

# midori & friends

INSPIRING CHILDREN THROUGH MUSIC



**Program  
Report  
2006/2007  
Season**

WELCOME

DEAR COLLEAGUES,



We are pleased to offer our thoughts on behalf of the board regarding the strides Midori & Friends has made this past season. Our school-based music residencies, concerts, and workshops reached and inspired thousands of children in 39 partner schools. We are proud that our newest instrumental initiative—a classroom guitar program for students and teachers—grew roots and wings in the 2006–07 season, thanks

to an exceptionally generous gift from John and Joan D’Addario.

This year, too, we were gratified by inroads made into the broader New York City community through our 2nd annual *Midori & Friends Children’s Music Festival*. The festival, made possible by leadership gifts from JPMorgan Chase, New York State Music Fund, and The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, reached over 1,000 children and their families at The Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture in the Bronx and the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center in Manhattan.

However, none of these accomplishments, or the many others highlighted within this report, would have been possible without the talents and dedication of the Midori & Friends “ensemble”—our teaching artists, administrative staff and consultants, classroom teachers, arts specialists, school administrators, parents, board members, and generous donors. We are deeply grateful to all of you for your invaluable contributions and advocacy.



As our 15th anniversary season gets underway, we invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone year. The road ahead is bright, and we look forward to continuing to bring music and music education to the wonderful children in our City for years to come.

Alan Fischer  
Chairman, Midori & Friends

Midori  
Founder and President

Cover photo by Gil Gilbert.



## SKILLS-BASED MUSIC RESIDENCIES

This season we provided 1,455 children and their teachers with over 20 weeks of instruction through *First Adventures in Sound/Adventures in Sound* residencies. *First Adventures in Sound/Adventures in Sound* residencies take place in the classroom and focus on general music for children in grades K–2. Meeting once a week, teaching artists engage students in participatory activities designed to explore rhythm, musical form, timbre, singing, and note reading. Children are also given opportunities to study a variety of musical traditions and create simple compositions. *First Adventures in Sound* residencies support emergent literacy with rhyme and singing exercises and contribute to fine and gross motor skill development through the playing of handheld percussion instruments.



“Classroom teachers often tell me their whole day feels more focused and loving after we have had Midori time. I am grateful to be a part of this magical work.”

– Alicia Mathewson, teaching artist

“The children were very excited when they first got their cellos. They carried them around on their backs as though preparing for a long journey.”

– Suzanne Saba Hughes, teaching artist

During the 2006–2007 season, 11 schools participated in long-term *Adventures in Making Music* residencies, and band and orchestras ensembles during and after

**school.** *Adventures in Making Music* provides children with opportunities to learn to sing or play cello, clarinet, flute, guitar, percussion, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, or violin twice weekly, small group lessons that culminate in recitals or music sharing events. In the process of learning an instrument of their choice, children build invaluable social and personal skills, among them physical coordination, mental focus, and an ability to work in teams.





This past season, over 6,550 students throughout New York City enjoyed Midori & Friends

*Adventure Concerts*. The concerts featured performances by Midori and Tom Sauer, as well as exciting ensembles and soloists performing European, African, North American, Latin American, and Asian traditional and contemporary music. *Adventure Concerts* are designed for students in grades K–12 and their families. The concerts take place during and after school, as well as on evenings and Saturdays. Students participate in pre-concert workshops in their classrooms, followed by participatory multicultural performances led by musicians with outstanding communication and pedagogical skills. Study materials are distributed to classroom teachers and professional development workshops, linked to the concerts, are available for interested schools.

“The students embraced the music and dance of Mexico and their sense of community was strengthened through participating in these concerts. Invaluable support from the administration and talented teachers creates an ideal environment where arts and education became one.”

