



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

August-September: Remember to Organize Presentations for Back to School Nights and first day parent gatherings!

March 2013: MFMII 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Extravaganza! Date to be announced soon!



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May - June 2012

## From the Board President, Virginia Williamson

This year of Music for Minors II has come to a close. We look back with joy and gratitude on all that was accomplished for the children! So many students have had music in their classrooms and in their lives this year because of the dedication of everyone involved in MFMII. It has been an awesome year! We recently enjoyed a lovely luncheon to recognize and thank all the docents and other volunteers who make Music for Minors II a reality. It was so wonderful to see the amazing people who are in the classrooms every week and who exude a love and passion for what they do! Our docents truly make music miracles happen! Two songs at the luncheon were dedicated to *(see next page)*



## Executive Director's Message Carol Zilli

What a fantastic year of music this has been!

Starting with our annual fall docent training and **Back to MFMII Night**, to our fun-filled Holiday Potluck, the year began with excitement and new energy as we welcomed our new docents to join the MFMII family of docents, liaisons, board members, staff, and Friends of MFMII. One of the highlights was a new venture of participating in the first annual **Holiday of Wishes** which provided food, fun, and musical entertainment for children and families in great need. MFMII docents and children performed a medley of holiday favorites and were the hit of the event wearing their Santa hats and singing and signing their hearts out. Taking a picture with Santa completed the evening of cheer.



Definitely a first was the selling of over 1000 tickets for our **Charlotte Diamond Concert** in February which also included performances by our Gomes and Parkmont students. What a joy it was to see and hear the audience as they joined Charlotte in song. This event will definitely be long remembered in MFMII history. Our sponsor support was tremendous too.

Lots of new MFMII friends kicked up their heels for a *(see next page)*

*(Board President's Message, cont.)* our docents to express appreciation for the gift of music they have given. To quote **Charlotte Diamond's** song lyrics, with a bit of editing by Carol for the occasion,

*You've made music miracles,  
You have helped the children.  
Because of you, the future will be theirs.  
You've made music miracles,  
You have helped the children.  
You reached out your hands  
And showed them that you care.*

Another song, from ABBA's *Mama Mia* with lyrics adapted by Carol, expressed appreciation from the point of view of the children:

*Teacher said music is gone because of no funds.  
She said I could sing, but there was work to be done.  
And I've often wondered, how did it all start?  
YOU found out that nothing can capture a heart  
like a melody can.  
And YOU are the one, and I'm your fan. So I say,*

*Thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing,  
Thanks for all the joy I'm bringing.  
Who can live without it?  
I ask in all honesty, what would life be --  
Without a song or dance, what are we?  
"Thank YOU for the music, for giving it to me!"*

So, we express our heartfelt thanks to each and every docent for showing the children that they matter, that music belongs in their lives, and for showing them that you care. Thank you, too, to the liaisons, staff, board members, and MFMII supporters, because without all of us functioning as a team, the program would not continue. The value of the gift of music cannot be measured, but it will stay with the children forever.

Now, as we look forward to the coming year, I am so excited! 2013 will be an amazing milestone -- the **25th anniversary of Music for Minors II!** Get ready, because we are pulling out all the stops -- what a wonderful celebration it will be! *(next column)*

*(Board President's Message, cont.)* Until we see each other again in the fall, I hope you and your families will enjoy wonderful summer days doing all the things that renew and refresh you and bring you joy. I hope your lives are filled with music and that there is always a song in your heart! See you in September!

*Virginia Williamson*



*(Executive Director's Message, cont.)* **fun-filled dance workshop** in March taught by Carol.

The "**Imagine**" event benefiting the homeless veterans and special adults' summer program was another highlight as board members, docents and children performed at the W Hotel in Newark for an audience of 200 people. *(Photos on page 5.)*

Other memorable events include the many **spring performances** at our MFMII schools, the fabulous **Volunteer Recognition Luncheon**, and the heart-warming feedback we received on our **classroom teacher evaluation forms**. See more about these events in this newsletter.

And now we look to the future and our **25th anniversary in 2013!** Plans are already underway for a very exciting gala event.

Remember **recruitment** is the name of the game and everyone can do it. See more on our recruitment efforts in this newsletter.

Thanks to all in our MFMII family for your dedication and time which has had a powerful impact on children, teachers, parents, and the community. May you be invigorated over a restful and fun-filled summer and return in the fall for our 25th year of musical joy.

*Carol Zilli*

## MFMI Volunteer Recognition Lunch

Ending the year on a wonderful note was our year-end Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at Massimos in Fremont on June 5th. Forty MFMI docents, board members, liaisons, and staff enjoyed a delicious lunch, compliments of MFMI.

