



THE MLC ALTERNATIVE

Portland Public Schools
Metropolitan Learning Center
2033 NW Glisan
Portland, OR 97209

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE METROPOLITAN LEARNING CENTER

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/mlc/>

A K-12 Portland Public School ♦ Pam Shelly, Principal ♦ February 2011



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FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

I hope your winter break was as fine as ours. Staff came back to school, smiling, dark circles under all eyes faded, with thoughts of recent connections with family and friends at the fore. My own grown children joined us in the mountains for the holidays, and then I left for a trip to Egypt for a few weeks. It was nice to return to MLC, once again, in mid-January.

Parents made beautiful appreciation baskets for all of the staff in December. I could live for two months on the basket you assembled! It nourished both my body and soul (the coffee, chocolate and fruit were incredible). The candles brought some literal light into our house. Thank you!

In December, the staff had great discussions about our use of portfolios with our students. We revisited our history with portfolios, and talked about their many and varied purposes. Currently, they are used to document student work, show student growth over time, highlight a student's best work, celebrate student accomplishments with an authentic audience, give students a vehicle for reflection and opportunity for goal setting, and give opportunities to practice organizational skills. Our professional development time was both reflective and hopeful, and we look forward to revising our portfolio plans as we think together about what works best for kids, and how we can improve on this piece of "who we are."

In mid-January, several people from the PPS Human Resources Department came to MLC to meet with staff and families. Their goal was to elicit comments about what qualities our community wants in the next MLC Principal. By all accounts the meeting was very successful. Thanks to our Site Council for thinking about, planning and organizing this meeting. The feedback from HR was positive and appreciative.

There seems to be a mad virus out there that has come to visit lots of staff and kids. I stopped by John's 1x2 classroom today to watch kids count all the "Pennies for Peace" they had collected, and fully ten students were out with a flu/cold virus. Let's all try to stay healthy ... eat your garlic! And just take care in general,

Fondly,

Pam
MLC Principal



FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE

Kx3

KIDS CAN – Personal Safety

The K x 3 classes will have the KIDS CAN personal safety workshop this month. Parents/guardians will receive a detailed letter in a few weeks that will be sent home with your child. If you'd like to hear about the program, there will be a special parent workshop on Friday, Feb 18th at 11:00 in Sandra's office (#301).

Juniors

Advanced Classes

Several local colleges offer gifted high school students an opportunity to take advanced classes. The Young Scholars Program at Reed College has an application deadline of April 1. Lewis and Clark offers the Templeton Scholars and has a Fall Semester deadline of July 15 and a Spring Semester deadline of December 1. PSU offers LINK courses and other high school classes, their application deadline is 5/31. Check it out online.

Seniors

Scholarship Searches

It's time for your FAFSA and scholarship searches. The FAFSA should be completed ASAP, as grants and scholarship opportunities will dwindle over the months, www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Don't forget that NELA Center for Student Success is available for the college application process. Call for an appointment: 503-488-6000..

Scholarship searches should include:

- ✓ Your college of choice – they may have special scholarships.
- ✓ OSAC (Oregon Student Assistance Commission) has an early bird deadline of February 16th and a final deadline of March 1st. The green "Opportunities" booklet has the scholarship booklet in it with all the info., www.ectcollegefunds.org.
- ✓ Career Information Systems using your student initials and PPS # to login and check under "financial aid":
<http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu>.
- ✓ Naviance (college & scholarship search) at <https://connection.naviancc.com/mctrolc>.
- ✓ Seniors and juniors should have their individual user names for their accounts (contact me if not). You can log in to the website as a guest. The guest login is: "goMLC". If you click on "colleges" or "scholarships" you will find lot of helpful information.
- ✓ MLC PTSA scholarship (2 \$500 scholarships are awarded at graduation) due early May.
- ✓ Additional websites suggestions list will be handed out in Senior Metro, see Sandra if you missed it.

Sandra Tetzloff
MLC School Counselor
503-916-6434
stetzloff@pps.k12.or.us

Workshops & Fairs

"Wheeling and Dealing with Your Teen: From Surviving to Thriving" Resolutions Northwest, Portland's Neighborhood Mediation Center, is offering a one-day workshop, "Wheeling and Dealing with your Teen: From Surviving to Thriving" on Saturday, February 5th from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm at their offices on 1827 NE 44th Avenue. The cost is \$75 per person. For details, call 503-595-4890 or go to www.resolutionsnorthwest.org.

Gap Year Fair

A Gap Year is a period of time between completing high school and beginning college when a student steps outside the traditional classroom experience to explore the world, reflect on their personal values and goals, and prepare to take the next purposeful step in life. This year's fair, designed to spread the word about the growing array of opportunities for Gap Years will be held on Tuesday, February 15th at Lincoln High School, 6:00-8:00 pm. For more information, contact kcheng@dynamy.org or by phone at 508-755-2571 ext. 18. Also, check out the website: www.usagapyearfairs.org.

LCBT Workshop

Pacific University is sponsoring a workshop for students, parents and teachers designed to support LGBT students and those with LGBT parents. The workshop will include presentations from PFLAG, TransActive and the Oregon Education Association among others. Saturday, March 5th, Marsh Hall, Pacific University, 9:30am-4:00pm. Registration \$20 (\$10 for students). For information or to make reservations, email Valeric Horres: Horr9053@pacific.edu (see the flyer attached at the end of this newsletter).

