA
Healthy Kids Day, MFMII
students sing 10:30-11:00am

May 11: MFMII Year-End
Volunteer Recognition Lunch

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From the Board President, Virginia Williamson

WOW! What an absolutely wonderful concert we just enjoyed with Charlotte Diamond! It was truly amazing to see over 1,000 delighted children and families enjoying music, laughter, warmth and fun as Charlotte wove her magic! She knows what touches the hearts and tickles the funny bones of children, and her enthusiasm was contagious! An added treat was seeing all the wonderful students and their docents who joined Charlotte onstage to add their voices to several songs. Thank you to the docents who worked so hard and prepared their students to be a part of this concert. It was truly a joyous afternoon, and as always, Charlotte left us singing!

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Executive Director's Message Carol Zilli

Charlotte Diamond Concert – A Smashing Success! Never in the history of MFMII have we sold over 1000 tickets for one of our concert events (Yes! It was 1040 concert tickets!!), but this year WE DID!

Hats off to our hardworking Charlotte Diamond Concert Committee under the capable leadership of Susan Lesh, MFMII Program Coordinator. Each member of this outstanding team offered their time and talent to the nth degree and the results were clearly evident **Mei Mei** has now set the bar for a docent selling the most concert tickets – 196 to be exact! Congratulations Mei Mei and **thank you so much!**

It was an absolutely amazing sight from the stage to view that huge audience of children, parents, relatives, friends, and community members. Local dignitaries included Lily Mei, President of the Fremont Unified School District Board of Education and member of the MFMII Advisory Council, Steve Cho, former City Councilman and current member of the MFMII Advisory Council, Mrs. Dede Smith, owner of Dale Hardware, and Mr. Angus Cochran, Exec. Director Washington Hospital Healthcare System who all made music together with Charlotte.

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(Board President's Message, cont.) An endeavor such as this takes many people working together to make it happen. This year I think everyone truly went above and beyond, and the results were overwhelming! Teamwork was evident everywhere, from the leadership of our Program Coordinator, Susan Lesh, to the program committee, the board, staff, docents, and all the many volunteers – there was a spirit of cooperation and “let’s make it happen.” Thank you to all our generous donors, our dedicated MFMII docents and supporters, and a very special thank you to our wonderful volunteers who helped make this exceptional event a reality.

It was wonderful knowing that so many children were touched by Charlotte’s music -- and that’s what it’s all about! A friend commented recently that since the concert, her grandson has been singing Charlotte’s songs nearly nonstop! Reaching more and more children with the gift of music is the mission of Music for Minors II. I continue to be amazed and inspired by the dedication of everyone involved in this wonderful organization. It takes many individuals working together to accomplish our work -- to provide a presence in classrooms, to make each special event a reality, to make the work of MFMII known to the community, and to enable MFMII to thrive and grow. We are all 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 beautiful music!

Virginia Williamson



(Executive Director's Message, cont.) Congratulations to the Gomes School first graders led by docents Sandy Shimkus and Michele Hertel and the Parkmont kindergarteners led by docents Veera Kazak and Catherine Pearson. The children were just precious and captured the audience’s hearts.

We were all pleasantly surprised by the amount of children from the audience who spontaneously joined the student performers onstage for the excitement of “La Bamba.” The audience happily joined in the “Twist and Shout” version that Charlotte creates too. The finale piece, “You Can Make a Miracle” really said it all as Charlotte, the children and MFMII docents appealed to the audience to help MFMII make more miracles in children’s lives by becoming trained MFMII music docents.

Remember, the whole world needs music as it lifts our spirits, feeds our brain, nurtures the heart and soul and releases the stresses we face in today’s challenging times. Music benefits the whole child,

unites our classrooms, schools, 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 our mission with joy and great expectations!

Carol Zilli



Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these Music for Minors II events!

Feb-Mar: New Docent Observations

March 30: MFMII students perform in Parkmont School's International Night

April 3, 7-9pm: Jo-Ann Fread Dance Workshop, Niles School Auditorium

April 5: Gomes School Fifth Graders "The Adventures of Lewis and Clark"

April 21: MFMII Booth at YMCA Healthy Kids Day, Lake Elizabeth Pavilion, Hirsch School MFMII students perform from 10:30-11:00am

April 24: Gomes School First Graders Spring Music Show

April TBD: Leitch Elementary Spring Show

May 11: MFMII Year-End Volunteer Recognition Lunch

May 17: Independent School Show

May 24: MFMII students perform in Stanton Elementary International Festival

May 31: Vannoy Elementary Performance at 6:30 pm Multipurpose Room

June 5: Hirsch School Spring Program at 10am. Every MFMII class will perform with music and dance.

