

Volume 1, Number 1

# ON THE UPBEAT

Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators' Council

<http://music.mysdhc.org/elem-music>

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**Good News  
for the HCEMEC**

Hillsborough County Public Schools

901 E. Kennedy Blvd.  
PO Box 3408  
Tampa, FL 33601-3408  
School Mall Route #7

## CELEBRATE MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH!

**Music! Just Imagine...**

On February 23, a Proclamation was read at the School Board Meeting declaring March "Music In Our Schools Month." This is a time for students, parents, teachers, and community members to celebrate the importance of school music programs. Every child should have access to Music as part of his/her education in the public school system. In this spirit, music teachers across Hillsborough County are raising awareness of their school music programs.

During Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM), many exciting events will be taking place to recognize the importance of school music programs. The World's Largest Concert is a sing-along event, this year taking place worldwide on March 11. The World's Largest Concert is the marquis event for MIOSM. Music for the World's Largest Concert is inspired by the MIOSM theme, "Music! Just Imagine..."



Members of the Roosevelt Elementary Chorus, *Encore*, perform for School Board members before the Proclamation on February 23rd.

MIOSM will be celebrated in numerous ways throughout Hillsborough County. Parent visits, performances, contests, advocacy efforts, and other activities will highlight the importance of Music in our schools during the month of March.

For more information, including MIOSM activity ideas, please visit <http://www.menc.org/events/view/music-in-our-schools-month>.

♪ Natalie Epstein, West Shore Elementary, Advocacy/MIOSM Chairperson



HCEMEC President Ernesta Suarez-Chicklowski and Secondary Music Council President Jeremy Klein present the MIOSM Proclamation to School Board members on February 23rd.



## TECH TIPS

Try Planbook. Lesson planning the way it was meant to be. You'll be wishing you'd had this software years ago. Planbook allows you to:

- Schedule the classes you teach
- Easily enter lesson information
- Attach files and websites to your plans
- List the standards for each lesson
- Print professional reports
- Publish your lessons to the web using MobileMe or an FTP server

and much, much more.

Go to <http://www.hellmansoft.com/>

### Some excellent iPhone/ iPod Touch apps for music teachers:

**Symphony** - allows you to create music notation.

**KalimbaLive** - Various kinds of playable kalimbas.

**More Cowbell** - Need we say more?

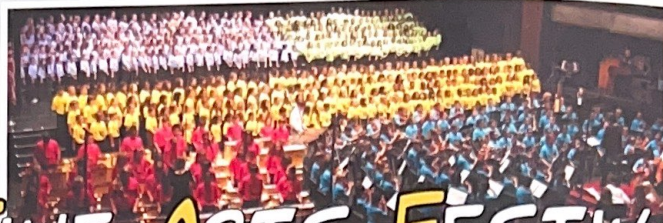
**Instruments** - Fingering charts for every instrument in the palm of your hand.

**iDrum** - Works fabulous on the iPhone and iPod Touch. A beatbox in your hand!

**meloD** - Works like a Theremin, but using touch. Choose waveforms, LFO, tremolo and glide settings.

**Bravo Gustavo** - Use your iPhone/iPod like a baton and conduct Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique to your own tempo.

♪ Jeff Henson, Hammond Elementary & Steve Florio, Grady Elementary, Music Technology Co-Chairs



## FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

Please save the date to attend the 2010 Fine Arts Festival which will be held on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the opening of the Visual Arts Exhibit in the lobby of Morsani Hall followed by the 7:00 p.m. concert at the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts.

This performance will feature three Regional Honor Choruses, the Honors Handbell Ensemble, Honors World Drum Ensemble, Honors Orff Ensemble and the Festival Orchestra. Over 600 of the finest elementary musicians will be on stage for this important celebration of arts education.

♪ Beverly Kermode, District Resource Teacher, FAF Coordinator

## 2010 MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators Council is pleased to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Multicultural Heritage Festival! The festival will be held on Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 PM. McFarland Park Elementary School will once again be the host school.

Performers from many diverse cultures will be performing, including India, Ireland and Spain. Food will be available for purchase and

there will be other fun surprises! Once again, students, teachers, parents, administrators and community members are welcome to see the performances and booth displays on all the continents. Come see and hear singers, drumming ensembles, recorder ensembles and Flamenco dancers!

♪ Jennifer Ross, Muller Elementary & Krista Patnode, McDonald Elementary, Music Heritage Committee Co-Chairs

## FINE ARTS BANQUET

Spring is here and that means it is time again for the annual Fine Arts Banquet. This year our theme is "Latin Nights." The banquet will be held April 8<sup>th</sup> at the historic Columbia Restaurant, in the heart of Ybor City. The menu will feature Spanish classics such as Arroz con Pollo (Yellow Rice and Chicken), Boliche "Criollo," (stuffed Eye of the Round), and Merluza "Russian Style" (a tropical white fish breaded and garnished with Russian sauce of lemon butter, parsley and hard boiled eggs). The menu will also feature the 1905 salad, Cuban bread and butter, flan, and coffee or tea. A vegetarian entree will also be available upon request.

We will begin the evening with the social hour at 6pm, where you will be able to mingle with your fellow art and music colleagues while listening to Spanish guitar music, followed by dinner served at 7pm. Throughout the

evening we will have a slideshow, educator recognitions, awards, a mini dance lesson, and ending with a fabulous private dance presentation by the Flamenco Dancers of the Columbia Restaurant. It promises to be a FABulous event!

