2012 ANNUAL REPORT

INSPIRING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH MUSIC
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MISSION & HISTORY

Michigan State University’s Community Music School-Detroit (CMS-Detroit) opened its doors in the fall of 2009 to provide high-quality music education and music therapy to people of all ages, abilities and incomes.

CMS-Detroit makes its home in The MSU Detroit Center, a new hub for the university’s many programs and activities in the region. The Center, which also opened in 2009, represents MSU’s increased commitment to the Detroit economy, education, health, environment and the arts.

Through music, CMS-Detroit and MSU are inspiring individual achievement, helping build a strong culture of education, and engaging children and families in learning together. With a particular focus on youth and underserved populations, CMS-Detroit seeks to instill dreams and aspirations for a productive future, which includes not only graduation from high school but accessing higher education.

CMS-Detroit utilizes research-based music curriculums with a proven ability to jump start youth development, inspire higher student achievement, teach skills crucial for success in the 21st century economy, and enhance quality of life and learning at all stages.

Its music therapy clinical services provide a therapeutic lifeline for persons with special needs, posting successes on a daily basis. Detroit’s senior population has also found a welcoming family at CMS-Detroit where they can learn, make friends, stay active, and fulfill a lifelong dream of learning to play an instrument.

Perhaps most significant, CMS-Detroit is providing music education in an environment of unprecedented pressure on local school systems and increasingly, the elimination of music and the arts. CMS-Detroit programs provide access to the teaching expertise of MSU College of Music faculty and student mentors in a safe and nurturing setting.

Through their involvement in music education and performance, Detroit-area youth are developing the higher-level competencies necessary for success in school and in life. Music teaches creative thinking, problem solving, self-expression, discipline, teamwork and leadership -- all skills needed in the workplace and beyond.

Students of all ages are flocking to CMS-Detroit with new registrations growing significantly each year. The demand for high-quality, low-cost educational opportunities in Detroit is acute. As music learning programs continue to disappear, CMS-Detroit is filling an unmet need and making a significant contribution to the intellectual growth of the community.

Rhonda Buckley
Associate Dean for Outreach and Engagement
Executive Director, MSU Community Music School,
East Lansing & Detroit

“MSU is committed to making music education available to all Detroit residents, and especially its children and youth. We know that music can positively impact youth development, and that they, in turn, will enhance Detroit’s vibrant musical tradition.”

- Rhonda Buckley, CMS-Detroit Executive Director

“The innovation, economic enrichment, and creative expression that multicultural societies generate are essential to position Michigan to play a leadership role in crafting the 21st-century knowledge economy.”

- Lou Anna K. Simon, President, Michigan State University

Grand Opening of The MSU Detroit Center, October 1, 2009
NUMBERS SNAPSHOT

CMS-Detroit by the Numbers

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Pacific Standard - March 29, 2012

**Arts Involvement Narrows Student Achievement Gap**

“A new NEA study finds disadvantaged students do better academically if they are intensely involved in the arts. Students from the lower end of the socioeconomic ladder tend to do less well in school than those from more upscale families. But newly published research identifies one sub-group of these youngsters who tend to exceed expectations: those who participate heavily in the arts.”

**www.musequality.org**

“Research has found that music aids personal development, building confidence, self-esteem and discipline. It strengthens social skills, helping children to understand and interact with others and promoting skills such as empathy. It enhances intellectual development, improving math and reading abilities and promoting abstract reasoning and spatial cognition. And participation in music helps steer young people away from damaging behavior and lifestyles.”

Neurological Research, Vol. 19, February 1997

“A research team exploring the link between music and intelligence reported that music training is far superior to computer instruction in dramatically enhancing children’s abstract reasoning skills, the skills necessary for learning math and science. Music training causes long-term enhancement of preschool children’s spatial-temporal reasoning.”

CMS-Detroit programs are modeled after the highly-regarded and successful work of the MSU Community Music School in East Lansing and MSU College of Music outreach and engagement initiatives. Detroit offerings were developed with broad community input from local musical and educational institutions and the CMS-Detroit Community Advisory Committee. Programs are designed to complement, but not overlap, with existing musical activities available in the area.