June 7: Gomes School 4th Graders "How the West was Really Won"

Watch for more information on these performances on our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/#!/groups/Music4Minors2/

Join the page and post your own events!

Let's Dance! Dance! Dance!

Jo-Ann Fread will be back again to share her musical talent and offer the community a fun-filled session of line, folk, square dancing, and other rhythmic movement and creativity on Tuesday, April 3rd, at Niles School Auditorium in Fremont. See enclosed flyer for more details and to reserve your place on the floor.

All adults are invited to learn how to share dance moves with their own children, grandchildren, or students the Jivin' Jo-Ann Fread way. Don't miss this great opportunity to help you shake away those winter blues and say hello to spring!

Recruit! Recruit! Recruit!

Yes it's that time of year again when we look to the fall docent training program when we train new volunteers so that we can reach many more children in need of music.

Remember children cannot wait for future funding for arts education as they pass through their early education years only once. The window of time is now for them to receive a well-rounded, balanced school curriculum in which music is essential for healthy development. What can each of us do?

Spread the word in your daily routine of the value and need for music in children's classrooms and lives and how MFMII is helping to fill that void. Refer your friend, neighbor, relative, business associate, etc. to Carol (czilli@aol.com), and the MFMII website (www.musicforminors2.org), or by calling us at 510-733-1189. Invite prospective volunteers to our MFMII community or school events. Be sure to keep some 4 R's Flyers in your car for easy access (see page 8). You are the voices of MFMII in the community and you can do so much to help increase our visibility and enable us to reach our goal of training at least 50 new docents this fall! Just think, if each one of them just served one classroom, that would mean over 1,000 more children would have music. **Let the recruitment race begin!** Mei Mei set the bar for concert ticket sales so let's see who can set the bar for recruiting the most new docents between now & mid-Sept 2012!



New Promotional Video Available!

Calling all Liaisons! Get your own school copy of MFMII's new promotional video! This is an exciting and entertaining way to introduce MFMII at PTA or parent group meetings or gatherings, school events, at your MFMII table with flyers, or with your circle of friends, family, relatives, neighbors, or business associates. We never stop recruiting and remember all MFMII volunteers are recruiters in their daily routines. Talk about our events, make posts on our facebook page.

Let's get the buzz going. Be the top recruiter by using this valuable DVD tool that will attract people because of the faces of the children and our docents which is what the program is all about. You will love the two Music K-8 songs featured too: "Whacky Do Re Mi" and "I Like to Sing." We introduced the video at the Charlotte Diamond Concert and found it very effective. Hats off to our very talented Historian/Webmaster, Christina Melnarik, and our Tech guru Lelia Ng, Gomes Docent/Liaison, for all their hard work on the DVD. Contact Carol or Sharon for your DVD copy and **let the recruitment race begin!!!**



MFMII to Celebrate its 25th Anniversary Year of Service to Children in 2013!

Look for more information about this exciting event commemorating our mission of spreading the joy of music in children's classrooms and lives. You can be a part of the planning too – which is always fun!

Join the Music for Minors II Facebook Group to Get the Latest MFMII News!

Join us on Facebook by clicking over to MFMII's page: www.facebook.com/#!/groups/Music4Minors2/. To join, click **Ask to Join Group** at the upper right side of the page. Add interested friends (liaisons, please add your docents) by typing their names into the open field under the Members



heading. Use the Facebook group to post MFMII-related events and comments. You can also post to the group by sending an email to Music4Minors2@groups.facebook.com

See you there!

Thank You Concert Sponsors!

Thank you to our "Diamond Concert Sponsor," the Fremont Bank Foundation, whose ongoing support of MFMII concerts continues to demonstrate their dedicated community commitment to programs that directly benefit children in need.

MFMII also thanks and welcomes as a new friend of MFMII, the Washington Hospital Healthcare System (WHHS) for its co-sponsorship of our concert. We thank Mr. Angus Cochran, Executive Director of WHHS for his attendance at the concert and for his warm wishes for MFMII's success.

MFMII is grateful to the countless local businesses who supported our "Diamond" event by sponsoring 70 free concert tickets for children in need, taking out advertisements in our concert program, posting our flyers, or offering donations for our gift baskets. Please patronize all of our generous donors by viewing the listing on page 5.

