



*Yes, despite the budget cuts, the arts live on because they must!*

## September Highlight

### MFMII DOCENT TRAINING CLASSES

Sept. 14 to Nov. 18

Ohlone College Building 18 (Fremont)  
 Proctor School (Castro Valley)

**All docents welcome to join in the musical fun!**

## November Highlight

### BACK TO MFMII NIGHT

Oct. 15 7:0-9:15 pm

Niles Elementary School (Fremont)

**Instrumental Fun: Melody Midgets Band,  
 Recorder Karate,  
 Handbells, Boomwhackers, you name it!**

President's Message .....	1
Calendar of Events.....	2
Executive Director's Notes .....	3-4
Resource Center Update.....	5
Liaison Information.....	5-6
Docent's Corner.....	6
Docent Training Schedule.....	7
Announcements.....	8
Red Grammer Concert Flyer.....	9

## President's Message

Virginia Williamson, Board President

September is here, and a new school year begins -- this is always such an exciting time! As a classroom teacher for many years, I know well that feeling of happy anticipation as we prepare for new beginnings, new challenges. Music for Minors II is preparing for a wonderful year ahead, beginning its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of filling children's hearts with music. This is an exciting time for us, too!

I am delighted to become involved with this wonderful organization as the new Board President, and I am looking forward with happy anticipation to the challenges ahead! I have learned so much about the Music for Minors II program already, and the more I learn, the more impressed I become with everyone's commitment, dedication and passion for providing music education for children!

Many wonderful events are planned for this year. We had a booth to recruit new docents and active supporters at the first annual *SummerFest* held in Newark, and we plan to be present at Castro Valley's *Fall Festival* and *Newark Days* as well. Watch for information about the many exciting new workshops, concerts and other events that are being planned for this year!

Welcome back to Music for Minors III!



# Calendar of Events

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## September, 2009

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- Sept. 2 All Resource Centers open
- Sept. 9 DOCENT TRAINING ORIENTATION. Niles School Auditorium  
7:00-9:00 pm Please send prospective new docent recruits to this session.
- Sept. 12-13 Castro Valley Fall Festival: MFMII Booth for Recruitment  
10:00 – 6:00pm. Contact: Susan Lesh, [susanlesh@comcast.net](mailto:susanlesh@comcast.net)
- Sept. 14-Nov.18 Docent Training  
MW 9:30 – 11:45 am  
Ohlone College Bldg.18  
43600 Mission Blvd. Fremont 94539  
  
MW 7:00-9:15pm  
Proctor Elementary, Art Center  
17520 Redwood Rd. Castro Valley 94546
- Sept. 20 Newark Days: MFMII Booth for Recruitment/Informtion  
12:00 – 4:00 pm.Communitaire Faire Contact: Susan Lesh, [susanlesh@comcast.net](mailto:susanlesh@comcast.net)
- Sept. 26 Red Grammer Concert/Showcase Committee Mtg.  
10:00 am at Susan Lesh's home.
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## October, 2009

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- Oct. 1 MFMII Board Meeting 7:0pm. Carol Zilli's
- Oct.10 MFMII Presentation: Early Childhood Studies Dept. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference,  
Ohlone College Newark Campus 8:00-5:00 pm.
- Oct. 15 BACK TO MFMII NIGHT Niles School Auditorium 7:00-9:15 pm.  
Welcome all docents, liaisons, and board members
- TBA Red Grammer Concert /Showcase Committee Mtg.
- Nov. 5 MFMII Board Meeting 7:00 pm. Carol Zilli's home.
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# Executive Director's Notes

Carol Zilli, Executive Director



The beat definitely will go on as Music for Minors II begins its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of service to children and classroom teachers in local school districts. Excitement is definitely in the air as we continue to recruit and gather our

new docent trainees in the class of 2009.

Moms and dads, professional musicians, seniors, college students, retired teachers, and friends of the arts will make up our two training classes this fall. Still time to join the class if you hurry. Musical fun and laughter await you and the sheer joy of sharing music with children.

MFMI wishes to thank the **Niles Rotary** for its recent grant to help support our upcoming drumming workshop for the community. Niles Rotarians are a musical group and thoroughly enjoyed being a Melody Midgets Band playing "When the Rotarians Go Marching In" when Carol presented to them last January. They definitely got the beat and MFMI greatly appreciates their support of our program.

MFMI welcomes three new board members this year. President **Virginia Williamson** brings over 30 years experience in education and a love of music and children. She is an Alameda County Teacher of the Year and is highly esteemed in the educational field. We are blessed to have Virginia take the lead and provide her wisdom and new ideas.