From Our Library

Pets Read Photo Contest

February is our annual Pets Read photo contest! Bring a photo of your pet "reading" and give it to Kiva in the library. If you don't have a pet, feel free to ask a friend or neighbor if you can use their pet for your awesome picture! All photos will be displayed for the month of February, and voting happens the first week of March. Here are the rules:

1. Only one pet per photo
2. No humans in photos
3. You may submit up to two photos, as long as each one is of a different animal
4. No Photoshopping, thought bubbles, etc.
5. Put your name and your teacher's name (lightly! in pencil!) on the back of your photo
6. Give to Kiva in the library by Monday, February 28th.

Make sure to stop by all month as we add more and more amazing photos to our display!



Renew Library Books at Home

Want to renew your library books from home? Not sure if you have anything checked out from our library? Now the directions are posted on our library web page, and you can not only check your account to see if you have anything checked out, but you can also see when your materials are due and renew them if you'd like! It's easy! It's fast! And the directions are posted right on the library web page at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/mlc/201.htm> 3.

The library is looking for clear packing tape! Do you have any rolls to spare? We'd love whatever you have to offer! Thanks so much!

Kiva Liljequist
Media Specialist
kliljequist@pps.k12.or.us

Electives

We have some great electives happening during this winter's session. Our younger students are learning about urban microfarming and hatching chickens. Other students are knitting and needle felting. We have several writing classes including MLC Newsroom, Write A Novel . . . Together, Creative Writing and You Are A Writer. Kids are doing comic book art, altered art and even art with letters. We are also playing ping pong, playing basketball, doing team sports, hula hooping and doing yoga and dance. There is a very special elective being offered at all grade levels this term called Roots and Shoots. It is a community service learning class inspired by Jane Goodall. Avril, Susan, Pat and Julie are all involved in teaching these Roots and Shoots electives this term. We have several students in the middle and high school teaching electives. Lot's of fun, learning and leadership!

Spring Electives Coming Soon - We Need You!

In a matter of weeks, I will begin working on the third trimester elective schedule. I will finalize the schedule in early March. The last session for this school year will begin in early April and end in late May. If you've been thinking about teaching an elective, here is your last chance of the year. We would love to have you (and we need you). Electives are such a special part of the learning and experiences our students have here at MLC.

Thanks to all of our wonderful and creative parents who teach electives!

Laura Bullock
Activities Coordinator
503/916-5737
lbullock@pps.k12.or.us

Schedule:
Tuesday/Thursday 8:15 to 3:45
Wednesday 8:15 to 12:00



Money for MLC Scholarships Through the MLC PTSA Scrip Program

The MLC Scrip Program began in October 2009. During our first year, we raised \$2,000 to help fund scholarships for the different activities and trips that students participate in at MLC. We are just under that amount now and we are only half way through the school year. We could make \$4,000 this year but we need your help. Give scrip a try.

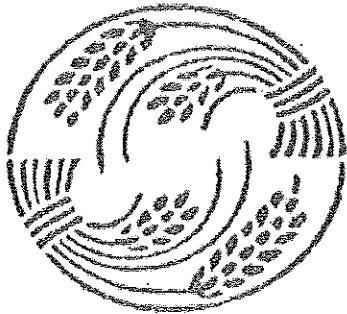
One of the best things about raising money through scrip is that NO money comes out of the pockets of our families. The school makes money through gift cards and certificates that families buy through the Scrip Program for their regular shopping needs. The money we make comes from the businesses.

If your family only bought grocery scrip, say \$200 a month throughout the school year, your family would raise over \$70 a year for MLC, if ten families did this, they would raise \$700, fifty families would raise \$3,500! It really is that easy.

Scrip orders are filled every week. Order forms are available throughout the school and on the MLC website. They must be turned into the main office by 8:30 each Tuesday morning to be filled that week but they may be turned in any time.

Each Friday, filled orders are available for pick up before and afterschool outside of the main office. Some Scrip (New Seasons, Fred Meyer, Starbucks and some others) is also available for immediate purchase on Fridays.

If you have any questions, please contact our Scrip coordinator, Laura Bullock at lbullock@pps.k12.or.us or 503-916-5737.



MLC PTSA MEETING MINUTES

Wed., January 19th, 2011 - MLC Library: 5:30-6:30

Attended by: Mary Franklin, Lauren Nathe, Stephanie Brown, Jennifer Dawkins, Tony Faulkner, Ann Hargraves, Pam Shelly, Ben Unger, Carine Arendes, Laura Bullock, Lauren Geffner, Diana Moosman, Joyce Sjoberg, Scott McLain, Tanya March, Kathy Couch

Capital Improvement Bond: A representative spoke with the PTSA to answer questions and drum up support for the PPS capital improvement bond coming up in May. Take a look at the article about this bond on the next page of this newsletter. Please see article on the following page. Bobbie Regan, School Board Member for Zone 3, will be attending the March 17th PTSA meeting to discuss this issue further.