A Magical Holiday of Wishes 2011

I wanted to extend a special thank you to those who came out to support Holiday Of Wishes 2011. This was organized by members of the Fremont community, and in particular, Renee Lovely of Avalon Spa and Salon, who wanted to give the gift of Christmas to our neighbors in need. About 400 people were in attendance, and MFMI provided the entertainment with Christmas songs. I was told by many that it was the highlight of the event! Thanks to our local business owners and donors, 50 free concert tickets were given to children in need who attended the Holiday of Wishes event.

Every child went home with a wrapped gift and each family received food for Christmas dinner as well as a photo with Santa. Gifts and food were sent to the school for those who were invited but could not attend. In total, nearly 1,000 gifts were distributed and 320 families received Christmas dinner.



A **huge** thank you to our MFMI performers who took time from their busy holiday schedules to share the joy of music: Patricia Castaneda and son, Sharon Filippi, Holly Han and son Joshua, Veera Kazak, Catie Melnarik (Christina's daughter), Jaya Murthy, Ranjani Sukumaran, Padma Taliseti, Seema Vemuri and son Akhil, and Yang Xu and daughter Clara. You are precious! Thank you to Christina Melnarik and Jessica Chang Kapushinski for taking photos and helping at the MFMI activity table. Thank you to Olga Welliver and her husband for coming all the way from Castro Valley.

Last and certainly not least, my gratitude goes to Carol Zilli for her unfaltering leadership, abundance of energy, and inspiring sense of optimism. This wonderful experience was made possible because of each and every participant. Thank you for generously sharing your love of music and your time and caring. We all left the event with a smile on our faces and our hearts a little bit fuller. *Lynette*

Thank You Charlotte Diamond Concert Supporters!

Music for Minors II would like to thank all of our contributors for their generous support and in-kind donations:

- Allegro Music
- Amia Bakery
- Avalon Spa and Salon
- Bagel Street Cafe
- Bijan Restaurant
- Bronco Billy's
- Cartridge World
- Cici's Italian Restorante
- Dale Hardware
- The Florence
- Fremont Bank Foundation
- Fremont Flowers
- Fremont Printing
- The Gift Gallery
- The Learning Bee
- Lucky's
- MrMikey's Supermarket and Deli
- Market Broiler (Pacific Commons, Fremont)
- Masako Music Studio
- Massage Envy
- Papillon Fine Dining
- DrMamta Shah, DDS
- Stage 1 Theater (The Wizard of Oz auditions Apr 15-16. www.stage1theatre.org)
- Starbucks
- Sweet Tomatoes
- Trader Joe's, Fremont
- Top Flight Gymnastics
- The Vine
- Warm Springs Family Dental
- Wenli Whiteside, Bank of America
- Serge and Carol Zilli

Docent Manager Corner by Sandy Shimkus

What a fun experience the Charlotte Diamond Concert was for everyone. I hope you were able to join us at this momentous event. There were many docents that I saw in the audience or volunteering and it was a great way for everyone to get together. On a personal note, several of our Gomes first graders performed on stage with Charlotte. Our students were in awe of her when they met her during rehearsal the Friday before the show but felt more comfortable and excited the more they got to work with her. What an amazing person she is with her kind and gentle ways with the children. MFMII students from Parkmont also participated in the concert.

We are fortunate that we were able to have so many high school students help us with our concert. They were able to see what MFMII does for the community and they had such a wonderful time that many of them want to help with other events.

Thanks to the Gomes Docent Sharing this past week, I can share some of the new music now available through Music Express a new resource for all docents as well as make recommendations for other songs to add to your repertoire.

- *Dynamite* by Taio Cruz (a young singer many kids have heard on the radio). This is a great song to sing in harmony as well as using Orff Xylophones. Find a children's version in Music Express Jan/Feb 2012. There is a four-note pattern the children play during the song. It's a great way to help students express themselves by making their own music patterns.
- *Superstar* (Grades 1-6) Music Express March/April 2012
- *Count on Me* by Bruno Mars (Grades 1-6) Music Express March/April 2012
- The Rainbow Connection from the Muppet Movie Music Express Jan/Feb 2012 (Grades K-6)

Folk Songs are an important part of our country's past and need to be shared so that traditions can be passed to future generations. Following are some songs that are easy to teach and are fun for the students.

- *California Dreamin'* by The Mommas and the Pappas (Grades 3-6) & *Red River Valley* (Grades 3-6)
- *I've Been Working on the Wabash Cannon Ball* (Grades 1-6) - this is a combination of two famous songs and can be found in Music Express May/June 2008

Most MFMII students can now keep beat, understand the difference between beat and rhythm, and are improving their pitch. The most important part of the MFMII program can be seen on the smiling faces of all of the children that get to share music with the docents and that is the love of music. Lately, there have been a lot of emails back and forth between docents that are sharing their lesson plans, their teaching methods, their song suggestions and their positive attitudes. This is one of the things that makes our program so successful. Keep up the great work and keep sharing ideas.

