

Volume 4, Number 3

# ON THE UPBEAT

Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators' Council

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

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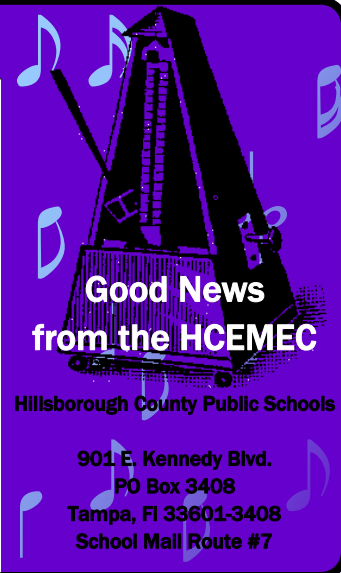
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**Good News from the HCEMEC**

Hillsborough County Public Schools

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

## FLORIDA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION 2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLINIC-CONFERENCE ELEMENTARY ALL-STATE CHORUS

Walking into the West Hall at the Tampa Convention Center on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:34pm was a dream come true. I realized that I made it! All of the work, all of the vocal warm ups, all of the sitting for an hour at a time viewing through pages of music, finally paid off.

I had a specific number on the back of my name tag telling me where to sit. As I sat down in the chair there were 2 girls beside me, and one was from Hillsborough County like me! The director Dr. Earlene Rentz stood up on the platform. I was so excited to work with a director who wrote 2 of the songs we were going to sing! Hours of singing tired me out, but the sound was picture perfect! That night, I had a good night's sleep.

The next morning, we (All-State Chorus) looked identical! We all had on a button down white shirt and black dress pants. We practiced some more and Dr. Rentz's partner came in and worked on a French song with us because she was a French expert.



*Kathryn Jurado, Limona Elementary, and Lauren Chisolm, her All-State Chorus student.*



*Models for Collaboration!  
Betty Trascritt,  
Mary Bryant  
Elementary,  
with two of her  
All-State Chorus students.*

Finally, it was time for the concert! In Ballroom A, the Elementary All-State Chorus concert began! It was a great concert and I was so excited that my dream has come true, but sad to see the dream end.

♪ *Lauren Chisolm, All-State Chorus Member, 5th Grade, Limona Elementary School*

See pages 4-6 for information from the FMEA Clinic-Conference Professional Development Sessions.

# MARCH 2013

## MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

During March, schools across the nation will participate in the annual Music In Our Schools Month activities. Of course, all music teachers want their students to learn to read music, and play and sing beautifully, but the benefits of music carry over well into adulthood. Take a look at these impressive statements. We hope you believe them to be true about music in our Hillsborough County schools.

- 89% of principals feel that a quality music education program contributes to their school receiving higher graduation rates.
- More than 94% of Americans consider music to be part of a well-rounded education.
- The skills gained through learning music, including discipline and the ability to analyze, solve problems, communicate & work cooperatively, are vital for success in the 21st century.
- Students indicate that arts participation motivates them to stay in school, & that the arts create a supportive environment that promotes acceptance of criticism and encourages risk taking.
- A musician's dedicated practice leads to increased lifelong attention skills, intelligence, and ability for self-knowledge and expression.
- Music education taught at an early age greatly increases the likelihood that a child will grow up to seek higher education and ultimately earn a higher salary.

*Source: Support Music brought to you by NAMM and NAFME*

Teachers and Supporters alike may join Groundswell, a music advocacy clearinghouse sponsored by the National Association for Music Education at [advocacy.nafme.org](http://advocacy.nafme.org).

Contact Lorri Naylor, HCEMEC Advocacy chair for more information.

Jean Myers, a Hillsborough County School employee whose son has excelled in music into adulthood says, "George had some reading challenges. Without a doubt, learning to read music improved his ability to read and his success in school!"