**Early Childhood Music** is a curriculum proven to enhance brain activity, help children develop tonal and rhythmic awareness, and build physical, interpersonal and language domains. Children from birth to age 7 participate in research-based music and movement activities during the period when the vast majority of brain growth occurs.

**The Aspiring Musicians Program (AMP)** provides youth the opportunity to learn to play an instrument and enjoy the developmental benefits of music study. Beginning and intermediate group lessons are offered to children ages 9 to 15 on flute, clarinet, trumpet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, percussion, piano and guitar. Lessons include instrument fundamentals, how to read music, ensemble playing, ear training and musicianship.

AMP seeks to strengthen the lives of vulnerable youth by nurturing higher level skills such as commitment, problem solving and teamwork; skills that are easily transferable to other endeavors. AMP is bridging a gap for school systems forced to cut music, while helping to create a pipeline for more widely available programs at the middle and high school levels.

**MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit** provides high-quality music education and performance opportunities to youth ages 11 to 19. Classes are taught by renowned MSU College of Music jazz faculty and Jazz Studies graduate student mentors. Youth focus on improvisation and combo playing, and are invited to participate in MSU’s Jazz Camp each summer in East Lansing.

**Music Therapy Clinical Services** offer life-giving treatments for a variety of conditions ranging from stress to severe handicaps. Children and adults with developmental delays or difficulties with speech or motor skills particularly benefit from music therapy. Long recognized as a key to unlocking learning and developmental potential, Music Therapy uses clinical and evidence based models to assist with physical, psychological, cognitive, behavioral and social functioning.

**CMS-Detroit’s New Horizons Bands (NHB)** are for adults and teens who wish to learn to play an instrument for the very first time, or who want to return to play with former musicians and retired music educators. Beginning and Advanced bands each provide a relaxed, fun and socially affirming environment for teen and adult learners. Band members give free performances at senior centers, churches and community special events.

**Adult Music Education** at CMS-Detroit includes group lessons in piano, guitar and string instruments. Learners range in age from college students to septuagenarians.
The Detroit Jazz Festival and CMS-Detroit presented a screening of the documentary film "Chops," a live performance by MSU jazz studies students and a jazz education Q&A in May, 2011.

CMS-Detroit has participated in the annual Metro Detroit Youth Day on Belle Isle since 2010 in order to share information with Detroit families about the benefits of music study, as well as how to access low-cost and subsidized musical education opportunities available locally.

As part of the annual Concert of Colors, CMS-Detroit has offered information to guests regarding its diverse student musical ensembles and performances ranging from concert band to jazz.

During the University Cultural Center Association’s Annual Noel Night, CMS-Detroit has presented free New Horizons adult band performances and tours of its facilities.

Under the direction of Dr. Jody Stark, Music Therapy group sessions for Breast Cancer Survivors were held at CMS-Detroit in 2011 for dissertation research titled "The Effects of Group Music Therapy on Mood, Psychosocial Well-Being, and Quality of Life of Breast Cancer Survivors." The research was presented at the American Music Therapy Association Conference on November, 2011.

CMS-Detroit co-hosted VSA Michigan’s Southeast Regional Festival, the annual "Celebrate Arts Abilities," in conjunction with its Music Therapy Recital in 2010, 2011 and 2012. The event promotes creativity and arts accomplishments for people with disabilities.

CMS-Detroit co-hosted renowned music pedagogue Roberta Guaspari (profiled in "Music of the Heart" starring Meryl Streep) at Cornerstone Schools’ Nevada Campus on April 8 and 9, 2011. The two-day series of workshops and clinics on string education in the classroom was presented in partnership with the MSU College of Music.

CMS-Detroit faculty Jody Conradi Stark (Music Therapy) and Julie Kastner (Early Childhood Music Education) presented a poster session at the National Outreach Scholarship Conference at Michigan State University in 2011.
Strategic and collaborative partnerships have played a significant role in the growth and success of CMS-Detroit. Community partners include local school systems, youth and senior organizations, hospitals, social service agencies, small and large cultural institutions, foundations and the corporate sector. The following partnerships highlight only a few of those that have taken place since CMS-Detroit’s opening in 2009.

