



Valuable Resources for the Music Educator

These are web sites and links that are relevant to school music programs. They include informational sites, advocacy sites, even organizations that may offer grants or other funding. This list was originally compiled by Tracy Leenman for the National Association of School Music Dealers; we hope you will find it useful.

American Music Conference

www.amc-music.com

The AMC, the “Voice of Music Making,” is an organization dedicated to “building credibility for music and music education, and to expanding that portion of the population that enjoys and makes its own music.”

Surf this site for valuable info on:

- ♪ Useful Links, (<http://www.amc-music.com/join/links.htm> and <http://www.amc-music.com/partners.htm>), links to the organizations that AMC works with, promoting music making and building music education programs around the world. Each organization is described, and a link to its own website is included. Find links here to important music education partners like the American Music Therapy Association, National School Boards Association, GAMA Discover Guitar, the Grammy Foundation, and more.
- ♪ Research on the benefits of music education (http://www.amc-music.com/research_briefs.htm), along with ways to encourage music making for parents, young children, teens and senior citizens, including info on music wellness and recreational music making campaigns.
- ♪ Info on, and ways to obtain the “Einstein Kit,” *Music Education Advocate's Toolkit: Strengthening Music in Your Community*, downloadable at <http://www.amc-music.com/advocacy/toolkit.htm>. The new Einstein Kit is the perfect introduction to the world of advocacy and a great way to get organized and make an effective presentation to your local decision-makers in support of music.
- ♪ Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser’s guide to music advocacy, *Essential Advocacy Resources for Music*, downloadable at http://www.amc-music.com/dr_tim.htm.
- ♪ Information for schools, educators, students, parents, and members of the music industry about helping to support music education with local advocacy efforts.
- ♪ Testimonials and PSA’s (audio, video, print) on the benefits of making music that can be reproduced and used in your area.

Music Educators National Conference

www.menc.org

MENC: the National Association for Music Education is the professional association of music educators nationwide. There are a wealth of research briefs, facts and figures, and other helpful information for educators and school music dealers here, including:

- ♪ Research on the effects of block scheduling on school music programs (<http://www.menc.org/search/swish-cgi.pl>).
- ♪ Articles on the relationship between academic achievement and music education (<http://www.menc.org/publication/articles/academic/academic.htm>).
- ♪ Downloadable version of *Building Support for Music Education: A Practical Guide* produced by the National Coalition for Music Education (<http://www.menc.org/networks/boosters/bssm/bssm.htm>).
- ♪ Information on music education (<http://www.menc.org/information/infoserv/info.htm>) - information about a variety of music education topics, including academic achievement, brain research, SAT scores, music teacher supply and demand, and more.
- ♪ Music education facts & figures (<http://www.menc.org/information/advocate/facts.html>).
- ♪ *Why Music*, a series of radio public service announcements (<http://menc.org/information/advocate/psa.html>) produced twice annually by MENC to coincide with Music In Our Schools Month in March and with the traditional beginning of school in late August. The series features top country, pop, jazz, and classical artists talking about the value of music education. It is made available to more than 1000 adult contemporary stations; 1000+ country stations, classical and jazz stations, and 30 radio networks.

Music Achievement Council

<http://www.musicachievementcouncil.org/>

The Music Achievement Council was formed in 1983 for the express purpose of promoting instrumental music in our schools. The council consists of representatives from three music organizations - NASMD, NABIM and NAMM. It produces non-commercial materials for use by band and orchestra directors to help improve the recruiting and retention of instrumental music students. Check out these links on their site for valuable advocacy tools:

- ♪ <http://www.musicachievementcouncil.org/tools.htm> - recruiting tools such as *The First Performance Kit*.
- ♪ <http://www.musicachievementcouncil.org/tips.htm> - downloadable pdf's for band directors, including Choosing to Teach, Tips for Success, Focusing On The Classroom (National Standards, recruiting, retention), The Business of School (administrators, music retailers, fiscal procedures and more), Telling the Story (advocacy, communications, etc.), Supporting Music Education (important info for a successful music program).