♪ Lorri Naylor, Lowry Elementary, HCEMEC Advocacy Chair



Look for us on Facebook!  
Hillsborough County Elementary  
Music Educators Advocacy

# ELEMENTARY FINE ARTS BANQUET

## Hillsborough's got Talent!

Friday May 24, 2013

6:00-7:00pm Social Hour & Hors D'oeuvres

7:00-9:00pm Dinner & Awards

### Tampa Museum of Art

120 W Gasparilla Plaza

Tampa, FL. 33602

\*Dinner catered by Mise En Place

Awards to be presented will include:

Principal of the Year

Music Educator of the Year

"Rising Star" of the Year

HCEMEC Encore Award

*Our own elementary music specialists will be showcasing their talent for our entertainment! It's going to be a wonderful evening of celebrating the arts!*

### Congratulations to the 2013 Elementary All-State Chorus Participants & Teachers!



Jennifer LeBlanc, Chiles  
Kathryn Jurado, Limona  
Lorri Naylor, Lowry  
Betty Trascritti, Mary Bryant  
Alicia Hunter-Davis, McKitrick  
Courtney Driggers, Nelson  
Stephanie Powers, Ruskin  
Sophavy Vann, Ruskin  
Victoria Walsh, Tampa Palms



# FLORIDA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION 2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLINIC-CONFERENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

## AWESOME BOOKS WITH MUSICAL HOOKS

Katie Grace Miller was awesome. She ran through lessons using eight pieces of children's literature that have a musical "hook" – either patterned text, verse/chorus format, text related to musical content such as dynamics or tempo, or text that inspires creative movement. The books highlighted included: *Like a Hundred Drums*, *Straight Line Wonder*, *Chicken Little*, *A Frog in the Bog*, *Dinosaur Roar*, *Little Cloud*, *Barnyard Beat* and *Ugly Pie*. Every book offers something special, and the presenter's ideas were just perfect for primary students. Not only will these literature lessons provide great opportunities for teaching music concepts, but they'll make that ever-important connection with reading instruction.

♪ Carol Baccoli, Lopez Elementary, HCEMEC Member-at-Large



## SING, MOVE, PLAY! A POTPOURRI OF JOYFUL MUSIC-MAKING EXPERIENCES

Artie Almeida's accurately titled session, "Sing, Move, Play! A Potpourri of Joyful Music-Making Experiences," presented a variety of lessons and activities that focused on rhythm, melody and form. You are always sure to get fun teaching activities from Artie's workshops.

While I've taught *Bluebird, Bluebird* before, I like her version better. With her version, every child gets a chance to be a bluebird. This song provides a great opportunity for a math connection through doubling of the birds each time as well as the cute verses added at the end. *Bluebird, Bluebird* is also a simple way to introduce AB form through the lowering of hands for transition into the B section.

This session also introduced some interesting twists on some of the classic songs/games that we currently use in the music room, such as a pointing activity for *Engine, Engine* using various pointers for showing melody, rather than using their fingers to point, to heighten the students' interest in the activity.

Similarly, I really liked Artie's version of "Teddy Bear", using manipulatives such as the stuffed bear to engage the students, and using the child's name such as "Brandon Bear" to personalize the song and make it special. Likewise, saying boy and girl bears is a good idea to ensure everyone is included.

♪ Danielle Hawkins, Cimino Elementary

## FMEA 2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLINIC-CONFERENCE

The 2013 FMEA Conference provided a plethora of Professional Development opportunities, as well as amazing musical performances from Professional Musicians, Collegiate Students, and even performance opportunities for our very own students of Hillsborough County. Be sure to save the-date and begin planning for the next Conference: **January 8–11, 2014!**

### INTERACTIVE IMPROVISATION

This workshop entailed ways to effortlessly assimilate improvisation in the elementary classroom. Presenter Matt McCoy started off with the participants rotating partners counterclockwise in a circle. Every time we stopped we would do a 4 beat call and the partner would echo. Then, McCoy asked us to think about a conversation: There is a question or statement followed by the answer, which should be a response, and therefore sound different than the question. Participants then incorporated that in the circle with us performing a 4 beat body percussion call and our partner responding with a different 4 beat answer. This workshop gave me several great ways to get my students to improvise and become more creative. I can't wait to use it!