CMS-Detroit has worked with Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS) since 2010 to provide “COTS Kids Create!” a movement therapy program for preschool-aged homeless children in need of emotional and psychological support, as well as early childhood learning opportunities.

CMS-Detroit and Focus: HOPE partnered to provide Early Childhood Music classes for 40 children ages 1 through 5 from 2009 – 2011. These classes also provided teacher training experience, made possible by the Schultz Fund.

CMS-Detroit collaborated with YouthVille Detroit to offer “Composing: Bach to Hip Hop” at nearby YouthVille in 2009-2010. The workshop taught youth about music composition both traditionally and using music technology in the creative process.

Senior residents at Brush Park Manor and Hannan House participate in Music and Movement demonstrations and enjoy live performance by New Horizons adult band members. Seniors are also invited to join the New Horizons Bands and attend free performances.

In 2011, PNC Bank Foundation sponsored 14 free CMS-Detroit Early Childhood Music classes serving over 200 children at Detroit Public Schools’ Parent Resource Centers across the city. This program continues in 2012.

In 2011, the Oakland County Alumni Association of MSU mobilized to collect nearly 40 used instruments of all types and delivered them to CMS-Detroit for use by students. The loan program is called “LINKS” or “Lonely Instruments in Need of Kids.”

CMS-Detroit is a member of the Music Learning Alliance along with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Wayne State University, the Detroit Children’s Choir and the Sphinx Organization. The five alliance members work together to create an ecosystem of music training excellence throughout southeast Michigan as well as introduce new families and individuals to the benefits of music learning.

CMS-Detroit is a participant in the The Kennedy Center’s DeVos Institute Capacity Building Detroit program offered through Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan, designed to help build successful cultural arts organizations. This is made possible by The Kresge Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Michigan Nonprofit Association and the Ford Foundation.

The CMS-Detroit and COTS program was featured at the Society for the Arts in Healthcare’s 23rd Annual International Conference in May, 2012 which took place in Detroit and was hosted by Children’s Hospital of Michigan.

The Children’s Center and CMS-Detroit have partnered since 2010 to bring a Music Therapy summer program to at-risk urban children. This program was funded by Tau Beta Association.

CMS-Detroit led “Kids on the Go!”, a five-week pediatric music therapy program presented in conjunction with St. John’s Hospital and the Detroit Institute for Children in 2010 and 2011.

Children’s Hospital of Michigan and CMS-Detroit are working together to provide music therapy to children in chronic pain after they are released from in-patient care.

VSA Michigan partnered with CMS-Detroit music and dance therapists in 2010, 2011 and 2012 to offer experiential community workshops for residents of group homes who are “aged out” of the special education system in Michigan.

CMS-Detroit offers therapy programs at the new Piquet Square in Southwest Detroit which focuses on formerly homeless veterans. This program is being offered in partnership with Southwest Solutions.

In July 2011, CMS-Detroit offered music and dance movement therapy sessions for the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind.

Global automotive supplier Cooper-Standard selected CMS-Detroit as one of its beneficiaries at the North American International Auto Show Charity Opening in 2010 and 2011. The company also featured MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit students and mentors in performance at its gala receptions.

Young adult men with Autism Spectrum Disorder from the Detroit Public Schools’ Transitions Center East enjoyed experiential music and movement therapy sessions at CMS-Detroit in 2010 and 2011.

CMS-Detroit is a member of New Detroit’s Cultural Exchange Network whose mission is to increase cross cultural awareness and cooperation between ethnically diverse communities.
OUR STUDENT STORIES

Roddaja Mitchell, age 15, plays piano on Wednesday nights in the MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit program. She’s a 10th grader at Detroit Renaissance High School who dreams of becoming an anesthesiologist someday, while still playing music “on the side.”

“Reading music is like reading another language,” Roddaja says. “It helps you look at things from a different perspective.” Music also helped her to tap into her creative side, she explains, while at the same time teaching her discipline. “You should try music even if you don’t like it,” Roddaja says. “It took me about a year to like what I play, but now I’ve fallen in love with it. I learned you have to try your best!”

Roddaja has high praise for MSU College of Music faculty and the jazz studies mentors. “They really helped me a lot,” she says, “by focusing on music reading skills, chords and scales.” She’s now dividing her time between jazz and classical music.