We are sad to lose past President **Leo Hinkel** who provided great leadership for MFMI and recommended Virginia as his replacement. We hope Leo will join our

esteemed **Advisory Council** to be formed this year as we do not want to let him go.

Board Secretary is **Peggy Su** who was trained last year as a docent and served at Parkmont School in Fremont. Peggy has already demonstrated her skill at note taking and will still continue to docent having caught the docent bug in her first year.



Board Treasurer is **Susan Lesh** who is brand new to MFMI and the schools. Sue hails from the corporate world. An experienced choir member who recently sang in Carnegie Hall, Sue brings great organizational skills in marketing and program development to her role as Treasurer and to her newly hired position of MFMI Program Coordinator. In addition, Sue will be taking the docent training class as she wants to be fully immersed in MFMI .

MFMI wishes to thank **Sandy Wynne** for her year of service to MFMI as our first Program Coordinator. Sandy successfully planned our yearly events with Carol and was definitely an asset to MFMI in time of need. We are grateful for her service and wish her well.



Congratulations to **Sandy Shimkus** who will be taking over as Docent Manager in addition to her Docent Training Coordinator position in Fremont and Liaison Coordinator role on the Board. Sandy will offer so much in her nurturing and supportive role for all docents and will work closely with **Susan Lesh** and Carol to ensure that all docents are successful.

**Lynette Pang**, former Board Treasurer, will assume a co-Docent Training Coordinator

position in Castro Valley with **Elena Scharnhorst**. Lynette is always promoting MFMII in the corporate world and MFMII would like to thank her employer, American Century, for their regular donations to MFMII for our programming needs.

Thanks to all our returning board members and staff as we face the challenges of a new school year. Now more than ever, the world needs music to ease our stress and unite people, to heal and balance us and provide that all important link to one another through the enjoyable and creative medium of song. Brain research verifies the vital impact music has on the brain's functions and its use as a powerful and enjoyable learning tool that integrates the brain and brings success.

MFMII Board and Staff have been planning a wonderful year for everyone starting with our training classes and the "Happy Feet" workshops in both Fremont and Castro Valley, then the excitement of **Red Grammer** in Concert on January 30<sup>th</sup> and followed by the **MFMII Showcase** in March where we unite hundreds of students from all districts we serve in a showstopping performance for an audience of 1,000 hopefully.

We hope **Jo'Ann Fread** can return for her great dance workshop again and we are very excited to announce a **BRAND NEW WORKSHOP** being planned with **Jeni of DRUMMM**....in February of 2010. Yes a workshop where you just come and you then have the time of your life playing beautiful drums of all sizes by Remo. There will be a drum circle



and a wonderful experience of exploring beat and rhythm. No experience is required as Jeni will lead you to create amazing sounds that you can in turn share with your students. Mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this one.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> for our energetic **BACK TO MFMII NIGHT**. New trainees will meet experienced docents and we will of course share music and ideas for the year. Let's make this the biggest turn out ever so that we can keep the beat going strong in 2009-2010.

Just heard a true story from a Glenmoor School mom whose cousin has been involved in the Reed Project study at the University of Minnesota. His name is Kale Reed and he is a gifted musical genius who can play any instrument once he hears a song once or twice at most. The reason why? While in his mother's womb, he was given regular music exposure via technology as part of an experimental study to determine how music affects learning right from the earliest stages of life, in the womb. The results are absolutely amazing. More to share on this valuable study that certainly justifies the mission of MFMII as we seek to reach children at their earliest developmental stages with the joy and power of music. Make music everyone and keep that beat going!



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## MFMII & "In harmony" contacts

Executive Director - Carol Zilli: [czilli@aol.com](mailto:czilli@aol.com)

Administrative Assistant - Sharon Filippi: 510-796-8578 [sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net)

Newsletter Editor - Farnaz Parhami: [fparhami@comcast.net](mailto:fparhami@comcast.net)



# Resource Center Update

Veera Kaza (Resource Center Coordinator)



The MFMI Resource Centers are now open. The inventories were done in June and the updated list of items available are on the MFMI Yahoo group, under Files - Resource Centers.

The RCs are open during school hours. The RC Assistants are:

Niles Elementary - Betty Mollat  
Glenmoor Elementary - Tricia Schoner  
Warm Springs/Leitch Elementary - Karen Watkins

Proctor Elementary (Castro Valley) is in need of an RC Assistant. If you think you can help or know anyone who can, please let me know ASAP.