♪ Lindsey Blanc, Potter Elementary

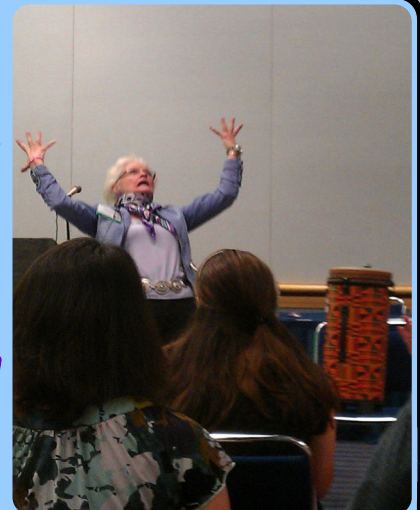
### MAKING EVERY MINUTE COUNT!

This workshop gave examples of how to use every music class minute to have a meaningful musical experience with your students, as well as the children build camaraderie with each other. Mrs. Lavender also reminded us of the list of ways to honor how the students learn, and therefore we will be able to give the students every opportunity to learn.

♪ Lani Winslow, Pinecrest Elementary

*The energy level is always high for a Sandy and Gretchen session!*

*Gretchen Wahlberg presents her most enthusiastic Dinosaur impression for Dyno-Drumming!*



### DYNO-DRUMMING!

In this session, Gretchen Wahlberg and Sandy Lantz presented several different rhythmic activities and drumming pieces. Using organic rhythms created from the rhythm of their words, with emphasis on the naturally stressed syllables, Gretchen and Sandy created several interesting drumming ensembles. *Dino Drumming*, the namesake of the session, provided a variety of rhythms using the names of several different dinosaurs suggested by their students. Once the rhythms were established for each of the selected dinosaurs, this piece also created the opportunity for a lot of independence. Allowing each student to select their own dinosaur/rhythm pattern to play creates a lot of poly-rhythms and a lot of student independence. Running the gamut from introductory pieces for primary students to more intricate rhythms worthy of performance opportunities, this session provided a lot of information with typical Sandy and Gretchen enthusiasm.

♪ Cliff Fouts, Deer Park Elementary, HCEMEC Upbeat Editor

# FLORIDA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION 2013 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLINIC-CONFERENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

## RIDE THE WAVES - INCORPORATING SOUND ENERGY

This workshop focused on using science to create activities and learning within the music classroom. During this workshop, Paul McLaughlin demonstrated the different ways he utilizes science in music with many hands-on activities for students to see, feel, and hear sound energy. Demonstrations included showing how sound waves are affected by distance using Boomwhackers, how longitudinal waves are created using strings and a cup, and visually showing how sound waves travel using fishing line. Another demonstration utilized lasers reflecting off of a mirror attached to cellophane draped over a speaker. As the vibrations transferred from the speaker to the cellophane and the mirror, the laser reflection was also affected creating an interesting light show of sorts. Furthermore, Paul McLaughlin shared ways to document and record data from the experiments conducted, providing that ever-important cross curricular connection and further reinforcing the students learning from the general education classroom.

*♪ Rosalie Lathers, Maniscalco Elementary, HCEMEC Social Co-Chair*



Rogers Sams, right, leads the membership in a few Folk Dances for an entertaining Friday night.

At left, a few HCEMEC Steering Members take a break from moving chairs, setting up rooms, and ensuring instruments are in their needed rooms, for a photo before moving on to their next Professional Development Session.



## FOLK DANCE FOR LEARNING, FOLK DANCE FOR FUN

This session, lead by Roger Sams, was the traditional 'Friday Night, Fun Night'. A group of more than 200 music teachers gathered to participate in a few different traditional folk dances. Most were circle dances, and focused on not only using traditional music, but more modern music to enhance and increase student involvement. As always, we music teachers had way too much fun, and most of us ended up with aching smiles on our faces from enjoyment and laughing so much.