Auction: Lauren Nathe presented an auction update for the event March 4th. There are currently 50-60 items on the website and 20 pending entry. Two hot items this year are School Principal for a Day and a Reserved Parking Spot in the back lot. It is critical for those planning and organizing this event that folks start buying tickets. We are being charged for the childcare rooms \$400/each (last year the two rooms were free) – last year over 30 kids used this service. Each classroom project is budgeted \$50 dollars, the committee is checking in with classrooms for updates. All beer has been donated, the committee is considering purchasing Trader Joe's wine. A new cost this year is the auctioneer, \$2,100 plus PA costs for a wireless mike. The committee needs volunteers for the night of the event and more procurement assistance. Moving along with OLCC, non-parents will be serving. PTSA going to Umpqua to switch accounts, hoping they will increase their sponsorship

Greening up the Auction: To promote this ethic there was the idea floated to have a separate VIP line for glass owners. Tanya March made a motion to purchase 400 pint glasses with a logo and no year on each glass. Seconded by Jennifer Dawkins. The motion was approved. Jennifer Dawkins made a motion to purchase 300 reusable plates. Seconded by Mary Franklin. Motion was approved.

Update on Literacy Week: Pledges, Writer's workshop (Feb 2nd), Scholastic Book Faire (first week of February) All School event Feb 4th, hiring a storyteller.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

PPS Capital Improvement Bond

by Tanya Lyn March

A representative spoke to the PTSA in mid-January about the PPS capital improvement bond slated for the May 2011 ballot.

Our school was built in 1915. The average PPS building is 65 years old. Many of the schools have old oil boilers, science labs lacking sinks, water penetrates roofs throughout the system. Conditions of school facilities place our students at a competitive disadvantage. This bond is the first step toward modernizing 85 buildings by either replacing or remodeling the entire system over the next 30 years (5 cycles). How did our school buildings get like this? There has been no investment for the last decade. The district operating budget only had enough funds for band-aids due to the state budget cuts that occurred in that same period. Hard choices were made to balance the demand to provide teachers and safe operations. This bond measure models the successful Seattle public schools bond, a district with the same number of public school students. Although it feels big, the last bond expired in 2002.

The election will be held May 17th 2011. PPS does not need a double majority, they just need to win on the majority of voters who vote in the election. The process for input includes a project oversight committee and there has been and will continue to be input. Local labor is a part of the plan. Jeff Cogan and the City Council of Portland are aware that neighborhood communities will crumble if schools continue to defer maintenance.

The PTSA raised questions, that remain unanswered, about the MLC pool. Is it condemned? Can it be re-tooled? Covered playgrounds are part of the bond needed to comply with the state mandated PE for 6, 7 & 8th graders. There was a question about the input process on funds allocation for MLC. PTSA would need to talk to the school board and principal. There is flexibility.

Improved security is a priority of the bond and pre-dates Kyron Horman's disappearance. The details are not spelled out yet, but key cards will be a part of a "managed access system." Since there is a desire for more conversation regarding the bond and its impact on MLC, Bobbie Regan, School Board Member for Zone 3, will attend the March 17th PTSA meeting. PPS is fairly confident bond will pass but only if there is help from parents and community members. How to help? The easiest way is to advocate in the hallway and in the community, get the word out that the bond will benefit all students in PPS now and in the future.

Portlanders for Schools needs volunteers on the campaign in a variety of areas. Here are some of the needs:

1) The #1 priority is volunteers to staff phone banks. They need 15 people for each night, about 5:30-8:30. Children are welcome, although we ask each school to arrange for supervision (one or two volunteers can do that while others staff the phones). We provide scripts and the space at 1006 SE Grand.

They need the names of phone numbers of people who can commit to each of the following MLC phone bank nights:

Wednesday, Feb. 23
Wednesday, March 23
Wednesday, April 27
Tuesday, May 10

Later in the campaign they will also ask for 15 volunteers for two canvassing dates to be determined.

2) Letters to the editor: they need people to be part of a rapid response team to write letters to the editor of the *Oregonian* etc.
3) Volunteering at the office: they always have different needs, such as data entry, making signs, etc. Give them some time and they'll find a use for your skills!

Please contact Tanya March or call Portlanders for Schools directly if you are able to volunteer for phone banking or anything else. Mary-Margaret Wheeler-Weber, Portlanders for Schools portlandersforschools.org 503-240-3344

New Principal for MLC: Hiring Process

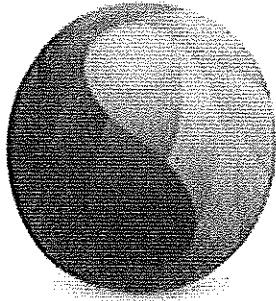
The process for hiring a new MLC principal has begun. The first step took place on Wednesday, January 19th when John Blanck, the PPS Director of Administrative Hiring, met with members of the MLC community at MLC.

Per PPS procedure, a community meeting is the first step in the district's open recruitment hiring process. It allows the district, through John, to "determine school needs." In other words, this was MLC's opportunity to re-acquaint the district with some of the complex attributes that create MLC's unique environment.

Site Council organized the meeting, which approached presenting the school in a variety of ways. Parents and teachers broke into table groups. Each group worked together to log their thoughts on butcher paper that was then shared with John. Longtime MLC parent, Laura Lane-Ruckman, 4x6 teacher Susan Beard and HS student Garrett Bradley presented testimonial statements about MLC. Middle and high school students, including Garrett, Sara Lind and Oak Alger shared their portfolios. HS teacher Steve Lambert gave John letters written by his students.

If you'd like to provide feedback, John has suggested the following: 1. Please email questions or input to John, directly, by Monday, February 7th (jblanck@pps.k12.or.us) or use the survey link here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PRVINJ7>. 2. If you are interested in serving on the Voluntary Interview Committee, please send John a Self-Nomination Form & Confidentiality Agreement. These forms are available in the office and can be sent electronically or turned in through the school office itself.

