



newsletter

# Music Matters

Battle Creek Hastings Marshall  
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A program of The Music Center  
[www.YourMusicCenter.org](http://www.YourMusicCenter.org)



## Sing, Sing, Sing.....

Fall 2010  
Find us on Facebook!

...is not just the name of a great jazz song made famous by Benny Goodman, it is a great motto for life! Whether you sing in the shower or professionally, the act of singing is energizing and enjoyable. It is good for your soul.

The Community Music School and The Music Center as a whole offer many opportunities to enjoy singing, whether you are young or not-so-young.

CMS-Hastings offers Kids Choir, directed by Cindy Olson, for children in grades three through six. "Singing brings joy and self-confidence to all kids!" says Steve Youngs, CMS-Hastings Coordinator.

In Marshall, director Irene Pizzimenti recently finished the first year of rehearsals with

the new Marshall Children's Choir. "Whether novice or veteran, singing in a choir bolsters confidence, improves musicality and provides an opportunity for personal growth and friendship!" says Irene. "We look forward to building our choir through the years and providing enjoyment to both participants and audiences," says Kathleen Warriner, CMS-Marshall Coordinator.

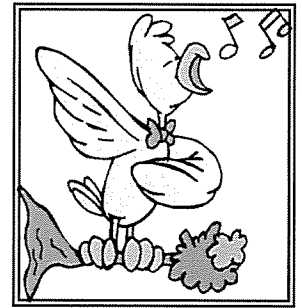
In Battle Creek, The Music Center offers the Community Chorus, an adult chorus whose motto is "*we sing for the joy of singing.*" The Chorus performs a variety of music, from classical to popular and everything in between. Choir participant Alexis Stark believes "being in a choir gives a

singer the chance to be part of something greater than their own talents. You can make a different sort of magic with a group of musicians than you can alone."

The Music Center also offers more opportunities for children in its Battle Creek Boychoir, Battle Creek Girls Chorus, and Sojourner Truth gospel choir.

All these wonderful ensembles provide a great place for those who enjoy singing to come together and make beautiful music. Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim states, "If I cannot fly, let me sing." Cervantes states that "He who sings frightens away his ills."

So give it a try, join a choir and *Sing, Sing, Sing!*



"Music is the universal language of mankind"  
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



## Knowbody

## Composer Augusta Mary Ann Holmes

Augusta Mary Ann Holmes was born in Paris, France in 1847, to an Irish father and an English mother. Augusta's musical talent was obvious at an early age but her parents were opposed to a musical career, allowing her only painting lessons and private piano lessons. But her talent was quickly recognized and her first public appearances were as a child prodigy at the piano.

At the age of 11, one of her compositions, a quick-step, was performed at Versailles by an artillery band. More works followed and the number of major compositions is impressive, especially considering the fact that women of her time were not encouraged to compose.

Augusta began publishing at age 14, under the names Herman Zenta and A.Z.

Holmes. Most of her work was published in her lifetime (1847-1903), though, under her own name.

To sample Augusta's music, go to:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrTfwQiuhsA>





## Meet Beth Lepak, CMS-Hastings Instructor

### Focus on...

Elizabeth R. (Beth) Lepak, violin and viola, earned her B.A. ('64) from Western Michigan University, with a major in Speech and minors in Music and French. She holds a Masters of Arts ('71) from Michigan State University, majoring in Theatre/ Interpretation, with a minor in English.

Beth has played viola for several years with the Battle Creek Symphony Orchestra, the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, and the Dearborn Sym-

phony Orchestra, and 31 years with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra. Although she retired from the GRSO in 2008, she is still playing in a GRSO educational ensemble ("Tertullian String Trio") for school children, in "Baroque Again," a string quartet which plays for weddings and receptions, and with "Bows 'n Buddies," a musical ensemble including her private students.

Beth teaches violin and viola at the Community Music School in Hastings. Beth also conducts Music Connections String Ensemble,

sponsored jointly by the Battle Creek Youth Orchestra and the Community Music

School. Beth works in accounting and taxes in Hastings and lives just north of the city with her daughter, Sarah and husband Roy Hall, two dogs, three cats, four potbellied pigs and a dozen chickens (all pets!). Besides her love of music, Beth also enjoys golfing and reading.



## Calendar

Fall semester Sep 7-Dec 17

Aug/Sep Open Houses tba

Sep 25 Tales Across the Pond, Music Center Gala, Battle Creek Country Club

Oct 16 CMS-Hastings Cabaret, Waldorff Bistro, Hastings, 6:30 pm-midnight

Oct 23 Dvorak's New World, Battle Creek Symphony, WK Kellogg Auditorium, 7:30 pm

Oct 29 CMS Concert Band Costume Contest Concert, Binda Theater, 7 pm

Oct 30 CMS-Hastings Fall Festival, 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Nov 8 Returning students may register for winter semester

Nov 10 Spotlight Recital, Music Center, 7 pm

Nov 29 Open registration for winter semester

Dec 4 Marshall Spotlight Recital, 10 am

Dec 11 Choral Christmas, Music Center choral programs, 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Battle Creek, 7:30pm

Dec 15 Spotlight Recital, Music Center, 7 pm

Dec 17 CMS Concert Band Christmas concert, Binda Theater, 7 pm

Dec 18 Christmas Magic, Battle Creek Symphony, WK Kellogg Auditorium, 7:30 pm

Dec 20-31 Christmas break

Jan 3-7 Private lessons make up week

Jan 10-May 27 Winter semester

**Free Tickets!**  
to Music Center concerts for  
CMS students under age 18 with  
purchase of an adult ticket.  
50% off ticket price for  
CMS adult students.  
Call 269.565.2199