# LITTLE KIDS ROCK! "BASS"IC WORKSHOP



Little Kids Rock teachers convened at Tampa Bay Blvd. Elementary for an intense one hour workshop focused on playing and teaching Bass Guitar in the classroom and rock band setting. Juan Rios, music teacher and bassist, provided great insight and coaching on the use of this essential piece of any Modern Band. If you have any questions about Little Kids Rock please email Dann Shea (Daniel Shea) via IDEAS or [Dann@littlekidsrock.org](mailto:Dann@littlekidsrock.org). I am available on Mondays and Fridays for classroom visits, mentoring, and one-on-one training. Keep your eyes peeled for the next Monday afternoon modern rock gathering.

♪ *Dann Shea, Tampa Bay Blvd. Elementary, LKR Ambassador*

# MY MOTHER, THE SUPERVISOR

This past January marked the five year anniversary of Melanie Faulkner's appointment as Elementary Music Supervisor for Hillsborough County. She's been the boss for most of the six years I have been teaching, but has been my mother for quite a bit longer. I have a unique perspective of her as a Supervisor, but honestly, when I think about it, its hard to differentiate either role, as she's basically the same in both.

Before her leadership roles, she was what I am, an elementary music teacher. She was a darn good music teacher. I recall when, as a eye-rolling teenager, she dragged me out of bed one late evening into our living room because she needed a partner for a dance she was practicing for the next day. I can't tell you how many times I was a guinea pig for a Feierabend's *Move It!* in our kitchen or an ear to a song she was teaching. The point is, besides the fact that our household may have seemed a bit kooky to an outsider, my mother was, and still is passionate about our profession and about music education. She loved being a teacher and still fosters that genuine concern. Now, she would fight for your program and fight for your rights as a music teacher at the drop of a hat. She is the best advocate I have ever known, even before her leadership role, and shamefully now even more than I am, still young in the profession.

As my mother, she never expected perfection, but I know was disappointed if I didn't showcase my best effort. Really, this is indistinguishable from her wish for her teachers. She craves excellence from all and is only disappointed when she feels that isn't reached because she herself is giving her very best in her role as Supervisor. In private and in public, she is vocal about the fact that everything we do is for our students, and any lack of excellence on our part directly affects them. She will, and has told me as quickly as she would tell one of you to do what is right rather than what is easy, regardless of what it entails.

I really could go on about how she gets pretty unbelievably excited about opportunities for our children and teachers, or how she works super long hours beyond her paid time, or that she is absolutely certain that being in music education was her calling in life, but there isn't quite enough space in this newsletter.

Know that you have a good woman — no, a great leader, not only above you, but on your side. Happy five years as Supervisor, Melanie Faulkner, and mom. Here's to many more!

♪ *Lindsey Jones, Kimbell Elementary (on leave)*



Hillsborough County  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Excellence in Education*

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[www.sdhc.k12.fl.us](http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us)

# SUPERVISOR'S SOUND-OFF!

Congratulations on a successful ESE Fine Arts Festival on March 6, 2013! This event is a highlight of the year for our students who attend ESE Centers and of course, for the teachers working with their students. From wheel chair dancing to singing to playing a drum machine and even a drum stick routine, students had to the opportunity to perform and showcase their talents. In addition to the musical performances, beautiful artwork created by students was displayed. What a heartwarming event!

**Participating schools and teachers included:**

Caminiti Exceptional Center: Ed Kennedy, Sandee Katz  
Dorothy Thomas: John Bennett  
Eisenhower: Gregory Culmer  
LaVoy: Kristin Ingram  
Lopez: Carey Hunt  
Simmons: Dennis Cavanaugh

**Welcome to our newest teachers!**

Rebecca Gross, Buckhorn Elementary  
Sandee Katz, Caminiti Exceptional Center  
Carol (Lynn) Cammareri, Cannella Elementary  
Kevin Sayers, Kimbell Elementary  
Chelsea Bagley, West Tampa Elementary

♪ Melanie Faulkner, Supervisor of Elementary Music

# SAVE-THE-DATE



**FAF INSTRUMENTAL REHEARSALS BEGIN**



**FAF CHORAL REHEARSALS BEGIN**



**ELEMENTARY MUSIC TESTING BEGINS**



**ELEMENTARY FINE ARTS FESTIVAL**

David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts



**ELEMENTARY FINE ARTS BANQUET**

Tampa Museum of Art