Upcoming Events



MLC
METROPOLITAN
LEARNING CENTER
AUCTION 2011

FIVE WEEKS & Counting ... 3/4/11

The auction is only five weeks away! March 4th at 6:30pm at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church! Have you got your tickets yet? Go to mlcauction.com for tickets, awesome pint glasses and more! You can also get your tickets before & after school on Fridays at the SCRIP table.

This event is not possible without volunteers - if you are interested in helping please email tasha@pachecocreative.com and sign up for a committee! (Check-in, food refreshers, staging, table closing, bid sheet filers, runners, oral auction set-up, cashiers/check-out and clean-up) Look for the committee sign-ups in the hall by the library.

Childcare is available at the auction again this year! Sign up through Deirdre. The cost is \$20 per child and there is limited space! Sign up down by KCLC or email: deirdre.kele@gmail.com

We are all very lucky to be part of this creative community! Please help support our kids and contribute to MLC's biggest fundraiser! Looking forward to sharing this fabulous evening with you!
2011 Auction Committee

LEND A HAND

WISH LIST

Polyfill and jewelry pliers

Pliers to borrow for the spring term. which can be borrowed for the spring term. Laura Bullock, lbullock@pps.k12.or.us

Clear packing tape

The library is looking for clear packing tape! Do you have any rolls to spare? We'd love whatever you have to offer! Thanks so much! Kiva Liljequist, kililjequist@pps.k12.or.us

KCLC BOWL-A-THON

It's Bowl-a-Thon time!

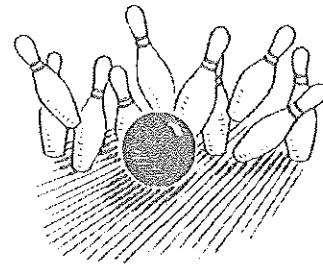
Please consider participating, sponsoring a bowler or sending a donation to support KCLC's 6th annual Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser.

Kids Community has been MLC's onsite childcare program for over 25 years. The program, which serves over 100 Portland children and their families, provides flexible, affordable childcare. KCLC strives to provide a nurturing environment in which kids grow together outside of school time through creative exploration, meaningful relationships and fun.

Proceeds from the bowl-a-thon are used to purchase program supplies such as much-needed sports equipment, art materials and books.

To register, donate, or to sponsor a bowler take a look at the KCLC web site:

<http://kidscommunitypdx.org/get-involved/bowl-a-thon-2011/> or email KCLC Director Deirdre Steinmetz at deirdre.kele@gmail.com, or phone: 503/916-6367.

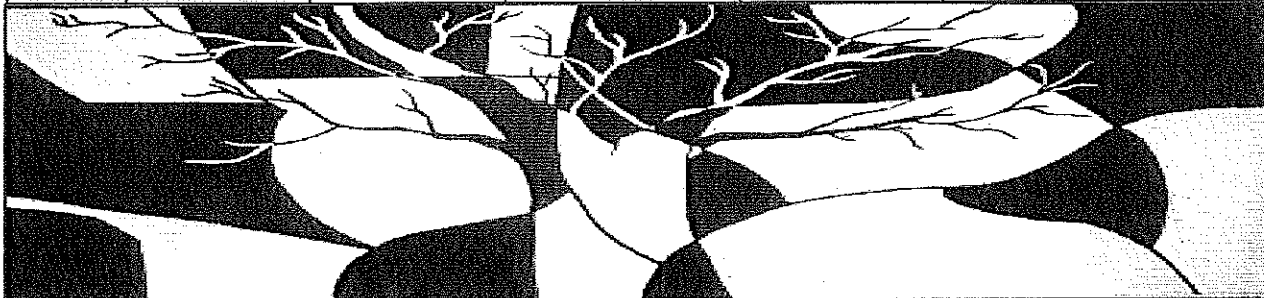


Volunteer needed to put together the 2011-12 MLC Directory

Turning ESIS data into the MLC PTSA School Directory is a great October volunteer activity. If you're interested in taking on next year's directory, please let me know. Ellen Graham, midenka@gmail.com

February 2011

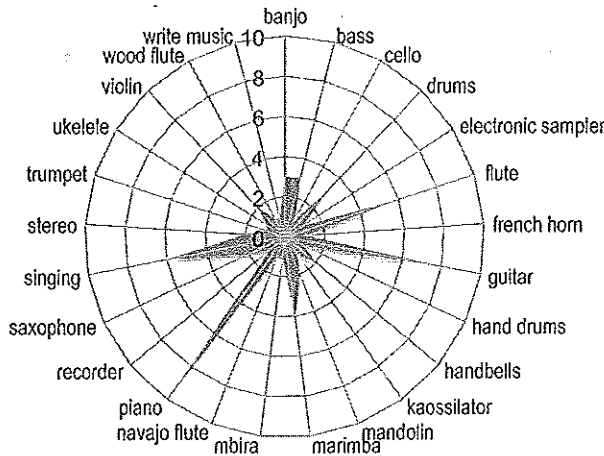
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Literacy Week	2 Literacy Week Site Council Meeting 3:15 Library Family Writers Marathon 7pm	3 Literacy Week	4 Literacy Week Read-a-Thon 5:00 Gathering 9am	5
6	7 Feedback to PPS re MLC Principal Hiring - deadline	8	9 7x8 Play: Robin Hood Vineyard Program 7:30-9:00pm	10	11 Winter Formal 7-9 Gymnasium	12
13 KCLC Bowl-A-Thon	14	15	16	17 PTSA Meeting 7pm (Childcare available)	18	19
20	21 No School President's Day	22	23 Visitor's Program 10-11:30	24	25 HS Transfer Deadline MLC Applications Due	26
27	28 Pets Read Photo Contest Deadline	1 OSAC Financial Aid Deadline	2 Site Council Meeting 3:15 Library	3	4 MLC AUCTION	



