

February 17, 2011

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Children in the Lansing School District to try string instruments in special presentation by MSU Community Music School

****Media invited to attend.**

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Children in three Lansing elementary schools will have a chance to try their hands at half-size versions of string instruments as part of a special presentation by the MSU Community Music School (CMS) in February and March.

The project is made possible by a \$1,500 grant from the City of Lansing Arts and Cultural Minigrant Program, funded by the City of Lansing through the Lansing Economic Development Corporation and administered with help from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. The instruments are provided by Shar Music at a discounted rate.

WHO: *Lansing School District Music Teachers* Aida Cisneros and Diane Singletary and their *third and fourth grade students* will host a presentation by *MSU Community Music School Faculty Members* Susanne Garber, Lauren Hansen, Anne Kearney-Looman and Paul Rebeck, and *MSU College of Music Students* Megan Bowker, Ali Campbell, Roxanne Kieme, Laura Rasmussen and Christine Steyer.

WHAT: CMS string faculty members will perform for the third and fourth graders and offer basic instruction on violin, viola, and cello. CMS rented 30 half-size instruments to accommodate the children. Afterward, the children will be invited to attend a free, optional workshop at CMS on **March 19** to learn more about string instruments and other musical topics.

WHEN: The project will take place at the following schools and times:

- **Feb. 23** at Averill Elementary from 8:50-9:50 a.m. and 10-11 a.m.
3201 Averill Drive in Lansing
- **Feb. 25** at Reo Elementary from 10:10-11:10 a.m. and 12:30-1:30 p.m.
1221 Reo Court in Lansing
- **March 1** and **March 10** at Post Oak Elementary from 2:40-3:40 p.m.
2320 Post Oak Lane in Lansing

- more -

Michigan State University Community Music School

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The outreach division of the MSU College of Music

WHY: The project connects to **Music in our Schools Month**, designated by the National Association for Music Education, and reminds citizens that school is where all children should have access to music. Music in our Schools Month is an opportunity for music teachers to bring their music programs to the attention of the school and the community and to display the benefits school music brings to students of all ages.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

CMS is located at 841-B Timberlane Street in East Lansing and is the outreach division of the MSU College of Music. Although there is a moratorium on the academic music therapy degree program at the College of Music, music therapy services at CMS will continue. The mission of CMS is to provide comprehensive music programming – quality instruction, related music services, and educational programs – for interested individuals of all ages and levels with financial assistance for those in need. For more information, visit www.cms.msu.edu or call (517) 355-7661.

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