



The purpose of Music EdVentures is to search for and practice ways of making music and interacting with people that preserve and celebrate the dignity of both. As a guiding principle, this purpose will focus our work on:

1. Practices that foster interactive, facilitative learning environments.
2. Strategies that empower the learner within the context of music experience and study.
3. Networks that encourage collaboration between diverse disciplines, professionals, and interest groups.

Are you interested in hosting a workshop or class in your area? Send requests to the email address shown above, to be routed to the appropriate presenters/coordinators.

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News and Notes

December 2008

*Conference 2009 information & registration forms on page 3!
A Christmas Holiday language activity on page 4*

From Our President Deb Eikenbary, Indiana

Deb Eikenbary eikenbary@bcremc.net

Hello all!

December has hit with all its bustling and I am in the thick of it with performances next week and the week after. Schedules to coordinate with lots of wonderful helping adults and calming December jitters in the students keep life interesting.

December is also our new deadline for applying for scholarship assistance for attending the Conference in March. Please encourage anyone you know who might be interested in attending to have that request to me by letter by December 15. They can be e-mailed to me at eikenbary@bcremc.net Please note the box dedicated to this elsewhere in this newsletter.

Registering for the conference as soon as possible is also important to the planning committee (Tony Williamson, Pam Vellutini, and myself) as we need to be assured that our agreement with the hotel can be met. One MEI member just wrote and said she was hoping to get her flight scheduled soon as flights were cheaper at this point. Please consider registering as early as possible. It promises to be a wonderful, informative weekend.

As we approach 2009 I wish you continued success in your amazing efforts on behalf of children and families. My continued thanks to the planning committee, Tony Williamson and Pam Vellutini and to Pam Bridgehouse for her dedication to getting this newsletter out to us all.

Happy Holidays,

Deb Eikenbary

News and Notes is the monthly communication of Music EdVentures, Inc. (MEI). Regular features will keep members and friends up to date on coming events and the latest teaching techniques, tips and strategies. Submissions are due on the 15th of the month prior to publication and may be submitted months in advance, indicating the month in which they are to be published. The committee reserves the right to select material to be published according to length and appropriateness. Articles should be 200-325 words. Visuals should be scanned and submitted as PDF or jpeg files. Submissions may be sent to PamBridgehouse@hughes.net and may be edited to accommodate space limitations.

Philosophy, History, Tradition: The Why, What, and How of MEI

Featuring wisdom, and history that are foundational to MEI

The following is an excerpt from notes taken by Pam Bridgehouse during one of the first Update workshops in Spokane, before MEI was chartered. (Other portions of the notes refer to “the Institute” – Richards Institute of Music Education and Research, out of which MEI was founded.) The subject of the discussion was planning local courses and workshops to train teachers in the MEI philosophy, repertoire of games, and the teaching techniques and strategies they would need.

“Children come to us with no sense of responsibility, no sense of order, no sense of self-discipline. Therefore we need to prepare the teachers we teach for experiences with the games so they don’t set themselves up for failures and disappointments.”

Thinking through your daily classroom activities considering the variety of possible student responses to your questions and to the activities you want to use, can be a key to success. Will the technique or materials you are planning become a distraction? What will I say or do to provide the students with the greatest possible opportunity to focus on the target concept or skill? How will I step out of the way and let them become responsible for their learning? What can I say or do (or not say or not do) to facilitate a beautiful experience for the children?

Is your membership up to date? Regular - \$35 Sustaining - \$50 Patron - \$100 Student - \$10

Send check payable to MEI (US funds) to: Paige Macklin

Please include your name, address, phone and email address.

23021 Woodland Rd.
Lakeville, MN 55044

December 15 deadline for scholarship applications for Conference & Update 2009

All scholarship applications must be received at eikenbary@bcremc.net by Dec. 15. Recipients will be notified in January. This will help in the methodical disbursement of funds available for scholarships.

Registration information and form on page 3 of this newsletter may be copied.