MLC & Music - SUPPLEMENT

Teachers, staff, students, parents – our lives all overlap at MLC. It would be easy to fill these pages with a dizzying array of Venn diagrams: classroom groups, carpools, guests at Solstice, PTSA meetings, Site Council, Friday Focus groups, elective classes, etc. etc. In this issue of the *Alternative* we'd like to explore music in our community. While music enriches our lives every day, the way our musical lives overlap and interlace is less obvious. Since something about music always wants to be shared... here we go... Many thanks to the teachers, parents and students who participated in this music survey. The information here is certainly not exhaustive, but with luck, it will be interesting.

CHART MADNESS, PT 1. What do you play?



"I enjoy attempting to play any instrument that I can get my hands on. Although I have mastered none of them, I have explored making improvised music on piano, guitar, mandolin, tenor banjo, dilruba, drums, pump organ, and a collection of homemade inventions. In recent years I have experimented with making my own instruments to play for fun. These include a "pumpkin" cello, an indian gourd veena, a stand up tamboura bass, a gourd oboe, a folk slide guitar, and a variety of percussion instruments." – *Martha Wurzelbacher, parent*

How do you use music in class?

"I use it as background during Art classes and during quiet writing time. I also use it during Yoga practice."

– *Bianca, 9x12 teacher*

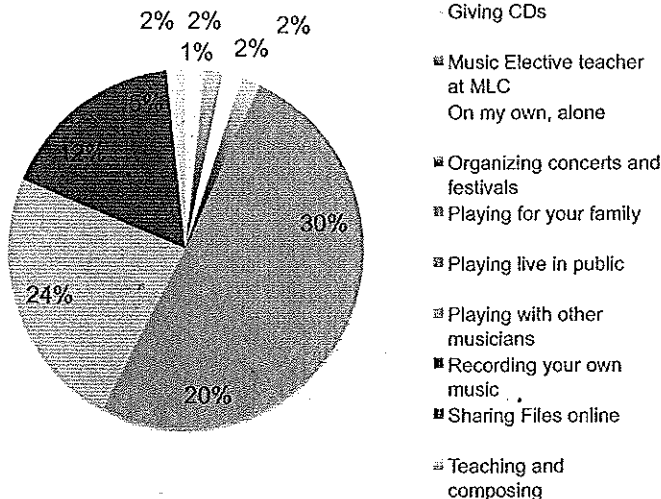
"In a variety of Global Studies and US History classes I use either specific songs that were written about historical events, such as *Ohio* by Neil Young, or introduce students to broader global genres of music (such as Rai music from Algeria). I also teach an elective class titled "American History through American Music." We study a wide variety of music/history, including Minstrel shows/early American folk music, Blues, Female songwriters, the birth of rap, and the research that individual students bring to class. Great class!!"

– *Chris Snyder, 9x12 teacher*

"I use it as a method of classroom management choosing music that matches the flow, rhythm, and expectations of our current task. I also use it for atmosphere and for fun."

– *Caryn Cushman, 4x5 teacher*

How do you like to share music?



"Without music,
life would be a
mistake"

– Friedrich Nietzsche*

(*Nietzsche wasn't right on all counts, but this is a fine quote.)

MLC & Music

What are we listening to? From A to Z:

Aaron Copland, Abba, Akrobatik, almost any Indian classical music. Amadou et Mariam, Animal Collective, Arcade Fire, Astor Piazzola.

Baaba Maal, Bach, Bare Naked Ladies, BB King, The Bc Good Tanyas, Beatles, Beausecoleil, Beethoven, Bela Fleck, Beta Band, Black Angels, Black Emperor, Bob Dylan, Bob Marley, Bob Willis and the Texas Playboys, Breathe Owl Breathe, Brianna, Broken Bells.

Cannonball Adderly, Cee Lo Green's album *The Ladykiller*, Charlic Parker, Chopin, Clark Terry, Colin Meloy, Crystal Stilts, Curtis Mayfield.

Dave Mathews Band, Decemberists, De Danann, Deer Hunter, Dell McCoury, Dennis Brain (French Horn virtuoso-definitive version of Mozart's Horn concerti), Dr. John, Dolly Parton, Dvorak, Du Temps Anton.

Eddie Palmieri, Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris.

Frank Fairfield, Flaming Lips, Flight of the Conchords, Flogging Molly, Franco, Foghorn Stringband.

Carifuna Music of Belize, Gillian Welch, Godspeed You!, Gotan Project, Grateful Dead.

Habib Koite, Handel, Heart, The Hix.

Indigo Girls

Janelle Monae, Jolie Holland, John Cage, John Hartford, John Lennon, Josh Groban.

Katy Perry, The Killers version of *Romeo and Juliet*, Kings of Leon, KMHD (our local jazz station), Kurt Weill.