– Alda Reuter, performer, *Mexico Beyond Mariachi*



## FEATURED ENSEMBLES AND SOLOISTS

Afro-Brazil (*capoeira arts*)

Ahn Tai Tran (*classical guitar*)

Allan Harris (*story of black cowboys through song*)

Doc Wallace (*Texas style fiddling and swing*)

DrumCafe (*group djembe drumming*)

Fiesta Flamenco (*music and dance from Spain*)

Forestdance (*African percussion*)

Imani Winds (*woodwind quintet*)

Jazz at Lincoln Center (*jazz ensembles and soloists*)

Jose Franch Ballester (*clarinet/ Young Concert Artists*)

Jupiter String Quartet (*Young Concert Artists*)

Melody of Dragon (*traditional and contemporary Chinese music*)

Mercury Brass (*brass quintet*)

Mexico Beyond Mariachi (*traditional music and dance*)

Naoko Takada (*marimba soloist/ Young Concert Artists*)

Un Mundo (*Latin American percussion*)



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING



**The Midori & Friends professional development program, supported by a generous grant from the Dana Foundation and others, features several components.** This past year, we expanded our mentoring component: fourteen teaching artists worked with Robert Silberbush, a music educator with more than thirty years of teaching experience in New York City public schools. We also developed our *Spotlight* component—group sessions led by education specialists on topics ranging from working with special needs children to linking general and instrumental music curriculum to the New York City Department Blueprint of Education for Teaching and Learning in the Arts. A particularly exciting *Spotlight* took place this past winter at the Greenwich House of Music. The session, led by Latin Jazz master Arturo O’Farrill, introduced teaching artists to unusual and exciting ways of incorporating Latin rhythms into *Adventures in Making Music* and *Adventures in Sound* residencies. We also began laying the groundwork for a new component, *Masters in Action*. *Masters in Action* will provide teaching artists with opportunities to observe school-based music specialists working with children in their classrooms.

**“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”**  
**- Mark Van Doren, poet and educator**



**Professional development is offered to classroom teachers, school-based music specialists, and administrators.** These workshops address the five strands of music learning: music making, music literacy, making connections, community and cultural resources, and careers and life-long learning in music as outlined in the New York City Department of Education Blueprint for Teaching and Learning in the Arts. This past year, we provided professional development services for teachers participating in the guitar program at P.S. 72 and I.S. 229, and also for those involved in *First Adventures in Sound* at P.S. 243.

**Parents and families play a vital role in children's education. To encourage their participation, Midori & Friends holds a number of parent events.**

Along with pre-concert family workshops connected to *Adventure Concerts*, a parent newsletter in English, Spanish, and Chinese, and orientation for parents of *Adventures in Making Music* students, we offered three Saturday intergenerational workshops at P.S. 180 in Manhattan. During these workshops, parents and children created an original piece comprised of singing, percussion, and poetry. The piece was performed to great success at the 2nd annual *Midori & Friends Children's Music Festival*. Students and parents also made mbiras (African thumb pianos) under the guidance of Forestdance, and created stage décor with artist-educator, Gilbert Fletcher. The mbiras and stage designs were used during the festival performances.



**2006/2007 MIDORI & FRIENDS SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE**

**39** partner schools in New York City

**49** classes in  
**5** schools  
Adventures in Sound

**48** classes in  
**7** schools  
Adventures in Making Music

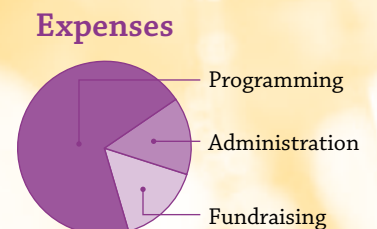
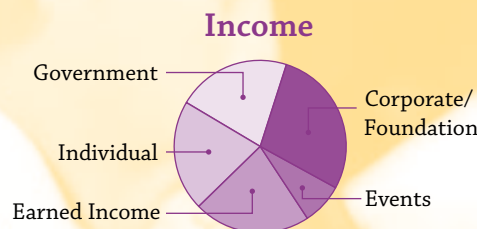
**61** concerts in  
**22** schools  
Adventure Concerts

**11** workshops in  
**11** schools  
Musical Learning Adventures

**9** classes in  
**4** schools  
After-School Ensembles

**SUPPORT FROM PRIVATE AND PUBLIC DONORS**

Midori & Friends is grateful to the new foundations and corporations that have recently joined our circle of friends. Without this funding, along with the essential support of our long-time donors, we could not implement our programs in schools city-wide.