We congratulated our 1st and 5th year docents and honored our 2012 In **Harmony Service Award** recipient, **Ed Mateo**. We thanked our board and staff, especially outgoing Funding Director **Lynette Pang** whose persistence and skill in grant writing resulted in a record year of grant awards.

Awards were followed by singing, games, and dancing. Thanks to everyone who was able to join us – we hope to see many more next year!

## Ed Mateo: 2012 In Harmony Service Award

**Ed Mateo** was recognized for his 6 years of docenting at Castro Valley Elementary School where he has taught 12 classes!! Ed is a saxophonist and great musician who has taught his students recorder, dance, singing, and other wonderful musical activities and inspires them to pursue further study of musical instruments. Ed is a constant helper at MFMI events and will now join our Board of Directors as our Funding Director. Thank you Ed for all your volunteerism which is heart-driven. You are a wonderful role model of the MFMI mission.



## MFMII Students Shine in Spring Showcases

How wonderful it was to see the spring performances of so many of our MFMII schools this year! These events showcased the musical accomplishments of children led by their enthusiastic docents.

Hats off to: **Independent, Vannoy, Bunker, Hirsch, Gomes, James Leitch, and Mattos** docents who put so much time in preparing and leading their students in these outstanding performances. You have made such wonderful memories for your students and hopefully have helped recruit more docents too.



## MFMI to Celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of Service to Children in 2013!

And now we look to the future and our 25th anniversary in 2013! Plans are already underway for a very exciting gala event. Look for more details of how you can get involved in the planning of this memorable event which will include a reunion of past MFMI volunteers, the highlighting of our students and docents, great food, dancing, entertainment, and much much more.

Don't miss the chance to be a part of this unique event. Actually we will celebrate for the whole year as this is definitely a milestone for MFMI.

## MFMI 2012 Docent Recruitment Goal Set

Remember **recruitment** is the name of the game and everyone can do it. Our goal is to train 40 new docents (20 in Fremont and 20 in Castro Valley) so that we reach over 1000 more children.

Tell everyone you know about MFMI over the summer as you interact with people by the pool, at a party, in sports, in line at the grocery store, and as you do your errands or frequent businesses.

There is always a MFMI moment as we live our daily lives. Be sure to look for them. Best of all, wear your MFMI shirt when you can as that always strikes up a conversation. Send all prospective volunteer names to Carol and Sharon and we will take it from there. You never know what your smile, tee shirt, and comment or two might do to gain someone's curiosity and interest.



## MFMI Supports Veterans and Summer Programs at *Imagine*

MFMI was happy to perform at the May 4<sup>th</sup> "Imagine" event benefiting the homeless veterans and special adults' summer program. Board members, docents and children from Parkmont and Niles Schools performed at the W Hotel in Newark for an audience of 200 people.

We can't say enough about the children who were so patient and adorable in their singing and signing. Hats off to the adults who added so much to the performance as well and made our MFMI presentation a success. You looked sharp and sang sharp and were true professionals every step of the way.

The Imagine event raised over \$14,000 for two local causes: (1) Abode Services' Every Veteran Home Program, and (2) FUSD's Adults With Special Needs Summer Camp Program.



## MFMI Teacher Feedback Inspires Staff and Board

We thank our classroom teachers for their evaluations which have been inspiring as they relate the positive effects the MFMI program has had on their students. Teachers have noted the increased focus, following of directions, improved math skills, and sheer joy that the children have experienced every time their docent appeared for class or just on the playground. They report that shy students have blossomed and after the MFMI lessons, children keep singing throughout the day. Many teachers have shared their increased comfort with music as a result of their MFMI experience. Here are three samples:

- "Students are willing to speak in front of large groups now."
- "Our docent had so much enthusiasm for music that the students caught it too."
- "Loved every lesson Thank you MFMI. It was great. Can't wait for next year!!"

## Thank You Docent Shane Sharkey for LP/CD Transfers!

A big thank you to CV docent, **Shane Sharkey**, for continuing to transfer



old records onto CD for us See the Secure Docent section of the website for a full list of albums. Thank you Shane for sharing your talent.

## Thank You Liaisons for a Great Year and ... Arrange those Back to School Presentations!

MFMI wants to thank all the dedicated liaisons for the hard work over the last year. Your efforts have helped keep communications open between MFMI and the schools which is such an essential component to a great working relationship. Without you who would help us in recruiting new volunteers? We appreciate you so much and need you even more.