Lady Gaga, Ledward Kaapana, Led Zeppelin, Lennie Tristano, Leonard Cohen, Lester Young, Lloyd Cole: *Broken Record*.

M. Ward, Madlib, The Mammals, Manu Chao, Marianne Faithfull, Martin Hayes, Matt Nathanson, Mbira Music from Zimbabwe, MF Doom, Michael Jackson, Miles Davis: *Kind of Blue*, Mumford and Sons, Music Man soundtrack, My Chemical Romance

Nat King Cole, Naz, Neil Diamond, Nick Cave, Notorious.

Old skate classics and Ozomatli.

PJ Harvey, Patti Smith, Pearl Jam, "the people I jam with at Star E Rose on Tuesday nights," Pink Martini, Prince, the Punch Brothers, Putumayo Latin & African musicians.

Rage Against the Machine, Roscanne Cash, Rufus Wainright.

Sam Cooke, sea chanties, Sebadoh, Snow Patrol, *Sonata No. 1 in F minor*, Op. 2 No. 1, track 4, (Beethoven), Soul Asylum, Squeeze, Steely Dan, Steve Weeks, Stevie Nicks, Stevie Wonder, Stravinsky, Sun Ra.

Talib Kweli, Talking Heads, Taylor Swift, Thievery Corporation, Thomas Mapfumo, the three kings of blues: BB, Freddie and Albert; Tim O'Brien, Tinariwen, Ting tings, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Tom Waits, Tori Amos, Toumani Diabate, Tupac.

Vampire Weekend, Van Morrison, Vivaldi.

Ween, West Side Story (2007 cast recording), whatever is on the radio, Wilco
X, Y, Z - Sorry, nothing on the X, Y, Z front.

What do we want you to listen to?

Alexis Harte (SF
singer songwriter)

Amadou et Mariam

Animal Collective

Bach

The Beatles

Black Emperor

Charlic Parker

The Decemberists

Djivan Gasparyan

Dvorak

Eddie Vedder

Godspeed You!

Steve Weeks

Tom Chapin

Joni Mitchell

Josh Groban

Led Zeppelin

Lennie Tristano

Lester Young

Marvin Gaye

MF Doom

Mozart

Nina Simone

Pink Floyd

The Punch Brothers

Snow Patrol

Sun Ra

Tom Waits

Your Rival (led by

MLC grad Morgan

Troper)

I just found great percussion centered artist "Luisito Quintero" Check out the song Tumbao. - Ed Stracener

My recent favorite piece is Rash Bhari Datta's "Concerto for 20 Sitar's" - Martha Wurzelbacher

I would like more people to be open-minded, listen thoughtfully, and realize that music is just ordered sound. As with all art, it doesn't have to be pretty to be of value. -- Anonymous



MLC & Music – Two Portraits

Eric Miller has been studying music since he was six. In 1997 he began playing with Portland-based Boka Marimba (two other MLC parents, Ann and Andy Pinzelik, are current Boka members), and soon after began to learn mbira (a thumb piano from Zimbabwe). In 2003, Eric formed Pachi Pamwe with Matt Gordon and began fusing his own lyrics and style with that of the traditional mbira repertoire. In 2006, he recorded with Thomas Mapfumo, and has toured internationally with Mapfumo's band, playing mbira and trumpet. Eric was also a 5-year member of MarchFourth Marching Band and has formed a youth band called Supadupa Marimba Bros. He has been teaching marimba in Portland Public Schools and at MLC since 2003. He graciously agreed to participate in the music survey:

What do you play? Marimba, mbira, trumpet, voice, drums & some piano. I'm teaching myself saxophone, and willing to noodle on anything music-related that I might come across.

When did you get started? I started with piano (age 6), switched to trumpet/drums (age 12), picked up marimba/mbira (age 18)... I play some sort of music everyday, but mainly focus on marimba, mbira, voice, trumpet and saxophone.

What are you listening to? I listen to a lot of African music, primarily Mbira Music from Zimbabwe and artists like Thomas Mapfumo, Baaba Maal, Habib Koite, Franco, Toumani Diabate, Manu Chao, Tinariwen. Lately I've been really into Garifuna music of Belize. I like Jazz: Cannonball Adderly, Clark Terry. Hip Hop: Talib Kweli, Akrobatik. Classical: Aaron Copland, Kurt Weill. Like Duke Ellington said, "There are two kinds of music. Good music, and the other kind."

What would you recommend? Forward Kwenda has an mbira album available at the Multnomah County Library. His music is very, very beautiful.

What is stuck in your head? Bad Romance, since I'm doing a marimba arrangement of it for some students.

And, if you were singing karaoke? Babyfather by Sade, but I usually end up freestyling half way through my karaoke song, regardless of what it is. I think I missed my calling as a hip-hop artist and the next time the phone rang it was Mr. Marimba offering me a job :)

Dawn Weiss is a flautist and MLC parent. Both she and her two brothers are professional classical musicians, and together they have just released Crystal Records CD #354: "Weiss Family Woodwinds - Then and Now." She has shared some of her experiences here

: I studied piano with my mother when I was a young girl. At nine and a half, I began studying the flute. I took weekly private flute lessons for over 12 years and played in school and in many youth orchestras. After winning various scholarships and competitions I worked professionally in Los Angeles, Florida and Mexico, and eventually became Principal Flute with the Oregon Symphony for 25 years. Music making has taken me all over the world, performing in Switzerland, Italy, Bolivia, Peru, Costa Rica, and many places in the U.S.

