



The Music Note

A publication of the Friends of Folly Quarter Musicians –
Supporting the musicians of Folly Quarter Middle School



Volume 4 Issue 1

September 2006

Upcoming Music Department Events

- * Mon., Sept. 25, 2:25–4:00 *Low Brass Master Class w/ Brandon Rivera*
- * Wed., Sept. 27, 2:25– 4:00 *Jazz Band Help Session (optional)*
- * Wed., Oct. 4, 2:25–4:00 *Jazz Band Auditions*
- * Mon., Oct. 9, (AM), *Field Trip for FQMS Brass Musicians; Shenandoah Brass Quintet*
- * Mon., Oct. 9, 2:25–3:25 *Trombone Choir begins*
- * Tues., Oct. 10, 2:25-3:25 *Blue Jazz Band begins*
- * Weds., Oct 11, 2:25–4:00 *Gold Jazz Band begins*
- * Nov. 1, *GT Band Auditions @ Clarks-ville Middle School*
- * *November 11 AllState Jr. Band Audi-tions*
- * *December 19, FQMS Winter Concert @ Marriotts Ridge HS*
- * *Jan. 18, FQMS Winter Concert II @ River Hill HS*

WEBSITES to bookmark:

www.fofqm.org
www.follyquarterband.org
www.follyquarterorchestra.org
www.follyquartermusic.org

President's Note by Kathy Hartley

Here we are again, well into a new school year, full of plans and ideas; anxious students and parents; eager music directors; calendars filling up. We, enrolled in a Howard County school, especially in the music program, are very fortunate. The talent of our staff and students promises a lot of opportunities in the coming year. The Friends of Folly Quarter Musicians are here to support all of those opportunities and to provide even more. For those of you who are new to the school, if you have a student in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra, you are automatically a member of FoFQM. We invite you to join in meetings and activities held throughout the year and to volunteer your time and talents to support our young musicians and directors. We also encourage your tax-deductible donations to the program to provide other items to enhance our children's musical learning experience. These may include: choral teaching books and music, instrumental music, special guest artists, new instruments and accessories, master classes and more. We never know when the directors will come to us and say, "It would be really neat if we could do". It is great to be able to say back to them, "Yes, we'll help you fund that." See our donor form the end of this newsletter and you too can become a Music Patron.

A new feature for our organization this year is the launch of our website, www.fofqm.org. Betsy Brown, our webmaster, is just getting started but check it out frequently whenever you have a question or want to find out information about our organization and upcoming events. We're hoping the FoFQM website will be a good companion to the band (www.follyquarterband.org) and orchestra (www.follyquarterorchestra.org) websites which are filled with program specific information.

Thank you for taking the time to be involved in your child's education. We (and many experts) believe that studying music and being a member of musical ensembles at a young age greatly enhances a student's academic performance as well as provides a skill they can take well into adulthood. Besides, it is lots of fun. I look forward to hearing from you with any comments or questions. Let's have a great musical year!

Meet the 2006-07 FoFQM Board

President/Newsletter: Kathy Hartley 301-854-2974, ki.hartley@verizon.net Daughter Amelia is an 8th grade flutist.

Band V.P. Rosa Heckle 410-489-7919, rosaheckle@comcast.net Son Christopher, 8th, is a percussionist.

Chorus V.P.: currently open—please volunteer!

Orchestra V.P.: Joan Orcutt 301-854-2447, joanorcutt@aol.com Daughter Lindsey, 7th grade, is a bassist in the Orchestra and Symphonic Band.

Treasurer: Christine Nalty (410) 489-9097 cnalty@comcast.net Son Christopher, 6th grade, plays bassoon.

Volunteer Coord/Website: Betsy Brown 301-854-1458 betsybrown01@gmail.com, Son Ian, 7th grade, plays trombone.

Secretary: Jill Morton 410-489-7789, mortonsx6@verizon.net Son Steven, 8th grade, is a tenor saxophone player.

Technical Rep/Smart Music: Steve Baronowsky 301-854-2974, sbaronowsky@verizon.net Daughter Amelia, 8th grade, plays the flute.

Hospitality: Nadine Hines 410-531-6697 hineshouse@verizon.net Son Steven in 6th grade plays the trumpet

Liz Kaminsky (410) 489-7921 elizabeth_kam@msn.com Daughters Erin, 8th grade violinist in Chamber Symphony and Orchestra & Christina, 7th grade, plays trumpet

Advisors: Ms. Stacey Sartor, Chorus, stacey_sartor@hcpss.org

Mr. Andrew Spang, Band, andrew_spang@hcpss.org

Mr. Patrick Walls, Orchestra, patrick_walls@hcpss.org

FoFQM Business

PROPOSED 2006-07 FoFQM Budget

At our recent Exec Board meeting, we developed a proposed budget for the coming year. We will be voting on this budget at the first general meeting on Tuesday, September 26 at Back to Music Night, 6 pm in the band room. Please look it over and be present to cast your vote.