Music For All Foundation/Bands of America

<http://music-for-all.org/resources.html>

Music for All, Inc. is a not-for-profit educational organization whose mission is to create, provide and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. In September 2006, the Music for All Foundation merged with Bands of America, Inc. to create Music for All, Inc. Through its events and programs, Music for All provides quality avenues for learning and excellence through music education for the nation's high school students and teachers. This site includes:

- ♪ Advocacy Tools to help anyone with an immediate need for help.
- ♪ Information and Data - quick access to statistics and information to aid in research or advocacy efforts
- ♪ Public Awareness Campaigns featuring efforts to help promote music and arts education to the general public.
- ♪ Links section contains links considered to be of significant value in line with the mission of the Music for All Foundation
- ♪ QuickFacts – the benefits of music and the arts in education and society (<http://music-for-all.org/quickfacts.html>).
- ♪ Public Awareness – an informative document (http://www.artsusa.org/public_awareness/facts/) on the benefits of arts education compiled by Americans for the Arts.
- ♪ MFA's newest initiative, the Music For All Network (<http://www.musicforall.org/network/about.html>), whose members comprise a growing grassroots community with local chapters are based in schools and/or community organizations. Members will be empowered to assess and serve the needs of their local schools and communities to make “music for all” a reality.

NAMM: The International Music Products Association

www.namm.org

NAMM's efforts to promote music making and music education are well-documented. The organization has spent literally millions of dollars to this end. On their site, you will find:

- ♪ Links to NAMM's partners and affiliates (<http://www.namm.org/links>).
- ♪ NAMM's market development programs (<http://www.namm.org/initiatives>) which will help you develop music-makers as you build your customer base, including:
 - Children and Teens – including information on *Sesame Street Music Works!* and *The Music Edge* for teens.
 - Young Adults/Baby Boomers – *Weekend Warriors* and more.
 - Senior Citizens – *New Horizons, Music and Wellness* and others.

School Music Matters

www.schoolmusicmatters.com

This music education advocacy resource center was created to help music teachers protect their school music programs. Below are some of the resources offered:

- ♪ [Ideas](#) from your peers on how to promote school music
- ♪ [Downloads](#), including graphics you can use in newsletters and music you can perform
- ♪ [Facts](#) to help convince the uninformed of just how vital school music is
- ♪ [Links](#) to advocacy and resource sites, with a brief site summary
- ♪ [Quotations](#) on music, education, and life to use in newsletters or on bulletin boards

Support Music

www.supportmusic.com

SupportMusic.com is a public service initiative that supports music education in local communities around the United States. SupportMusic.com is an advocacy effort that unites various national and regional organizations with parents and community leaders seeking to improve access and opportunity in music and arts learning. Go to their web site for tools and resources for building/saving music programs in your local community, including:

- ♪ Grading your school music program
(<http://www.supportmusic.com/rateyourschool/standardsquiz.html>).
- ♪ Building your case (<http://www.supportmusic.com/public/index.php>).
- ♪ Starting a new program from scratch
(<http://www.supportmusic.com/involved/index.html>).
- ♪ How to write to your Member of Congress today in support of reauthorization of No Child Left Behind legislation
(<http://capwiz.com/namm/issues/alert/?alertid=9069111&type=CO>).
- ♪ Why music education is vital to our children's education
(<http://capwiz.com/namm/issues/alert/?alertid=9073516&type=CU>) .
- ♪ Governor Mike Huckabee speaks on the arts; the Arkansas success story
(<http://ecs.org/ecsmain.asp?page=/html/projectsPartners/chair2005/Huckabee.asp>)

Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation

<http://www.mhopus.org/>

The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation (MHOF) supports music education and its many benefits through the donation of new and refurbished musical instruments to underserved school and community music programs and individual students nationwide.

To date, MHOF has donated \$4.5 million worth of new and refurbished instruments to 751 music programs and individuals across the country, effectively helping hundreds of thousands of students and hundreds of dedicated teachers. In addition, MHOF has served 89 schools in six states affected by Hurricane Katrina, donating approximately \$1.5 million worth of new and refurbished instruments. Programs sponsored by the MHOF include:

- ♪ [The Melody Program](#) targeting qualified K-12 school music programs.
- ♪ [The Special Projects Program](#) targeting after school music programs.
- ♪ [The Michael Kamen Solo Award](#) targeting outstanding student musicians who cannot afford to obtain an appropriate instrument.