When traveling around the world, I found every culture was rich with its own musical identity, but because our culture is so prevalent, I often encountered foreign street musicians playing and singing American Folk Music! Imagine meeting someone on the streets of Italy or Mexico singing "This Land is Your Land" even if they hardly speak English! I always carried a flute along in my backpack and jammed along! Playing the flute has some great advantages because it is a versatile social instrument. It is so small you can carry it easily when traveling. I've improvised on beaches, in forests and have even used it to meditate with on a mountaintop in Sedona!

As an elective teacher, I hope to pass along my love of music making to MLC students. Studying an instrument increases one's concentration, coordination, mental processing, memory, and many other elements of learning. Performing with others helps develop intuition. You learn to count together, breathe together, play in tune together, and to anticipate what comes before and after your entrance to fit into a larger texture. Over time you begin to attune to others in a very special way. It can be joyful to move your fingers, feel your breath and realize that you've created a beautiful sound! When adding the element of performing with others, one can actually experience a deep sense of communion. My life has been greatly enriched by music. I hope others will have the opportunity to experience that joy.

LINKS

Eric Miller:
Supadupa Marimba Bros
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYw_QYbKOy4

MLC Marimba (December 2009)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZPRCwVX_RI

Dawn Weiss:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QzoZ3Cts00>

There was not enough space to interview many of the musicians whose lives touch the MLC community, but here are a few more links:

Portland Old Time Music Gathering (co-organized by MLC teacher and parent Tom Dummer):
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yR5n2a5K0t8>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jLDT0AAZxc>

Andy & Ann Pinzelik:
Boka Marimba:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfbGmJCsn7s>

Ian Doescher
www.portlandsonqs.com

Ed Stracener:
Quintillion
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvpKmnB3F6Y>

Also take a look for parent Issac Scott's band, Squid Attack! and 2010 MLC grad Moe Troper's group, Your Rival.

MLC & Music – Stuck in your Karaoke

Stuck in your head

Whoever you are, where ever you are, if there are people around you, young or old, it is likely they have a song running through their head. Prof. James Kellaris calls these earworms, neurologist Oliver Sacks refers to them as INMI (involuntary musical imagery). They're also been called 'tunc wedgies.' What were some of the songs stuck in the heads of the MLC community last month?

Students:

Enic Mcenie Miny Moe
Fly Away
Gavotte in G minor, composed by J.S. Bach
Sonata No.1 in F minor, Beethoven
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Teachers:

Bad Romance – Lady Gaga
Glee Soundtrack
Jesus, Etc. – Wilco

Parents:

Balcony Scene, West Side Story - Sondheim
Bodhisattva – Steely Dan
Brown-Eyed Girl – Van Morrison
Dangerous Jade, Evita – Ricc/Weber
Empire State of Mind – Jay-Z
Hey Hey Hey - Michael Franti
I Can't Believe You're in Love with Me -
Jimmie McHugh
Kickapoo - Tenacious D
Love and Hope – Ozomatli
Love Came – Lady Gaga
My Sweet Lord – George Harrison
Rising - Yoko Ono
Roll Away the Stone - Leon Russell
Runaway - Kanye West
Starstruck – Lady Gaga
Summertime Blues - Blue Cheer
The I Love You Song, -The 25th Annual
Putnam County Spelling Bee
The Tunnel of Love, written by Frank
Loesser, performed by Nat King Cole.
Uprising – Muse

*Music has charms to sooth a savage breast, to soften
rocks, or bend a knotted oak, --William Congreve*

Karaoke

Karaoke

What would members of the MLC community sing if they were doing Karaoke?

Parents

Anything by Abba
Crazy Baby - Joan Osborne
Mercedes Benz - Janis Joplin
Night Moves - Bob Segar
Unchained Melody – Righteous Brothers
Anything by the Proclaimers

Students

Girl - Tori Amos
Happiness is a Warm Gun - The Beatles
Glamorous - Fergie
Life on Mars - David Bowie
Rocky Raccoon, The Beatles
Beat it - Michael Jackson

Teachers

Sweet Caroline, Neil Diamond
Babyfather - Sade
Tonight - George Michael

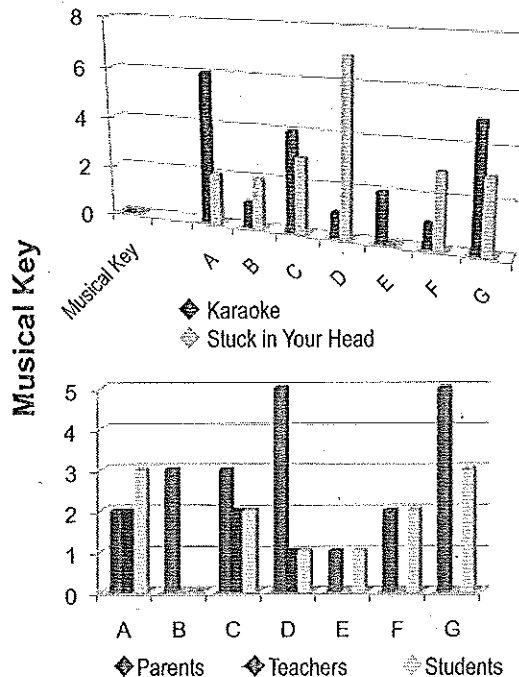
Karaoke at Kids Community

On Fridays at kids at KCLC do some karaoke. These are the Kids Community karaoke hits:

Breakaway – Kelly Clarkson
Unwritten – Natasha Beddingfield
Hungry Like a Wolf – Duran Duran
Build Me Up Buttercup –
The Foundations
Heartbreaker – Pat Benatar

MORE CHART MADNESS

Have you ever wondered whether music in a certain key lends itself to karaoke, or which musical key is most common to ear worms? Or, perhaps, whether parents, teachers and students are drawn to one key over another within our community? Probably not.