I recently ordered 2 copies of the popular Recorder Karate for Niles and Proctor. These will be placed in the RCs very soon.

The Music K8 magazine/CD is ordered for all RCs and should arrive shortly.

A reminder of the basic procedures for checking out items:

1. Keys are located in the school office and need to be checked out and returned their immediately after checking out resources.
2. Items need to be signed out in the CHECKOUT BINDER - include your name, phone no., email address, item description, item code etc
3. Maximum borrowing time is 2 weeks.

We welcome WISH LISTS from our docents! If there are any items that you would like to see in your resource center, please email me ([vrkazak@yahoo.com](mailto:vrkazak@yahoo.com)).

Looking forward to a musical year.

Kind regards  
Veera

*To thine ownself be true!*



## Liaison Information

Sandy Shimkus (Liaison Coordinator)

**WELCOME BACK!** As the new school year starts MFMI needs the Liaisons to really push **recruiting new docents**. We have several people committed to training but we need to make sure that we recruit enough docents to teach at all the schools. I have met two new recruits in the most unlikely places. One was while I was at "Massage Envy" getting a much needed, relaxing massage. I spent most of my time talking about Music For Minors II and how wonderful my experience with the organization has been. My second new recruit came about through a mutual friend at the Dog Park in Fremont. You'll never know who might be interested in the program unless you talk about it to everyone. I even wear my MFMI T-shirt to events like "The Fremont Festival of the Arts" or to "The Farmers Market" or even when I go to the grocery store. The more visibility we have the easier it will be to recruit new docents.

*I would like to acknowledge all of the Liaisons who have been busy recruiting through their school website, PTA meetings and social gatherings. Thank you!*

The next big event for Liaisons will be your first **Docent meeting** with the docents at your school. Try to schedule it early and include all of the new docents that are currently going through training.

**If anyone needs assistance in setting up meetings or recruiting, please don't hesitate to contact me.**

## Docents' Corner



(Sandy Shimkus –  
Docent Manager)

**HOPE YOU HAD A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!** I'm excited that the new school year is here. I missed all of the beautiful children that we get to share our lives with. I saw some of my students during the summer while I was out shopping or at the "Dog Park". Each time I saw a student I was greeted the same way. A very enthusiastic yell, "Miss Sandy" and a big hug. What could be better than that to make your day special? When people ask me if I get paid to be a docent I always answer "Yes, I get hugs and smiles from some very special children". Being a docent has touched my life in ways I never thought possible. I am an Engineer who enjoyed

work but was never deeply fulfilled and satisfied until I started teaching music to children.

I have heard many stories from other docents that mirrors mine and I know that our program is successful because of the passion that our docents have for what they do.

As I take on this new role of Docent Manager I will do my best to be there and help all of the new and returning docents. What we do makes an impact on the lives of children every day. Please let me know what I can do for you to make this experience even more rewarding.

I will be visiting many of you this year to observe and learn. I will pass on what I have learned from each of you and share it with all of the docents so our program can grow and be the best ever.

Remember to join MFMII yahoogroups, check out our website at [www.musicforminors2.org](http://www.musicforminors2.org) and visit Youtube to see the latest videos that Lelia Ng has added.