To download a grant application, go to <http://www.mhopus.org/teachers.asp>.

Vh-1 Save the Music Foundation

http://www.vh1.com/partners/save_the_music/home.html

This is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving elementary school children of all backgrounds and, diversities. The Foundation operates in affiliation with, but separately from, VH1 the cable music channel. It works directly to support only music education programs and does not provide any money to the school or school district. Instead, The Foundation provides complete band, string, keyboard, or guitar programs to benefiting schools for the purpose of restoring public school music programs. On this site, you can find up-to-date music education news, news of program cuts around the country, as well as:

- ♪ The application for a Vh-1 Save the Music Foundation school grant (http://www.vh1.com/partners/save_the_music/forms/schoolapp.html).
- ♪ A downloadable guide for administrators for building a strong school music program (http://www.vh1.com/partners/save_the_music/downloads/PrincipalsGuide.pdf).

Children's Music Workshop

www.childrensmusicworkshop.com

Articles and resources intended to help parents, music educators, and administrators make the argument for music in our schools

(<http://www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/advocacy/practicalguidelines.html>).

International Society for Music Education

<http://www.isme.org>

The ISME was established in 1953 under the auspices of UNESCO, and supports music education worldwide, based on the belief that “lived experiences of music, in all their many aspects, are a vital part of the life of all people.”

This site provides a wealth of downloadable advocacy articles by researchers, professors and others, promoting the importance of music in education (<http://www.isme.org/en/advocacy/index.php>).

Reading, Writing & Rhythm: The Chely Wright Foundation

<http://www.rwandr.org/index.htm>

A non-profit organization started by country music artist Chely Wright dedicated to improving the quality of music education in America's public schools. Its aim is to raise public awareness about the importance of music education for our nation's youth.

In the short time since its inception, the charity has donated instruments and services valued at nearly a million dollars worth of goods and services to schools in need, including more than 800 instruments; and software, sound systems; guitars, PA equipment, and band uniforms to schools in over 30 states nationwide.

From the Top

<http://www.fromthetop.org/>

From the Top is a non-profit organization, affiliated with the New England Conservatory, that encourages and celebrates the commitment of young people to music and the arts through a variety of media, including nationally broadcast television and radio shows, education programs, and their website. In conjunction with MENC, From the Top provides a series of standards-based lesson plans (<http://www.fromthetop.org/Education/MENC.cfm>) based on From the Top radio and TV shows, which feature skillful performances from the best young classical musicians in the country, along with personal interviews making kids relatable to other students. These lesson plans teach important musical concepts and insights from featured performances, interviews, coaching sessions, and interactions between the talented young performers and renowned guest artists. The lessons will help teachers integrate the National Standards for Music Education in your curriculum in a way that will engage students and inspire them to higher levels of musical achievement.

Percussion Marketing Council

<http://www.playdrums.com/index.html>

Formed in 1995, the Percussion Marketing Council (PMC) is the percussion industry's non-profit trade organization. Its members are drum and percussion manufacturers, suppliers, and dealers. The PMC's mission is to promote actively the benefits of drumming to the general public, and to increase the number of people playing all types of drums.

Downloadable on this site is the *Roots of Rhythm: World Drumming Curriculum* (<http://rootsofrhythm.net>), including:

- ♪ A course guide (<http://rootsofrhythm.net/activityworkbook.html>) for 5th and 6th grade classrooms, which takes teachers and students on a journey to explore different cultures, music, and instruments from around the world.
- ♪ A dealer activity workbook (<http://rootsofrhythm.net/RoRactworkbook.pdf>) designed for music retailers, to help dealers reach out to teachers and schools, create Roots of Rhythm compatible in-store promotions and events, and generate press and public interest in your Roots of Rhythm participation.

U.S. Copyright Laws

<http://www.copyright.gov/>

Information regarding the U.S. Copyright laws regarding printed music, recordings, arrangements, etc. Includes FAQ's, how to search copyright records, and more.

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