Income

Patron Ads	3,000.00
Corporate Sponsorships	500.00
Total Income	3,500.00

Expenses

Choral Books	800.00
Instruments & Accessories	1,400.00
Director's Discretionary	450.00
Performances/Meetings/Socials	400.00
Office Supplies**	230.00
Website Fees	170.00
Operating expenses*	50.00
Total Expenses	3,500.00

*operating expenses include copying charges, stamps, bank fees etc.

**office supplies include paper, toner etc.

PROPOSED Bylaws changes

In accordance with the bylaws, 10 days prior written notice is required for a proposed change. These changes will be voted on at a future general meeting, date TBD. A full set of the current bylaws are posted in the band room or are available upon request. Please contact Kathy Hartley with any questions regarding the bylaws. The following changes are proposed to the bylaws of FoFQM:

Article VI - Meetings

Currently says:

"Section 4- A quorum shall consist of 4 members at an executive meeting (not necessarily officers) and ten members at a general meeting (excluding executive committee members.)"

Proposed change:

"Section 4- A quorum shall consist of 4 members at an executive meeting (not necessarily officers) and 7 members at a general meeting (excluding executive committee members)."

Article IX - Cash Expenditures

Currently says:

"Petty Cash - Each music director shall have available to him/her the sum of one hundred dollars each, during the course of the school year,"

Proposed change: increase to "\$150"

Calling All Volunteers !

Check out the volunteer form at the end of this newsletter
OR fill out an online form at www.fofqm.org
OR contact betsybrown01@gmail.com , 301-854-1458.
 Thank you for your support.

Notes from the Band Room

Mr. Spang has recently completed seating auditions for Symphonic and Concert Bands and he is thrilled with the results. There is a lot of talent in the bands this year so he will be sure to have some challenging pieces for students to play. The after-school ensembles will be beginning soon.

* Mondays will be Trombone choir, 2:25–3:25

* Tuesdays are Blue Jazz, 2:25–3:25

* Wednesdays are Gold Jazz, 2:25–4:00.

Jazz Band Audition Packets are now available in the band room. Please pick up a packet for all the information about auditioning for Jazz Band. (Piano players, Bass players and Guitar players not in the FQMS Band Program who are interested in audition for Jazz Band are encouraged to pick up a packet as well!)

One of the exciting new facets of the band experience in middle school is the number of new instruments and instrument colors that we add to the band palette. Middle school is a great time to step out from the crowd and consider switching to a more unique voice in the ensemble. Our bands sound so mature due, in part, to the addition of more sophisticated instrumental colors, such as oboes and bassoons, bass and contrabass clarinets, and euphoniums and tubas. This year at Folly Quarter we especially need low saxophones: tenor and bari saxes. We will need them for our thriving jazz program to continue to succeed. If you are a flute or clarinet player that is interested in joining the FQMS Jazz Bands, perhaps you should consider picking up one of the larger saxophones and try "doubling" on saxophone! The fingerings are very similar and it is a relatively easy and natural switch! Interested musicians should see Mr. Spang to take the first steps toward trying a new instrument to help the band program continue to grow.

High School Concerts

High school will be here before you know it. Try to attend one of the high school concerts featuring past Folly Quarter Middle School musicians and well as many other talented teenagers. All concerts take place at the respective high schools.

Glenelg High School

String Thing, November 29, 7:30

Winter Concert (all groups) December 20, 7:30

River Hill High School

POPS Concert—October 27, 7:30

Winter Choral Concert*—November 29, 7 pm

U.S. Navy Band with RHHS performers*, 7:30

Winter Orchestral Concert*—December 5, 7:30

Winter Band Concert*—December 7, 7:30

Jazz Showcase—January 5, 7:30

Marriotts Ridge High School

Winter Concert I, December 5, 7 pm

Winter Concert II, December 7, 7 pm

*denotes known free concert; **Note**—some concerts have a ticket charge. Contact specific school for details.

How to Become a Music Patron

To financially support the music programs of Folly Quarter Middle School, please fill out the following and send along with a check payable to Friends of Folly Quarter Musicians. Donors will be listed in all concert programs. Please donate at any time through the year. Donations may be given to the music directors to be forwarded to FoFQM. Thank you.

