



We Need Your Help

CFOM is committed to maintaining the high quality music program offered in the Chelmsford Public Schools. We raise money to purchase equipment and uniforms, award scholarships, offer financial aid for lessons and instrument rental, fund busses and fees for music competitions (such as MICCA, All State, All Eastern) and support music enrichment activities

throughout the school system. We try to stay current on town and state policy and curriculum changes that affect Chelmsford Music Education. **Here are just a few ways that you can help:**

1. Stay informed, stay active. Please go to www.cfom.org.

Parents of music students should stay accurately informed about our music program and any changes that may soon be proposed to the middle school. There are 1400 middle school and high school students in music performance. Their harmonious voices need to be heard, not just by parents in concerts, but to school, town and state officials. Let us keep you up to date – check out the **president's section on our web site and join our list serve**. If you have suggestions for ways we can help, please contact us.

2. FUNDRAISING AND FUN!

CFOM tries to make their events fun or helpful to the community, while raising funds to supplement the music programs. Here are some of the upcoming events that we are planning.

○ CHELMSFORD WINTER FEST – SAT, FEB 4. Unitarian Church 9am-2pm

CFOM will be hosting this venue, with live entertainment, sandwiches, chili and desserts. We need help parent help cooking and serving chili, plus student help with face painting, and planning other activities for small kids. To help, contact jomorse@comcast.net

○ CFOM'S FIRST CABARET NIGHT – Thurs evening, Feb 16 (time to be determined)

The Music Dept and CFOM will sponsor it's very first Cabaret Night. We hope to enlist the help of our very talented CHS students. This is in the planning stages and we will need help with all pieces of it, the desserts, the facilities, publicity. Please sign up to help. No amount of time is too small. Contact julielinehan@comcast.net

○ Bottle and Can Drive – McCarthy 10am-2pm (left parking lot) Saturday March 4, May 6 and July 8.

Thanks to all your help. The concert garbage bags were a huge success. Unfortunately due to a lack of sorting help, our sorting shed is full. **We hope that you will all continue to save your refundable bottles and cans, but we also need your help in turning our valuable recyclables into cash. Please stay and sort. Students and parents can both participate. Lunch is provided. If you can help, contact Jo Morse at jomorse@comcast.net or 978-256-5147.**

○ Alumni Concert in May – DATE AND TIME TBA

Last year, Rebecca Marques, an amazing vocalist, San Francisco Conservatory and CHS graduate, gave a performance to benefit CFOM. Rebecca proposed the idea, wanting to give back to the community that helped support her during her music development. Her generosity was overwhelming and thanks to Rebecca and Susan Gates (a Chelmsford resident and music supporter), we were not only graced with an amazing performance, but we were also besieged with interest to make this a yearly event. Contact karynaltman@comcast.net if you can help out or have suggestions for featured alumni.

- **CHS Pops Concert in late May**

We have a new Fine Arts Coordinator, Michael LaCava, that would like to get CFOM more involved in the planning and running of the Spring Pops Concert. (the final high school concert of the year) We will need many volunteers for this event . Contact karynaltman@comcast.net

- **School Concert Candy Sales**

At each concert and the spring CHS musical, we attempt to have a concession table in the lobby. We need parents who are willing to spend an hour or two on concert nights, selling food and drinks. Contact karynaltman@comcast.net if you are willing to volunteer a short evening of your time.

3. Here are other ways you can help:

- Attend our meeting – in general CFOM meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Parker Teacher Lounge from 7-9. www.cfom.org will post meeting dates and times so please check for changes. **In you have items concerning the Chelmsford Music Education Program or would like to request funds for a music program in the public schools, please email karynaltman@comcast.net** Or just come to find out more about our organization

- **MAKE A DONATION -**

If you don't have time to give, your tax-deductible cash contributions are always appreciated. Checks can be made to CFOM PO Box 145 Chelmsford, MA 01824

- **VOLUNTEER a couple of hours, any time – karynaltman@comcast.net**

We need bakers, phone callers, ticket sellers, concession workers, etc. There are things you can do from your home or at the events. If anyone has any grant writing talents, we would appreciate any help in that area, even if it's just to offer advice.

- **STAY INFORMED – STAY INVOLVED**

Many of the music and art programs in the Chelmsford Public Schools are in jeopardy of being reduced or cut. CFOM would like to offer it's full support of the Initiative for Local Aid and their call for swift legislative action for educational funding reform and additional state aid to our cities and towns..