Remember we're having a competition between Fremont and Castro Valley. Who can recruit the most volunteers for the upcoming training in September? We're hoping to get 20 in each class for a total of 40 new docents. Wouldn't that be great!

One idea to help with this is to have special presentations the first week of school. **Stephanie Wesley**, our liaison at Mattos School, is planning a Family Music Night that first week before training begins. What a great way to start the year and get some recruits too. Or perhaps there is a PTA function in late August where you could recruit too. We're here to help you with these presentations. Just let us know what you need. MFMI wishes you a restful and happy summer and we look forward to working with you in August and September.

*Sharon Filippi, Liaison Coordinator*

## MFMI Thanks Lynette Pang For Her Service

A huge MFMI "Thank You" to **Lynette Pang**, current Funding Director on the MFMI Board. Lynette has served on the Board in many roles over the years as



as Resource Center Director and Treasurer and has always been a cheer leader for MFMI even when not on the Board. Her grant writing work and promotion has been greatly appreciated and successful. Lynette is an excellent example and role model of a community member dedicated to the MFMI mission and is always ready to lend a hand. We will miss Lynette greatly as she is resigning from the Board due to her many areas of volunteer service. Our thanks again Lynette for your selfless dedication to MFMI and especially for your final fundraising project at the Alameda County Fairgrounds this summer to benefit MFMI. You're the best!

Thank you to our wonderful resource center assistants this year: **Margaret Hall** – Niles, **Nancy Kwok** – Glenmoor, **Shane Sharkey** – Proctor, and **Karna Redman** - Leitch/Warm Springs. Please consider being a resource center assistant next year. The time required is less than an hour a month. Proctor is in need of a RC assistant. If you are interested please email me: vrkazak@yahoo.com. Those of you sharing your wonderful ideas on the yahoo group have especially enriched our work this year. We can all learn from each other. A few docents (**Liz Baker, Jaya Murphy** and myself) are currently taking a ukulele class at Chabot College and hope to incorporate the ukulele in our MFMII lessons and maybe even have a workshop on it in the future, with the help of **Shane Sharkey**. May be we can get a grant to buy some ukuleles for the RCs in the future and teach ukulele to the children! Wishing you all a musical summer, and looking forward to our 25th anniversary next year.

*Veera*

### Resource Center Inventory Update

Thank you to everyone who came to help with the inventories this past week. It is a daunting task for just one person, but with teamwork, we will get it finished. Special thank yous to: **Margaret Hall, Sharon Filippi, Dipali** and son, **Carol Zilli** and **Jessica Chang** for helping with the Niles RC inventory. We are still not finished, however Jessica has kindly offered to help label and organize all the books at Niles.

A big thanks to **Annie Lin** for helping me with the Glenmoor inventory. We did a lot of organizing and labelling here and hopefully Annie will agree to be our new RC Assistant at Glenmoor. Thank you to docents **Liz Baker** and **Melanie Smith** for helping me with the CV inventory. We finished it in a day. I appreciate the Leitch docents, headed by **Karna Redman**, for agreeing to do the Leitch/Warm Springs inventory in the near future.

If you have not already done so, please return items to the RCs ASAP. Once the inventories are complete we'll put the updated list of items on the yahoo group and website. In the future, I hope to have all items labeled with their location code (i.e.G-Glenmoor, N-Niles, CV-Proctor and WS - Leitch/Warm Springs). That way hopefully items will be returned to the right location too.

### Glenmoor RC Update

I hope that you are using the wonderful posters at the Glenmoor RC, donated by docent **Katharine Whalen**.

The following items will soon be purchased for the Glenmoor RC, following requests from docents:

- Hal Leonard rhythm card kit
- Large instrument posters

### Castro Valley Update

We recently had a large donation of posters (butcher paper lyrics), teacher song books and instruments (9 beautiful maracas, 18 jingle taps and wooden blocks) from former Proctor docent, **Dawn Burcham**. These are now located in the CV RC. Thank you Dawn and good luck with your new adventure.

After meeting with the principal at Proctor recently, she has now agreed that we can place another 36" wide, white cabinet next to the existing MFMII cabinets at Proctor. This year we received a grant from the Rotary Club for \$555 - a big thank you **Lynette Pang** for making this happen. The money will be used to buy the new cabinet, some bongo drums and the book "Movement Songs Children Love" for the CV RC, as requested by docents.

If you know anyone who would be willing to pick up the cabinet from Home Depot, help build it and install a lock on it, please contact me. I was hoping to get this done in mid-August, so that the RC is ready and organized when school starts.

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