Name (as you want listed in the concert programs) _____

Amount: _____ Pianissimo—\$1—\$10

Music Student(s) _____

_____ Piano—\$11—\$25

Grade(s) _____

_____ Mezzo Forte—\$26—\$50

Band Chorus Orchestra (circle appropriate)

_____ Forte—\$51—\$99

_____ Fortissimo—\$100—\$499

_____ Directors' Circle—\$500 and up

Corporate donors with a donation of \$250 receive a 1/4 page ad in each concert program. Contact Kathy Hartley, 301-854-2974, ki.hartley@verizon.net

All donations are tax deductible

Smart Music

Are you wondering how to get your child to practice more, perfect music for Solo & Ensemble without having a live accompanist on call, and enhance your child's playing skills? A great solution to all those questions is SmartMusic. SmartMusic is software (runs on both PCs and Macs) that provides accompaniments to a wide variety of instrument solo and ensemble arrangements. The student is able to play along, adjust tempos as they are learning, hear the accompaniment and/or the instrumental piece itself and work through difficult passages at their own pace. It is a great tool to use while preparing music for Solo & Ensemble Festivals or to accompany Newbie band members working through the *Accent on Achievement* Book. The Friends of Folly Quarter Musicians coordinate with the music directors to provide all music students with the opportunity to purchase a school-sponsored subscription to SmartMusic for \$25. (Note: SmartMusic does **not** provide the sheet music, only the accompaniment. You must provide the sheet music. See more below.) The subscription offering this year will allow you to purchase the subscription and download the software yourself. You will be able to download the latest version of the software, purchase additional items (such as the recommended microphone) and even download additional music selections. FoFQM will coordinate this process. If you are interested, please contact Steve Baronowsky at sbaronowsky@verizon.net or 301-854-2974. The SmartMusic subscription is a yearly subscription service. Each year, you must renew your subscription. Since this is a

school sponsored subscription, you must have a child in (or entering) Folly Quarter Middle School. FoFQM will provide the necessary information for you to connect online to purchase the subscription. Your subscription will start from the day you purchase the subscription and will end one year later. MakeMusic, the company that owns SmartMusic, has modified their subscription service. This year, you can renew your subscription even if your child is no longer at Folly Quarter. Once you have a subscription, you will be able to use it for as long as you like, provide you keep renewing the subscription. At this time, the renewal is still \$25. FoFQM has a music library where the students can borrow sheet music to practice with. FoFQM is also looking into purchasing a few of the books for the SmartMusic solos and ensembles which will be available in the music library. Finally, SmartMusic demos are available upon request. With enough interest we will sponsor a workshop for parents and students to learn how to properly use the SmartMusic software. For the parents, the workshop will provide techniques for getting your children to have proper practice sessions and for integrating SmartMusic into their practice program. Lastly, information will be provided for using SmartMusic in practicing for the Howard County Solo and Ensemble Festival. To find out more information about SmartMusic software, visit the SmartMusic web site at www.SmartMusic.com.

FoFQM Volunteer Opportunities

The *Friends of Folly Quarter Musicians* help the music staff in any way possible so that they can spend their time teaching our children. We are looking for volunteers to help with tasks such as: numbering the measures on the sheet music, filing, labeling shirts, setting up/breaking down for concerts, and other things as needed. Volunteers are needed throughout the year and will be contacted when needed for a particular activity. Visit our website to keep informed of what's going on at FoFQM, <http://fofqm.org>. There you will find important information as well as links to sites for specific music programs at FQMS.

Please contact Betsy Brown (301-854-1458), e-mail (betsybrown01@gmail.com) or by filling out the form below and sending it in with your music student to his/her respective director. The following information is needed from each volunteer (for convenience, you may list two parent volunteers here if applicable):

Name _____ Phone # _____

E-mail _____ Child is in: Orchestra / Band / Chorus

I would like to help in the following areas:

_____ Setting up/breaking down for concerts

_____ Transporting equipment to concerts and adjudications not at FQMS, (need large vehicle)

_____ Concert monitors (stand or sit with groups who are not performing to help them be a respectful, quiet audience; man the doors during performances; act as chaperones for concerts and adjudications not at FQMS.)

_____ Hershey Park trip, in May. A day-long trip for all music groups. We need lots of chaperones, shirt labelers, help coordinating volunteers, and extra general help at that time of year.

_____ Music Lending Library (our collection is always growing)

_____ Historian Committee (form and coordinate this much-needed committee)

_____ Hospitality, (help at events, donate refreshments)

_____ General paperwork, (filing, numbering measures)

I would like to:

_____ Work during the school day – indicate preferred day/time

DAY _____ TIME _____

_____ Work from home

(child's last name if different from parent _____)

_____ Work special times, (evening concerts, field trips, etc.)

Thank you very much for taking the time to fill out this form. We are looking forward to working with you during another great year of music at Folly Quarter Middle School.