Presents

Conference / Update 2009

"Creating Foundations Through Music"

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Peggy D. Bennett

March 5(Update), 6 & 7(Conference), 2009

**Red Lion Hotel Convention Center
1021 NE Grand Ave. (off I-5 at exit 302A)
Portland, Oregon 97232**

Reservations 800-343-1822 Ask for Music EdVentures rate: \$92. + tax (about 12.5%)

Two Day conference fee

Members \$130 _____
Non-Members \$165 _____
Retirees \$ 80 _____
Students no charge

One Day Conference fee

Members \$ 80 _____
Non Members \$105 _____
Retirees \$ 60 _____
Students no charge
Saturday banquet \$35 _____

Membership: Regular \$35 __ Sustaining \$50 __ Patron - \$100 __ Student - \$10 __

Lunches included in registration fee

(includes gratuity and tax)

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Scholarships available. Submit your request to eikenbary@bcremc.net before December 15.

Name _____ email: _____

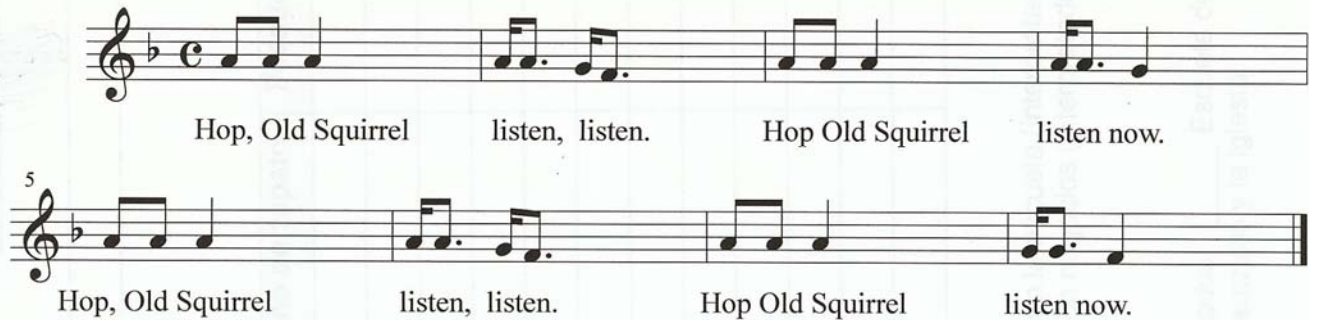
Address _____ Phone _____

Mail completed form with payment to:

**Paige Macklin
23021 Woodland Road
Lakeville, MN 55044**

Hop Old Squirrel Christmas Holiday Language Activity

submitted by Pam Bridgehouse, learned from classroom teachers



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (F major), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of four measures: G4-A4-B4, A4-G4-F4, G4-A4-B4, and A4-G4-F4. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Hop, Old Squirrel listen, listen. Hop Old Squirrel listen now." The second staff begins with a measure rest labeled '5', followed by the same four-measure melody. Below it, the lyrics are: "Hop, Old Squirrel listen, listen. Hop Old Squirrel listen now."

Assuming the children know the song well and have played the game with movement and have done some language highlighting activities, they will be successful in finding holiday words and expressions that fit the rhythm and stress patterns in the song. Examples below:

Jingle bells, listen, listen. etc.

Santa Claus, listen listen, etc.

Ho, Ho, Ho, Santa, Santa or
Ho, Ho, Ho, Santa's laughing

Reindeer feet, listen, listen, etc.

Christmas bells, listen, listen, etc.

Christmas bells, ringing, ringing, etc.

Christmas Eve Celebration, etc
(need to vary the text at the ending)

Christmas time, singing carols, etc.

Christ is born! Alleluia! Christ is born, Allelu! etc.

Christ is born! Angels singing! Christ is born, angels sing! etc.

Peace on earth, Angels singing! Peace on earth, angels sing., etc.

Baby boy in the manger, baby boy sweetly sleeps, etc.

Holy Child sweetly sleeping, Holy Child sweetly sleeps, etc

You may want to experiment with classroom instruments that help bring out the meaning of the words the children choose.

Ideas may be compiled and illustrated by the children to make their own holiday book.

So many possibilities! Enjoy!