***Thank you for all you do!***



 ***The Beat Goes On*** 

## Music for Minors II Docent Training

### 2009 Curriculum and Schedule of Classes - Fremont/Castro Valley

#1: September 9, Wednesday – RESOURCE CENTER OVERVIEW (Joint class with Castro Valley trainees) Orientation session and tour of the Resource Center <b>Niles Elementary School Resource Center from 7:00pm – 9:00pm</b>	
#2: September 14, Monday – INTRODUCTION & CLASS OVERVIEW Docent role, CMD method of music organization and lesson planning	
#3: September 16, Wednesday – MFMII ORGANIZATION & CMD DETAIL Docent commitment, concert information, DIP & TIP, liaisons; discussion & demonstration of CMD-docent agreement form	
#4: September 21, Monday – OVERVIEW OF A TYPICAL LESSON 30-minute lesson presentation, analysis of lesson format and song demonstrations	
#5: September 23, Wednesday – <i>RONI NIEDERBRACH</i> : KODALY FOR THE YOUNG method From "Kids' Country", vocal games and activities for younger children	
#6: September 28, Monday – <i>GRACE JOHNSTON</i> : KODALY - Part 1 Beat & rhythm	
#7: September 30, Wednesday – CMD DETAIL & SONG APPLICATION Focus on CMD aspects of songs, distinguishing main characteristics to emphasize	
#8: October 5, Monday – <i>GRACE JOHNSTON</i> : KODALY – Part 2 Pitch & Melody	
#9: October 7, Wednesday – FRAMEWORK & GUIDE Overview of manuals and use, teaching musical elements <i>Quiz #1 Review. **Turn in Mini-Presentation plan #1**</i>	
#10: October 12, Monday – The GUIDE (MUSIC THEORY & BEAT/RHYTHM) Theory (scales & chords), lesson planning tips <i>**Quiz #1**</i>	
#11: October 14, Wednesday - <i>**MINI-PRESENTATIONS #1**</i>	
#12: October 15, Thursday – Back to MFMII Night – Niles Elementary School, Fremont, 7:00- 9:15pm - Instruments	
#13: October 19, Monday - GENERAL TEACHING GUIDELINES Class management situations, teaching tips and positive behavior songs	<b>FREMONT</b> <i>Classes meet at:</i> <i>Ohlone College</i> <i>Building 18</i> <i>Classes run from</i> <i>9:30 - 11:45am</i>  <i>unless otherwise noted.</i>
#14: October 21, Wednesday – <i>MADDIE HOGAN</i> : ORFF METHODS Instruments, games and improvisation	
#15: October 26, Monday – FRAMEWORK & McGRAW-HILL <i>**DOCENT OBSERVATION #1**</i> Other lesson plans, state musical standards application, curriculum integration	
#16: October 28, Wednesday – LESSON PLANNING PART 1 <i>**Turn in Mini-Presentation plan #1**</i> Explanation of methods, techniques, and Lesson Plan form, <i>**Quiz #2**</i>	
#17: November 2, Monday – LESSON PLANNING PART 2 <i>**MINI-PRESENTATIONS #2**</i>	<b>CASTRO VALLEY</b> <i>Classes meet at:</i> <i>Proctor Elementary School</i> <i>17520 Redwood Rd.</i> <i>Art Center</i> <i>Classes run from</i> <i>7:00pm - 9:15pm</i> <i>unless otherwise noted.</i>  <b>Attendance is critical!</b> <i>Please call:</i> <i>Sandy 657-7659 (F)</i> <i>Elena 325-7551(CV)</i> <i>Lynette 552-1312(CV)</i> <i>Carol 673-5495</i>
#18: November 4, Wednesday - ORCHESTRAL LISTENING <i>**Turn in Final-Presentation plan**</i> Instruments of the orchestra, musical form and listening activities <i>**Quiz #3 - Take-home**</i>	
#19: November 9, Monday – MUSICAL ELEMENTS REVIEW Students apply CMD to demonstrated songs. Docent agreement forms turn in. <i>**DOCENT OBSERVATION #2**</i>	
#20: November 12, Thursday – HAPPY FEET at Maloney School in Fremont <i>**Class Evaluations** **Quiz 3**</i>	
#21: November 16, Monday <i>**FINAL PRESENTATIONS (Begin)**</i> <i>**Turn in Quiz 3**</i>	
#22: November 18, Wednesday - <i>**FINAL PRESENTATIONS (Finish)**</i> Graduation!!!	

## Volunteer Help Needed

### Resource Center Assistant

The main duties of the RC assistant are:

To oversee the use of items, maintain the RC in an organized way,

Help conduct yearly audits.

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 signout 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.

## Announcement

### Annual Holiday Brunch

We are already planning our Holiday Brunch for 2009 and have yet to confirm a venue. If there is a Docent that would like to host this event in early December please contact Sue Lesh, Program Coordinator for additional details. She can be reached at [susanlesh@comcast.net](mailto:susanlesh@comcast.net). We have a tentative date for this annual event of Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 and are hoping that one of you would like to share your home with us for this most festive of holiday gatherings.



“Music is a form of communication that goes directly from the heart and out into the world. Music is organic and opens minds to something creative and self-expressive that can be generated without technology.”

Nancy Karon, Docent Trainee 2009

## *Save The Date!*

Music For Minors II, Music For Minors, and Linden Tree  
Recordings and Books are pleased to present Family Concerts  
with  
**Red Grammer**



**Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010, 2 p.m.**

Harbor Light , 4760 Thornton Ave., Fremont

**Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010, 3 p.m.**

Carrington Hall, Sequoia High School  
1201 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062

*Treat yourself and your family to a carefree afternoon!*

Family Concerts are a great way to spend quality time with your children, and you'll be singing the songs together long after the concerts are over!

Recommended for ages 3 and up.

General seating tickets \$14. Group discounts available.

Information on how to purchase tickets coming soon.

