

Education Through Music



®

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 3

USING MUSIC AND THE ARTS TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

SPRING 2010

Joshua Bell Holds Master Class for M.S. 180 Orchestra

On the morning of April 20, Grammy Award-winning violinist and ETM Advisory Committee Member Joshua Bell visited ETM middle school partner M.S. 180 in Co-op City, the Bronx, and led a master class for the school orchestra.

The students performed two works for him, including a selection from Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #5. Joshua provided historical background on Bach and the Baroque period, and performed Bach's Chaconne, as well as a variation on "Yankee Doodle."

Afterwards, the students asked many questions, including what inspired him to begin playing the violin. Joshua explained, "I heard music that was so beautiful that it gave me chills." The students were also curious to hear his advice on "vibrato," a technique they were eager to learn. At the end of the class, Joshua played the Brandenburg concerto with the orchestra.

Joshua's final advice to the stu-



Joshua Bell poses with two M.S. 180 students.



Joshua Bell plays Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #5 with the M.S. 180 orchestra. To see a video of Joshua's M.S. 180 master class, please visit www.ETMonline.org.

dents was, "If you ever think about quitting, think twice, because music is something you will treasure forever."

ETM and the M.S. 180 students are grateful to Joshua Bell for taking

time out of his busy schedule to visit the school. ETM thanks Teaching Artist Leah Potteiger and Principal Frank Uzzo for preparing the students for the master class.

ETM Presents at Conference for Elementary School Principals

In early April, ETM Executive Director Katherine Damkohler, Director of Programs Pete Pauliks, and P.S. 76 Principal Louise Sedotto travelled to Houston, Texas to present at the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) 89th Annual Convention & Exposition.

ETM was selected to lead a workshop for principals, teachers, and administrators on designing and sustaining arts education programs. The workshop outlined the essential components of a quality

arts program, and offered advice on how principals can secure resources to implement a music program that will serve every child at their schools. The participants of the workshop received a copy of ETM's Principal's Manual, created with support from the U.S. Department of Education.

Ms. Damkohler, Mr. Pauliks, and Ms. Sedotto were honored to present at the conference, and were thrilled to share their expertise with principals and school leaders from around the country.

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Heather Hanssen Joins ETM Board

ETM is pleased to announce the election of Heather A. Hanssen to the Board of Directors.

Heather Hanssen, a marketing and business development consultant, formerly worked for Sesame Workshop as the Director of International Home Video & Audio, Director of Global Home Video & Audio, and Director of Marketing.

She has also worked in market-

ing and brand management for Hearst Magazines, The itchy bitsy Entertainment Company, and the Jim Henson Company. She also serves as a Board member of Brownstone School.

Ms. Hanssen received her B.A. in Environmental Studies from Binghamton University, State University of New York.

Princeton Project 55 Honors ETM

On Wednesday, March 3, Education Through Music was one of five organizations honored at the Princeton Project 55 Fellowship Program's 20th Anniversary Celebration, held at the Rockefeller Foundation. ETM Executive Director Katherine Damkohler accepted a Certificate of Appreciation, and thanked Project 55 for their contribution to ETM's success over the years.

The Project 55 Fellowship Program engages Princeton University alumni in public interest initiatives. Since its inception in 1989, Project 55 has worked with over 500 nonprofits to place 1,300 Princeton alumni in public interest positions around the country.



Katherine Damkohler speaks at the Project 55 Anniversary Celebration

Project 55 has partnered with ETM for 13 years and placed 9 fellows at the organization. Two current staff members, Rainah Berlowitz and Katherine Canning, came to ETM over 10 years ago through the program, and Julie Rubinger is the current fellow. Ms. Damkohler highlighted the fellows' contributions to ETM over the years, saying, "I am most grateful for the passion that they have brought to this organization, in really fulfilling the mission of helping children have music education in their lives."

ETM congratulates Princeton Project 55 on its 20th Anniversary, and thanks the organization for supporting our mission for over a decade.



ETM's Katherine Canning and Rainah Berlowitz are former Project 55 fellows.

ETM Offers Spring Training and Professional Development Workshops

Professional Development for ETM Teaching Artists

On Saturday, March 13, ETM teaching artists attended an all-day professional development workshop to reinforce strategies and skills from past training sessions.

Because good teaching practices begin with good classroom management, ETM Director of Programs Pete Pauliks designed a full day of professional development to address the challenges our teaching artists face daily. He offered tactics to engage all types of learners, and outlined ways to avoid making common pedagogical mistakes.

The teaching artists split up into smaller groups with ETM Field Supervisors to discuss specific strategies and scenarios. One participant said, "We all have similar struggles and joys in the classroom. I learned that classroom management and teaching style is as much about your

own personality as it is about the actual procedure."

Mr. Pauliks also led a session on creating aims, to help teaching artists give focus to their lesson plans so that students understand what they are expected to accomplish in class.

A session on guitars gave teaching artists more ideas on how to use the instrument as an instructional tool, since every ETM teaching artist has access to a guitar to use in their classroom.

In preparation for the spring concert season, several teaching artists were selected to share examples of songs that were particularly successful in class, and could be ideal concert pieces. Many teaching artists reported being eager to try out the songs with their students. As one participant said, "From warm-up procedures to concert repertoire, it is always helpful to hear ideas and anecdotes from other teachers."

"SmartMusic" Training

In line with ETM's push to incorporate technology into music classroom instruction, Mr. Pauliks conducted a workshop on using "SmartMusic" software at the ETM office on April 15.

"SmartMusic" is a software geared for ensemble instruction, and it helps students improve their instrumental skills. ETM invited teaching artists who work with instrumental ensembles to get acquainted with the software. The session introduced a variety of features, including a vast selection of repertoire and method books, audio accompaniment, recording capability, and a metronome.