# The 2nd Annual Midori & Friends Children's Music Festival *celebrating the music in me*



## Featuring:

P.S. 139, Rego Park, Queens

P.S. 163, Bath Beach, Brooklyn

P.S. 310, Kingsbridge, Bronx

P.S. 42, Chinatown, Manhattan

P.S. 210, Washington Heights,

Manhattan

P.S. 180, Harlem, Manhattan

P.S. 72, East Harlem, Manhattan

P.S. 85, Fordham, Bronx

P.S. 160, Jamaica, Queens

P.S. 229, Woodside, Queens

I.S. 229, Morris Heights, Bronx

Landmark High School,

Midtown, Manhattan

Coalition School for Social

Change, Midtown, Manhattan

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS

### ABOUT THE MIDORI & FRIENDS CHILDREN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL

*The Midori & Friends Children's Music Festival is an annual spring event that brings together hundreds of New York City school children, their families, and communities to celebrate music and music-making.* This June, with much appreciated and increased support from JPMorgan Chase and The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, along with new funding from the New York State Music Fund, we expanded the Festival to two public concerts: one at The Hostos Center for Arts and Culture in the Bronx and the other at the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center in Manhattan. Pre-concert activities took place during school, after school, and on weekends, and included vocal and instrumental music, as well as music-themed visual art and literacy workshops. At the two free public concerts, students from Midori & Friends partner schools performed onstage with teaching artists and performing artists, including Mexico Beyond Mariachi and the African percussion ensemble, Forestdance. School groups showcased in the concert included a guitar orchestra, cello and vocal ensembles, and concert and jazz bands. Storyteller/host David Gonzalez, pop-classical violin duo Nuttin' but Stringz, and Latin Jazz great Arturo O'Farrill invited the enthusiastic young audience to clap, sing, and play instruments.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MIDORI & FRIENDS CHILDREN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS

*Special appreciation to...*

### Leadership Sponsors

 JPMorgan Chase Foundation |  New York State Music Fund |  The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation

### Media Sponsor



### Our Friends

American Youth Enterprises, the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center, First Book, Flyleaf, Allan Jaffee (program coordinator, *Adventures in Guitar* program), Groth Music, Gil Gilbert Productions, Heidi Riegler Communications, The Hostos Center for Arts and Culture, Musician's Friend, Sam Ash, the Usdan Center for the Creative and Performing Arts, Jason Wildman (program coordinator, Landmark Coalition Jazz Program), and Goldman Sachs Community Teamwork volunteers.

## THE MIDORI & FRIENDS CHILDREN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL



### WHO:

Midori & Friends, Midori & Friends partner schools, and guest artists

### WHY:

To provide New York City public school children with opportunities to showcase their musical and artistic learning, experience a strong sense of personal accomplishment, work with professional artists, and to share the mission of Midori & Friends with the broader New York City community

### WHERE:

Pre-performance rehearsals/art making in 13 schools and performances at The Hostos Center for Arts and Culture in the Bronx and at the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center in Manhattan

### WHEN:

April–June 2007: in-school workshops

June 3 and 9, 2007: culminating festival concerts

### WITH:

- 240 student performers
- 1,000 audience members
- 30 adult performers
- 77 communities
- 17 pieces of music-themed stage art

#### **Volunteers:**

- 30 Goldman Sachs Community Team Works
- 20 board members and friends

#### **Distribution of:**

- 211 raffle prizes
- 200 guiros
- 550 claves
- 450 tambourines
- 480 egg shakers



## LANDMARK COALITION JAZZ KIDS AT LINCOLN CENTER

In spring 2007, the talented students of the Landmark Coalition High School Jazz Ensemble presented a recital at the Young Music Makers Outdoor Plaza Series at Lincoln Center. The event was free and open to the public.

“In a time when the arts seem to take a back seat to academic demands, Midori Friends, in collaboration with Bette Midler’s Jeckyl Foundation, has brought music into the lives of our students in a very unique way.”

– Eileen Miller, Principal, Coalition School for Social Change



“Midori & Friends has really shown me the power of music...playing with the jazz band has helped get me through some of the rough times...I know I have changed, and it was the best change ever.”

