

Hoff-Barthelson Music School has been dedicated to the highest standards of music education and performance since its founding in 1944. The School is proud of its ongoing effort to make music and music education available to a broad spectrum of disadvantaged and disabled adults and children in the surrounding community. Music making benefits everyone from the pre-school children in Head Start and the elderly in Senior Center programs to the dedicated teachers, program staff and aides who work with them.



## PAST PROGRAMS

### Abbott House, Irvington

- A residential program for neglected and abused boys ages 7-14.
- Interactive percussion workshops.

### The Senior Center, Mount Vernon

(A division of Westchester Community Jewish services.)

HBMS provided:

- A weekly chorus for senior citizens
- Events that included a cabaret night with Valerie Lemon, a well-known singer specializing in songs from the 1940s; a play written by a Senior Center member; and a Celtic Harp concert.

### A Different Start, Yonkers

(A division of Westchester Community Jewish services.)

- Early childhood music instruction taught by certified HBMS Dalcroze Eurhythmics<sup>†</sup> teachers.
- Weekly onsite classes for teenaged mothers and their babies. Mothers and children learned songs and games to sing and play together.

One teenaged mother called this:

*A special time for me and my baby.*

### Willow Towers Assisted Living Residence, New Rochelle

- Weekly Dalcroze Eurhythmics<sup>†</sup> classes for senior citizens.

† The Dalcroze approach stresses experiential learning – singing, movement and improvisation – to develop rhythmic sensitivity and to make music concepts more accessible to the student. HBMS has one of the largest Dalcroze training and certification programs in the United States.



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# HB Hoff-Barthelson Music School

## Community Outreach Program

Bringing music education  
 to our surrounding communities



# Current Community Outreach Programs\*

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## Partnership with ArtsWestchester

In two Mt. Vernon public schools, Grimes and Longfellow. Includes residencies for Hoff-Barthelson teaching artists; chamber music performances for elementary school students and professional development for Mt. Vernon teachers in Dalcroze Eurhythmics.

## Andrus Children's Center, Yonkers

Providing preventive and recuperative services for families and their children from birth through adolescence.

These include:

- Weekly music classes for middle-school children in Ukelele.

As described by the principal at Andrus' Orchard School: *Music helps the students with their emotional management and actually becomes an important part of each student's therapy... I have seen students who in the beginning were totally unable to function later performing proficiently for their friends and peers. We consider ourselves very lucky to have Hoff-Barthelson with us.*

One teacher noted:

*When 13-year-old John began, he would come into the classroom shaking, twitching and crying, often mocked by his peers for his behavior. As soon as he started drumming, the ability to focus on music helped him to reel in these "quirks," and he became a good drummer and a popular student.*

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## Mt. Pleasant-Blythedale School District & Children's Hospital, Valhalla

A long-established collaboration with the only New York State public school that addresses the needs of multiple handicapped children. The HBMS music program:

- encourages physical response and movement of the children
- engages children in discussion

- teaches children about the families of musical instruments and how to tell stories through music
- offers informal concerts by HBMS faculty members with hands-on learning for the Blythedale students
- brings its Suzuki String students to perform for Blythedale students.

After an HBMS visit, Blythedale staff members marveled:

*We were amazed to watch children who could hardly move begin to respond to the music physically and vocally.*

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## Graham-Windham, Hastings

Many students have been assigned to the two G-W schools by the court system, and participation in music classes serves as a reward for good behavior.

- Guitar and drumming students display their skills in school assemblies and perform in a year-end Arts Festival.
- HBMS provides guitars, drum pads and sticks for practice outside of class.
- 5 weekly classes for elementary, middle and high school students

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## Head Start, Mount Vernon and Port Chester

Many Head Start locations in Westchester County have no regular music component in their programs. HBMS hopes to develop classes of this kind in other Head Start locations. The HBMS program includes:

- Weekly Dalcroze Eurhythmics<sup>†</sup> classes for 120 three- and four-year-old children to prepare them for kindergarten.
- Children are presented with an array of drums, triangles and mini-xylophones to ease even the shy ones into music-making.
- Children learn about pitch and rhythm.
- Music games and songs in Spanish for Spanish-speaking children.

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## Richmond Community Center, Yonkers

HBMS students present performances for developmentally challenged children and young adults and their caregivers.

## West Help, Mount Vernon

- Weekly Dalcroze Eurhythmics<sup>†</sup> class at a homeless shelter.

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## WestCOP, Mount Vernon

- Weekly afterschool percussion classes.

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## Other Activities:

### R.I.N.G. Concerts (Repertory in Neighborhood Groups)

Sponsored by HBMS's Parent Association, Friends of Hoff-Barthelson, R.I.N.G. gives HBMS students the opportunity to perform for people who might not otherwise have the pleasure of hearing music or seeing young people perform. HBMS students present small, informal recitals in nursing homes, senior centers, hospitals and homeless shelters.

### Mary Helton Memorial Recital Series

HBMS students present group recitals at The Osborn, a retirement community in Rye.

### L.A.M.P. (Lowell Alecson Memorial Performances)

HBMS students present private and group performances as soloists and chamber ensembles at the Jansen Hospice for critically ill patients. Music on Call offers private performances at bedside.

### Sharings

This series of concerts by HBMS adult students is presented in nearby nursing homes, hospitals and retirement facilities. Our "Sharing" events offer adult students the opportunity to share their music with people unable to travel to recitals and concerts.

\*Community outreach programs may change from year to year as funds provided by Hoff-Barthelson Music School and private and organization grants vary.