The participants also learned how to use the software as an assessment tool to track students' progress on their instruments. "SmartMusic" includes a platform for the teacher and student to interact online. Students can record themselves practicing their instrument, and send it to the teacher for feedback.

ETM's band and orchestra programs will begin using "SmartMusic" software next fall.

UFT Charter School

Throughout the school year, ETM has been providing consulting services for The United Federation of Teachers Charter School in East New York, Brooklyn, helping them revise their music curriculum, and mentoring the school's music teacher.

On Friday, April 23, ETM organized a professional development workshop for the school's classroom teachers. ETM Field Supervisor and Professional Development Specialist Chris Marolf led a session on using music as a teaching tool across all content areas, and Field Supervisor Leah Potteiger led a session on interactive whiteboards.

Jaiko Visits St. Mark the Evangelist School



Singer Jaiko visited St. Mark the Evangelist School in Harlem on Friday, March 26. He performed several original songs for the students in grades 6, 7, and 8. Special thanks to Music Unites for making this event possible.

Partner Schools Showcase New Programs at “Breakfast with the Band”

The new band programs at P.S. 76 and P.S. 121 in the Bronx had their debut in the form of “Breakfast with the Band,” where they showcased their progress since the beginning of the year.

The P.S. 76 band performed on February 24, and the P.S. 121 band on March 11. Family, friends, and community members attended the morning concerts. The students performed a number of selections that showcased each section individually, as well as the band as a whole.

The band programs were launched in the fall of 2009 to supplement in-school general music instruction. The bands at P.S. 76 and P.S. 121 are open to 5th grade students, who, in addition to attending weekly general music class, attend band rehearsals and group lessons every week.

ETM thanks the Dr. Robert C. and Tina Sohn Foundation for supporting the P.S. 76 band, and the VHI Save the Music Foundation for providing instruments to P.S. 121.



A P.S. 121 student on the French Horn.



Music Teacher Jessica Parr conducts the P.S. 76 band as students and family members look on.



P.S. 76 students on the clarinet.



ETM Teaching Artist Stacey Durma conducts the P.S. 121 band.



P.S. 121 students practice before the concert.

Photography by Chris Marolf
For more photos, see www.ETMonline.org

P.S. 76 Presents: “The Adventures of Louis and Clark”



P.S. 76 students sing “A Fork in the Road.”

From March 24-26, the entire 4th grade of P.S. 76 put on a full-scale musical production, “The Adventures of Louis and Clark.” Under the leadership of ETM Director of Programs Pete Pauliks, ETM staff, and the school staff, the students spent months working together on the performance.

The students chronicled the story of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their adventures in the early 1800’s. The musical, adapted by Roger Emerson and

John Jacobs, included 8 original songs that the students performed with enthusiasm and energy.

The production is part of a school-wide initiative to bring social studies to life through music and the arts. Before the show, the students also presented an exhibition that illustrated the history of the Louisiana Purchase.

ETM thanks P.S. 76 principal Louise Sedotto, Assistant Principals Maria Cioffi and Karen Humphrey, and the 4th grade

classroom teachers for their help putting together this school-wide initiative. Special thanks to P.S. 76 art teacher Katie Hopkins, music teacher Jessica Parr, and ETM Teaching Artist Michael Dion for working together on this project.



P.S. 76 art teacher Katie Hopkins works on the exhibition panel.

ETM Associates Host 2nd Annual Wine Tasting Tour of Union Square

On Saturday, April 24, over 80 guests joined the ETM Associates for a wine tasting tour of Union Square. Friends of ETM enjoyed beautiful weather, and tasted a variety of wines from all over the globe.

The event raised over \$3,200 for ETM partner school P.S. 76 in the Bronx – the ETM Associates’ “adopted school” for the 2009-10 school year.

The tour began at **Amsterdam Billiards**, and included tastings at **Union Square Wines**, **Bottlerocket Wine & Spirit**, and **Wined Up**. The

tour concluded with an after-party at **Vintage Irving**, featuring more wine tastings and a raffle drawing.

ETM thanks the stores and wine bars that participated in this year’s tasting, as well as the ETM Associates Steering Committee, the Tour Benefit Committee, and the ETM volunteers and staff who helped make this event a success.

The ETM Associates are a group of young professionals who are passionate about music and education. They plan events throughout the year to raise awareness and funds for ETM. This year’s Steering Committee members are: Charlie Ballard, Leslie Emmons, Jennifer Goff, Jeremy Halbridge, Rosalin Luetum, Mark Malyszko, Rob Profusek, Kristin del Rosario, and Dan Zaccagnino. If you are interested in becoming an Associate, contact Emily Estock at estock@ETMonline.org



Friends of ETM enjoy their tastings at Wined Up.



ETM Associate Charlie Ballard

Save the Date!

**ETM Associates’
Summer Kick-Off Party**

*Featuring summer cocktails,
hors d’oeuvres, and music*

Thursday, June 17, 2010

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more details.

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ETM Teaching Artist Phil Tambakis reads notes with St. Brendan students while celebrating the Chinese New Year.



ETM Teaching Artist Shanna Lesniak-Whitney practices rhythms with P.S. 169 students.



**Charity Navigator has rated
ETM a Four-Star Charity for a
third consecutive year**

Only 13% of all charities evaluated receive three consecutive four-star ratings, indicating that ETM outperforms the majority of U.S. non-profits with respect to fiscal responsibility.

85% of every dollar goes to music education programming.

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A St. Clare orchestra student with her bass.

Education Through Music



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