A Friend Indeed!

As the song says, we "get by with a little help from our friends."

CMS-Detroit is fortunate to count a growing number of friends who are passionate about the real-world benefits of music study.

One of these friends is businessman Craig Murray, a pivotal player in Hollywood whose company creates award-winning ad campaigns for Disney and other major studios. He is an MSU alumnus and charter member of the College of Music's National Leadership Council.

Murray has been deeply inspired by the work CMS-D faculty and student mentors are doing to provide music education and music therapy to metro Detroiters of all ages.

To demonstrate his support and encourage others to join him, Murray sponsored a special CMS-Detroit Challenge Grant in December. Friends and community supporters responded to this quick call-to-action and $15,000 was raised.

It is through the continuing generosity of donors like Murray that CMS-Detroit is able to fulfill its mission.

Now that’s a good friend!

300% Growth in Three Years!

Since opening its doors in the fall of 2009, MSU’s Community Music School-Detroit has been welcomed with open arms by budding musicians of all ages and abilities.

In fact, enrollment has tripled since that inaugural semester, and most classes are now at capacity.

“It’s been rewarding to have so many families tell us they’re glad we’re here,” says Executive Director Rhonda Buckley. “Schools in our region are under enormous pressure, and the arts are often the first programs cut. We find we’re filling a widening gap.”

BIG SPRING CONCERT

CMS-Detroit caps off each year of music learning with a grand finale titled “Our Community in Concert.” The 2012 event takes place at the Detroit School of Arts’ (DSA) Ford Theater on Wednesday, May 9 at 7 p.m. Admission is free and the public is invited to join the musical celebration!

Led by Director Ed Quick, the concert will feature CMS-D’s combined New Horizons Bands, the DSA Choir and the Grosse Pointe Band. Two unique “hymns” will be performed. The first is a premiere of *Hymn* by Cass Tech graduate Chad Hughes, a work commissioned by the CMS-D New Horizons Bands. The second is Wilhousky’s famous version of *Battle Hymn of the Republic* for band and chorus. This gig is sure to inspire!

“We’re at the point now,” says Buckley, “where we need to manage our growth strategically, and balance our ability to fundraise to support that growth.”

Thanks to a grant from the Michigan Nonprofit Association, CMS-D is working with Beach Communications to develop a five-year strategic plan.

“We want to continue to provide low-cost and subsidized music education to the metro Detroit community,” says Buckley. “This roadmap will help get us there.”
From the Executive Director
Rhonda Buckley

In a very short period of time, MSU’s Community Music School-Detroit has gone from idea to implementation, to near full capacity enrollment.

The majority of our students, 89%, require tuition assistance. It is our mission to serve this audience which includes children, families, the elderly and clients with special needs.

We place a particular focus on providing area youth with a transformative educational experience, mentoring, and opportunities that help them envision themselves on the path to college and careers.

While it’s no surprise to us, a new National Endowment for the Arts study finds that economically disadvantaged students do better academically if they are involved in the arts. They are also "more active and engaged citizens, voting, volunteering, and generally participating at higher rates than their peers."

Our growth is exciting, but we are also conscious that every program and event we offer requires significant infrastructure and donor support. For that, we are deeply indebted to the foundations, individuals and companies who make our programs possible. Thank you!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

APRIL
19 AMP Percussionists Pistons Field Trip
21 East Lansing & Detroit: New Horizons Band Exchange
21 Recital for Adult Piano & Guitar Students, 7 p.m.
21 Recital for AMP Piano Students, 10 a.m.
21 "So Your Child Wants a Career in the Arts?"
25 MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit Season Finale Concert, 7 p.m.

MAY
2 Recital for Adult Piano & Guitar Students, 7 p.m.
5 Recital for AMP Piano Students, 10 a.m.
8 New Horizons Band (NHB) concert dress rehearsal
9 "Our Community in Concert," NHB Season Finale, Detroit School of Arts’ Ford Theatre, 7 p.m.
12 Recital for AMP Students, 10 a.m.
12 Mug & Music, Conference Room, 10 a.m.
12 "Summer Music Opportunities"

JUNE
2 "Celebrate Abilities!" Music Therapy Recital and VSA Southeast Regional Festival, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
5 6-week summer sessions begin for NHB Bands, Beginner Guitar for Teens, and Adult Group Piano and Guitar
17-22 MSU Jazz Camp
18-22 Rock Camp for Youth
23 Rock Campers Perform at River Days Festival!
25-29 Aspiring Musicians Program Day Camp

SEPT. Fall Semester Begins the 9th!

MSU Jazz Brings Student Mentors to Detroit

Every Wednesday night, a dedicated group of MSU Jazz Studies majors, under the direction of MSU professor Etienne Charles, load their instruments and selves into a van in East Lansing for the 183 mile round-trip to Detroit.

Upon arriving at their destination, they grab a quick bite of dinner, then spend the next three hours teaching, mentoring, inspiring and playing side-by-side with Detroit youth.

Many of these young MSU musicians have already distinguished themselves professionally, but they are also learning hands-on music pedagogy while sharing their skills with the next generation of jazz musicians.

Thank you, College of Music!

AMP Drummers Are Lining Up!

A busload of excited drummers from Saturday morning’s Aspiring Musicians Program (AMP) enjoyed a thrilling musical field trip on April 19.