Sandy



Resource Center News by Veera Kazak

You'll never know what you'll find when you visit a MFMII resource center. As well as instruments, I found some wonderful duck masks/caps at the Niles RC, that my kindergarteners used during the Charlotte Diamond concert, when they sang "Listen to the Water". I'm sure you'll agree that the Charlotte Diamond concert was delightful and a huge success. *Veera*

New Resource Center Items

Due to popular demand the following items have been bought for the Niles Resource Center:

- Hal Leonard Rhythm Flashcards
- Hal Leonard Melody Flashcards

Following the Charlotte Diamond concert, I also bought the following items for the resource centers:

- 24 Carrot Diamond - the best of Charlotte Diamond (her latest CD) - all resource centers
- "Pizza" felt prop - Proctor RC
- "Octopus / slippery fish" felt prop - Niles RC
- Musical Treasures book and CD - Glenmoor RC

All resource centers will now have Charlotte's two books, "Musical Treasures" and "A World of Music", which contain many of her popular songs, ideas and sign language. The above items will be in the resource centers shortly.

Donations for MFMII Resource Centers

Former docent Katharine Whalen recently donated many items to MFMII including:

- 20+ posters
- Music K8 magazines and CDs
- Recorder Karate and CD
- Charlotte Diamond CDs
- Red Grammer CDs
- Activate! Music, Movement and More magazines and CDs

MFMII would like to take this opportunity to thank Katharine for her generous donation to MFMII. I'm sure these popular items will be appreciated by docents everywhere. Look out for these items in the resource centers in the very near future.

A few years ago, MFMII received four broken violins which needed repair but possibly could be used in our program. Unfortunately, we're unable to use them due to their repair cost and $\frac{3}{4}$ size (too large for elementary age students). We are still deciding what to do with these violins. Thanks to our new docent and violin teacher, Yang Xu, for her advice!



Resource Center Borrowing Policy: Two Week Limit

Remember that there is a two-week limit on borrowing items from resource centers. Please remember to return items promptly for everyone to use.

I have noticed a lot of docents writing what they have checked out on scraps of paper, instead of using the check-out binder. I know sometimes the desk at the Niles RC is pushed to the wall and the check-out binder is inaccessible.

Also please return items to the correct resource center, and place inside the closets for safe keeping.



Presents ...

Jo-Ann Fread's Dance Workshop



Tuesday, April 3rd, 2012, 7-9 pm

Niles School Auditorium

37141 Second Street, Fremont CA

*Come and learn how
to share musical movement
& folk dances with children!*

Join MFMII docents, classroom teachers and school principals, college students, seniors, retired teachers, relatives and friends of children and the arts.

Jo-Ann Fread is a gifted mentor, dance teacher, and retired kindergarten teacher who taught over 30 years in FUSD. 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 for several years.

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

Workshop is free to all MFMII docents, classroom teachers, and principals of MFMII schools.

**Non-MFMII Participants: \$10 fee (includes handouts)
RSVP: 510-733-1189 or sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net**

Help Children Learn the 4 "R"s

*Reading, 'Riting, 'Rithmetic, & **RHYTHM**!!*



Help keep music in our schools
and experience an enriching
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** in need and make the music-curriculum connection.
- ♪ Use music as a powerful teaching tool and **join students in experiencing the JOY OF MUSIC!**
- ♪ Make new friends and have **fun, hands-on training** experiences with adults who love children & music.
- ♪ Receive a binder with **over 300 songs** for Pre-K to 6th grades, CDs, **online resources**, and much more.
- ♪ Have **free access to resource centers** with instruments, posters, puppets, CDs, books, magazines, etc.
- ♪ Connect with MFMII for **continued support through free workshops and shared tips** from fellow docents.

Training Schedule

FREMONT	Fremont Adult School (510-793-6465) 4700 Calaveras Ave, Fremont, CA 94538 Mid-Sep to Mid-Nov, twice weekly
CASTRO VALLEY	Proctor Elementary thru Castro Valley Adult School 17520 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546 Mid-Sep to Mid-Nov, twice weekly
TEACHER TRAINING	Special training for classroom teachers who can receive professional hours.

To Apply

www.musicforminors2.org
510-733-1189
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.