The Fine Arts Banquet is not only a good time to catch up with old friends and to socialize with your colleagues, it is also a perfect time to advocate for YOUR art or music program. Please invite your administrators and co-workers to attend this event. We will also be inviting school board members, area directors, and community arts advocates. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Betty Trascritti on IDEAS or [bettytr@yahoo.com](mailto:bettytr@yahoo.com). I look forward to seeing all of you there!

♪ Betty Trascritti, Bryant Elementary, HCEMEC President-Elect, FAB Chair



## YOUNG SONGWRITER'S SYMPOSIUM

The 2009 "Hillsborough Writes Music: Young Songwriter's Symposium" wrapped up its fifth consecutive season this past November. Each year selected students and teachers from ten Hillsborough County Elementary Schools join together for a common goal – to write "pop" songs! The Young Songwriter's Symposium is a professional development activity for teachers and an intense creative writing opportunity for the students involved.



The writing sessions took place at Tampa Bay Boulevard Elementary, where music educators and students met once a week for two hours. Two months later the Young Songwriter's Symposium recorded a CD at Morrisound Recording Studio. The CD features one original song from each of the students, with the student performing their song with a little help from all of the music teachers involved. The

culmination of the Young Songwriter's Symposium was a concert held on November 14, 2009. The concert was held at Tampa Bay Boulevard Elementary and featured all of the songs on the CD recording.

Special thanks to Jim Morris and Morrisound Recording for their time and talent; the student's for their creativity and love for songwriting; the Hillsborough County Elementary Music Council for their support and dedication; and the Tampa Bay Boulevard staff who shared their school with us every week. This ongoing project, sponsored by the Hillsborough County Elementary Music Council, was awarded the Florida Music Educators Association's Innovative Project of the Year in 2008 and we hope to continue the success of this program for years to come.

♪ Tracy LaBarbera, Morgan Woods Elementary & Dann Shea, Tampa Bay Boulevard Elementary, Young Songwriter's Symposium Co-Chairs

## 2010 FMEA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The 2010 Florida Music Educator's Association In-Service Clinic-Conference and All-State Concerts had offerings that appealed to a wide range of educators. This year's theme, "Music and the Creative Mind, Wired for Success" narrowed the focus with such presenters as Dr. John Feierabend, who presented his ideas and theories on early childhood development based on research in child development and the way we learn to speak a language.

Dr. Artie Almeida's sessions gave us creative ways to teach musical concepts by using materials we already have. "Improvisation: Get Fired Up!" with Dr. Joy Galliford and Alaina Galliford, focused on activities to build foundational skills for ones musical life. The session on "Teaching the Developing Creative Musician, Multiple Pathways to Improvisation" was lead by Dr. Timothy Brophy who used a research-based sequence for developing improvisation activities for K-5.

Kalani showed us ways to use authentic Caribbean rhythms, and rhythms from around the world, in our classrooms.

Further sessions were presented by Cak Marshall, Sandy Lantz, Gretchen Wahlberg, Michael Roberts, Brian Hiller, Don DuPont, and Kim Rose. Additionally, past and current Hillsborough County music educators, and HEMEC members, Janice Lancaster and Daniel Shea presented a session on using GarageBand to create accompaniments for the elementary music classroom. Additionally, as host committee of the conference, HEMEC members were on hand at each session to assist presenters with various set-up needs.

This year's conference was full of ideas and activities you can take back to your classroom. The All-State Concerts and mini performances provided a wonderful experience for the students involved.

♪ Bill Campbell, Robinson Elementary, HCEMEC Convention Coordinator



Young Songwriter's Symposium Participants

The 2009 Young Songwriter's Symposium featured students from Morgan Woods, Tampa Bay Boulevard, Turner, Hunter's Green, Westshore, Egypt Lake, Oak Grove, Seminole, Simmons, and Springhead Elementary Schools.



FMEA Clinic-Conference Hillsborough music educators, and teachers from across Florida, participate in sessions of the FMEA Clinic-Conference.



## MUSIC EDUCATORS IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Bravo! to the Hillsborough County Music Educators selected as teacher-of-the-year at their respective schools. Kelly Coutu from Lutz Elementary School and Lindsey Jones from Kimbell Elementary School were nominated by their peers to represent their school as teacher-of-the-year at the Excellence in Education Awards on January 28th.

Congratulations to Cynthia Maxwell from Mendenhall Elementary who received her National Board Certification this year.

## SUPERVISOR'S SOUND-OFF

March is a time to celebrate! It's Music In Our Schools Month so let's get a few things straight. We do what we do for our students. Our students need a place to learn in a different way and experience success. Music transforms the learning environment and provides experiences that are meaningful to children. Their hearts, minds, and bodies are engaged in ways that, for many, bridge a gap between learning and success.

The key to effective music education is the teacher: you. Exciting things have been planned for the rest of this school year. New workshops have been developed and will begin toward the end of this month such as Reading in the Elementary Music Classroom along with workshops in writing, math, and science. These workshops are designed to help increase awareness with integration while maintaining the integrity of music instruction. Small groups are being established throughout the district to support you and strengthen professional relationships.

So, here's to March...and April...and May... and...well, you get the picture. Let's celebrate music education all year long!

♪ *Melanie Faulkner, Elementary Fine Arts Supervisor*



**Hillsborough County**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
*Excellence in Education*

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Melanie Faulkner

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Beverly Kermodé

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