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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**COLLECTING USED INSTRUMENTS FOR KIDS!!  
MSU's LINKS Program: "Lonely Instruments in Need of Kids"**

**July 16-17 at FREE Concert of Colors Festival  
at the Max M. Fisher Music Center**

DETROIT, (June 22, 2011) – Is there a lonely instrument collecting dust in your closet, basement or attic? If so, you can give that instrument a brand new life in the hands of a deserving student.

Volunteers on behalf of the MSU Community Music School-Detroit will be on site at this year's Concert of Colors on Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17 to accept gifts of new or gently used instruments. An outreach effort of the Michigan State University College of Music, "L.I.N.K.S.," or "Lonely Instruments in Need of Kids," puts instruments into the hands of children unable to purchase or rent instruments of their own. In exchange, donors are provided with a gift credit to MSU and tax receipt.

"For many families, the opportunity to borrow an instrument at no cost makes a child's participation in music lessons financially possible," says Rhonda Buckley, CMS-Detroit Executive Director and Associate Dean for Outreach and Engagement for the MSU College of Music. "We're slowly growing our loan-bank in Detroit, but we need more gifted instruments to help ensure that future generations of metro Detroiters learn to play and enjoy music. We're very grateful to New Detroit and the Concert of Colors for this opportunity to participate in the festival. Plus – our volunteers get to enjoy some great music!"

Donors can also drop off instruments during regular business hours at CMS-Detroit, located in the MSU Detroit Center at 3408 Woodward, just south of Mack, next door to the Bonstelle Theater.

CMS-Detroit offers music education opportunities for babies, retirees and everyone in between, as well as music therapy clinical services. Programs include beginner and advanced adult bands, piano and guitar lessons for all ages, youth jazz classes, early childhood music classes (for infants through age 7) and an Aspiring Musicians Program (AMP) Summer Band Camp for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders from June 27 to July 1, 2011. Tuition assistance is available for all classes and programs.

For more information call (313) 578-9716, visit [www.cms.msu.edu](http://www.cms.msu.edu) or "**CMS-Detroit**" on Facebook. For Concert of Colors information and festival schedule call (313) 624-0215 or visit [www.concertofcolors.com](http://www.concertofcolors.com).