Two dozen student percussionists and their parent chaperones traveled to a Detroit Pistons game, which included a private meet-and-greet with the famed Pistons Drum Line!

CMS-D instructor Dewayne McAllister ("Mr. Mac") was inspired to coordinate the outing in order to introduce his current pupils to a former one. Darren Stafford Jr., a veteran member of the Pistons musical ambassadors, studied with Mr. Mac as a youth. He is now a Rhythm and Musicology Teacher and performs with the Pistons during each game.

Tickets for the students and parents were generously donated by Pistons guard Rodney Stuckey.

Above: AMP percussion class led by Mr. Mac.
Right: The Pistons Drum Line dazzles crowds at The Palace!
INTERNATIONAL ARTS & HEALTHCARE
A Global View... from Detroit

The international spotlight will shine on CMS-Detroit's music therapy program this spring.

When the Society for the Arts in Healthcare holds its 23rd Annual International Conference in Detroit, May 2-5, delegates will visit the MSU facility to see the healing power of music in action.

CMS-D Music Therapy Program Director Jody Conradi Stark, the recipient of multiple awards including the VSA Michigan Educator of the Year in 2011, will meet and greet the global community of experts whose work promotes health and well-being through the arts.

While at CMS-D, conference attendees will have the opportunity to take in a music and movement therapy session for children from Coalition for Temporary Shelter (COTS).

More Requests for Music Therapy

CMS-Detroit's music and dance therapists, Program Director Jody Conradi Stark (M.A., MT-BC) and Karen Barsy (M.A. R-DMT), continued to forge new community partnerships, connect with new client groups, and introduce new families to the healing power of music in 2011-12.

A new collaboration with Southwest Solutions' Piquette Square, a Detroit residence complex for veterans, many of them formerly homeless, is creating powerful buzz. Following group singing and music-making, participants reported "an incredible feeling of cohesion, community-building and sharing."

PNC Bank is again supporting CMS-D's work in communities by funding 12 weeks of Music & Movement sessions for parents and preschoolers at Detroit Public Schools' Parent Network Centers, as well as at YouthVille in spring 2012.

Music therapy opportunities this summer include a Children's Center Camp (June-July), St. John's Hospital "Kids on the Go" Summer Camp (July-August), and Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind summer sessions (July-August).

Stark completed research sessions at CMS-D for her dissertation titled "The Effects of Group Music Therapy on Mood, Psychosocial Well-Being, and Quality of Life of Breast Cancer Survivors."

Contributing scholarship to the music therapy field, Stark and Early Childhood Teacher Julie Kastner presented "MSU-Detroit Outreach through Early Childhood Music and Music Therapy" at the National Outreach Scholarship Conference in East Lansing.
Kids "Rock" at Summer Music Camps

CMS-Detroit will offer two exciting day camps for musical youth this summer. A brand new Rock Camp, and the second annual Aspiring Musicians Program (AMP) Band Camp take place in 2012.

**Rock Camp** (June 18-22) will be led by The Outer Vibe, a five-piece alternative rock/pop band who throws an energetic party onstage with wall-of-sound guitar, dance-inducing drums and bass, and powerful lead vocals. They are led by MSU College of Music graduate Lisa Kacos.

The group coaches young musicians in instrumental technique, as well as teaching them how to create, perform and promote their own rock bands. The camp culminates with the kids giving a rockin' performance at the Detroit River Days festival!

**AMP Band Camp** (June 25-29) brings together elementary and middle school age musicians for a harmonious adventure that includes music history, theory, sectionals and big band rehearsals. Teachers include MSU College of Music students who gain hands-on music education experience. A Finale Concert for families and friends caps off the week!

Don’t wait to register your young person! Tuition assistance for camps is available until it runs out!

**MSU JAZZ CAMP** (June 17-22)

MSU Jazz Camp offers middle and high school age students the opportunity to study jazz with the world-class College of Music faculty, plus Jazz Studies student mentors, on the MSU Campus in East Lansing. Students learn applied theory, sight-reading and improvisation -- all while staying in residence halls, eating in the cafeterias and getting a first-hand look at college life!

Designed for students with intermediate and advanced playing experience, this program focuses on jazz orchestra and small ensembles, exposing participants to the many arrangements and composition styles used in jazz.

This year, Jazz Camp will conclude with a 6 p.m. concert at the East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival on Friday, June 22. Register for Jazz Camp now at www.cms.msu.edu.

**Jazzing Up Kids**

MSU Professor of Trumpet Etienne Charles, who directs the MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit program, has a gift for engaging young people and explaining the complexities of jazz and blues.

At Duke Ellington Middle School Charles made a series of visits to schools this fall including MLK High School, the Detroit School of Arts and Duke Ellington Middle School.

He talked to the kids about "call and response" and the difference between playing something "straight" vs. with "swing." The kids were jazzed!

**CMS-D Adult Solo & Ensemble Festival**

Recitals. They’re not just for kids!

This spring CMS-Detroit hosted its first adjudicated recital opportunity for adult students. The debut Adult Solo & Ensemble Festival took place on April 3.

Performances were judged by the current and former heads of the Detroit Public Schools’ Fine Arts Department, Willie McAllister and Benjamin Pruitt.

Friends, families and fans enjoyed this musical milestone!