A lifelong Detroiter, Dwight Dorsey served his country for eight years as a Navy man, including seeing the end of the Vietnam War. Recently he retired from a career at the Detroit Medical Center. After learning about CMS-Detroit, he decided to check music off his bucket list. “Music is something I always wanted to achieve, but I never knew how to reach it,” he says. “I always wanted to play piano, and I fell in love with tenor sax listening to jazz from the time of my teenage years. Charlie Parker, Sonny Rollins… they the way they played!”

In 2011, Dorsey began taking classes in piano, tenor sax and double bass, spending all days Tuesdays at the school. “After each lesson, I left with a new-found meaning,” he says, “I was eager to come back the next week!” Due to health complications, Mr. Dorsey will be scaling back to just tenor sax this fall. “I’m reading my sax book,” he says, “I’m getting ready for the season. You have to reach out and fulfill your dreams when you have the chance.”

Brothers Jaywaun and Jaylyn Johnson, ages 14 and 16, are a musical dynamic duo. Between them, they play guitar, drums, violin, bass and banjo. Jaywaun, a student at the Detroit School of Arts, plays guitar with the MSU Jazz@CMS-Detroit ensemble. Jaylyn, who attends Henry Ford Academy, studies guitar in the AMP program.

The brothers can frequently be seen busking at Detroit’s Eastern Market, putting their entrepreneurial and performance skills to the test. When asked what their most crowd-pleasing songs are, Jaylyn cites “Old Joe Clark;” “Swallow Tail Jig” and ‘Cripple Creek.” Jaylyn says that music helps to “relieve stress,” and that he might like to be a professional musician or a music engineer when he grows up.
The Detroit News - Wednesday, May 13, 2009
MSU to offer education, music classes in Detroit
“Michigan State University is launching another addition to its growing Detroit presence, this time setting up an extension of its Colleges of Music and Education in an empty and striking historic building in the city’s cultural center... The move is expected to attract the kind of demographic that city boosters desperately crave: Young, educated and creative.”

Detroit Free Press - August 16, 2009
Too often, the music dies in city schools
“Detroit has contributed much to music and jazz -- arguably America's greatest art form. Unfortunately, the decline of music education in Detroit Public Schools means the city will produce fewer artists like trumpeter Donald Byrd, bassist Paul Chambers, violinist Regina Carter and bassist Ron Carter...”

“Of the city’s 44 high schools, only eight now offer instrumental programs, and the picture is equally bleak for middle and elementary schools. It’s ironic and sad that Byrd, Chambers, Regina Carter and Ron Carter all attended Cass Technical High School, a school that no longer has a jazz band.”

Detroit Free Press - September 4, 2010
As city schools cut music, MSU steps up
“Universities need to find more ways to serve disadvantaged communities beyond their borders. Michigan State University is doing that with its Community Music School in Detroit... This year, the school, which opened last fall at 3408 Woodward, created the Aspiring Musicians Program to give young people — mainly those in grades 5-8 — musical training that otherwise would have been denied them.”

Detroit Free Press - May 2, 2012
More hospitals in Michigan look to care through music
“But lately, spurred by a growing number of studies, as well as life stories such as that of former U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords of Arizona, leading medical institutions have been expanding their use of music into their services and culture to ease the stress of being a hospital patient.”

PBS and Detroit Public Television
“A Wider World,” a feature on CMS-Detroit Music Therapy Clinical Services, premiered on June 7, 2011. The half-hour program aired on 45 PBS stations nationwide, and can be viewed on YouTube or by scanning the QR code.

FInancials

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*Revenues and expenses include support from MSU
"I wanted to share how I have felt playing in the NHB concerts. Every concert has been a challenge, a joy and a blessing to have been able to participate in. This has been a dream in this season of my life. Thanks for all your hard work, patience and encouragement."

- New Horizons Band Member

"Thank you! The final program was outstanding. Your program is filling a void in the city. Thank YOU!"

- Parent of AMP student

"Everything was beautiful and my daughter's Clarinet class was fantastic! Ms. Scales is top-notch! What a gem she is... Overall, the program is great and well-organized and very, very 'parent-friendly.' Thank you for that!!!"

- Parent of AMP student