– High school student, Landmark Coalition Jazz Band



MARCH MUSICALE AT SONY CLUB

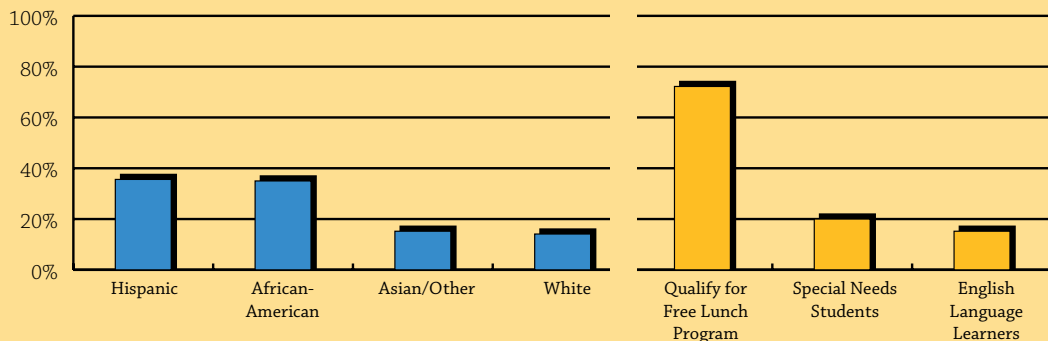


Alan and Laraine Fischer, Eugene and Emily Grant, Geeta Sharma and Rajeev Narang, and Nozomi Terao and Joshua Levine co-hosted an intimate musicale at the Sony Club in

**Manhattan.** The musicale, which took place in spring 2007, featured the extraordinary pianist Emanuel Ax, who generously donated his time and talent. The performance, along with the delicious food, magical setting, and the enthusiasm of the guests resulted in a memorable evening. Following the concert, board member Geeta Sharma presented Mr. Ax with a token of appreciation in the form of children's artwork created for the *Midori & Friends Children's Music Festival*. Funds generated by the musicale supported Midori & Friends programs.



CHILDREN WE SERVED  
2006/2007



## MIDORI CONCERTS AT P.S. 139, P.S. 98, AND P.S. 180

In the winter of 2006, students at P.S. 139 and P.S. 98 in Queens, as well as at P.S. 180 in Manhattan delighted to the music of Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Glazunov, Rautavaara, and Chopin. These special *Adventure Concerts*, performed by Midori and Tom Sauer, were facilitated by music-specialists Fern Nash (P.S. 139), Julius Adams (P.S. 98), and Dr. Peter McFarlane, principal at P.S. 180.

The warm and personal “carpet concert” format gave Midori an opportunity to involve children in a spirited discussion of how composers put their thoughts and feelings into musical form. She also shared the inspiration behind some of her interpretative choices and emphasized the unique role played by listeners in a musical performance.

Along with the children, parents, teachers, and administrators, many friends and sponsors were able to attend these concerts. In honor of these valued supporters, we hosted an acknowledgement brunch following the concert at P.S. 180. In appreciation for their long-time support of Midori & Friends programs, and specifically these *Adventure Concerts*, Chairman of the Board Alan Fischer, and Executive Director Judi Linden, presented a plaque to program officer David Janes and the staff of The United States-Japan Foundation.



## THIS YEAR, MIDORI & FRIENDS MARKS ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY !

By the end of the 2007–2008 season, we will have reached a staggering 150,000 students with quality programs that inspire, educate, and transform children through creative musical experiences. Please stop by the Midori & Friends website, [www.midoriandfriends.org](http://www.midoriandfriends.org), to find out about events and concerts celebrating this milestone year.

# DONORS 2006/2007 SEASON

**Midori & Friends is dedicated to enriching the lives of public school children through music.** Your contributions help provide exceptional residencies, concerts, and community events. We express our heartfelt thanks to all our donors.

## Musical Benefactors

**\$50,000 & up**

John & Joan D'Addario Jr.  
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New York City Council  
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established by the New York  
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**\$25,000 to \$49,999**

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**This list reflects donations and grants received for the 2006/2007 season.**

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, select members of the NYC Council, and the New York State Assembly and Senate who appropriated their own discretionary funding to Midori & Friends. To these public funders, our legislative champions, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

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*\*We note with sadness the passing of our esteemed friend and colleague, Kitty Carlisle Hart. She was an inspiration to us all.*

# “Playing music makes my ears smile!”

-Student, P.S. 210

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