MLC & Music

“A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence.” -- Leopold Stokowski

2010 MLC Staff Solstice song:

Silent night, Solstice Night
All is calm, all is bright
Nature slumbers in forest
and glen
Till in Springtime She
wakens again
Sleeping spirits grow strong!
Sleeping spirits grow strong!

Silent night, Solstice night
Silver moon shining bright
Snowfall blankets the
slumbering Earth
Yule fires welcome the
Sun's rebirth
Hark, the Light is reborn!
Hark, the Light is reborn!

Silent night, Solstice night
Quiet rest till the Light
Turning ever the
rolling Wheel
Brings the Winter to
comfort and heal
Rest your spirit in peace!
Rest your spirit in peace!

Music & Social Media: For & Against

The music survey asked the question, 'Do you have any thoughts you'd like to share on the impact of social media on music/musicians?'

I think social media is a game changer for musicians in terms of their ability to promote and stay in touch with their fans/friends.

My oldest connects with others in the old time community through FB, bubbaguitar.com and email.

Gives musicians an option outside of standard label distribution. Very welcome tool.

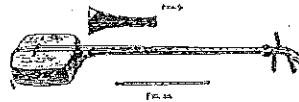
Nice way for musicians to get their sound out to others easily.

Social media has been a mixed bag, on the one hand, everyone can now get effective, free exposure when they...upload samples of their music. This does create a kind of market saturation however, making the industry more competitive than ever. I'd say overall it's been a good thing though as being an independent artist is now very possible through online music distribution sites such as CD Baby, iTunes, etc.

I have a deep love of albums...album artwork, the progress from one track to the next...so the ability to download singles without experiencing the rest of the album makes me a little nostalgic.

Like with everything else affected by digital technology, there are more connections, more discoveries, more of everything in fact - but less thoughtful selection, perhaps less opportunity for any particular artist or song or recording to rise to the level of genuinely 'special.'

I fear that our society's addiction to the internet is replacing time better spent playing and listening to music with others or singing around the campfire.



CLASSIFIEDS

HS Marimba Class
at MLC on Thursdays from
5:45-6:45pm: so that students can
continue playing beyond middle
school. Let me know if you are
interested. Eric Miller,
ericmarimba@gmail.com

**Seeking a banjo case and banjo
lessons.** Caryn Cushman:
ccushman@pps.k12.or.us

Flute Lessons & Performances
I teach private flute students at my home
studio in NW Beaverton and perform
solos and freelance throughout the
Pacific Northwest and California. I'm
available for weddings, house concerts
and corporate parties. Dawn
Weiss <http://www.dawnweiss.com>
dawn@dawnweiss.com

**Anyone interested in an MLC parent/staff
jam?**

Adam Reitzes, guitarist/bassist,
gullyfoyle4@yahoo.com

**Anyone interested in trio to small-group
classical or jazz music? I'm a rusty pianist.**
Merri Whipps merri@childpeace.org

**I'd like to play with a trio
(jazz) saxophonist, Jack Rubinger**
jackrubinger@comcast.net

MLC & Music – Local Resources

LESSONS

General subject

Community Music Center

Three people recommended The CMC (community music center), is a good place for taking music lessons. <http://www.communitymusiccenter.org>
3350 SE Francis St., 503/823-3177

Ethos Music Center

A number of people recommended Ethos Music in NE Portland. Ethos has both school year and summer programs. <http://ethos.org/>
503/283-8467,
2 N. Killingsworth St.

Klaus Ferguson/Portland Youth Jazz Orchestra

Klaus Ferguson is now working with the Portland Youth Jazz Orchestra (Wed. nights). Klaus also teaches private lessons. He writes, conducts, arranges, and plays drums along with keyboard and horn. The PYJO website is www.pyjo.com, 503-452-8685

Pelonca School of Music

in Northwest Portland includes a talented group of young musicians who offer lessons in piano, violin, guitar, drums, bass, clarinet, voice, & cello. <http://www.peloncamusic.com/>
(503) 893-9994, 2132 NW Aspen.

Starfish Studios

Starfish Studios has a nice selection of teachers in a variety of instruments. <http://www.starfishstudios.com/>
503-231-4930 1416 SE 8th Ave.

1st Unitarian Church in Portland Music program

<http://www.firstunitarianportland.org/our-programs/music-arts/program-details>. 1034 SW 13th Ave., 503-228-6389

Guitar, Piano, Voice

Guitar

Robbie Laws

Guitar classes by Robbie Laws. Robbie is excellent with kids!
www.visionmusic.com/hfm

Sean Flinn is a great teacher for acoustic or electric guitar. He learns the music his student is interested in and then helps them learn to play it. He gives opportunities for composition and collaboration as well. 503/367 5086.

Piano

Zita Jefferson

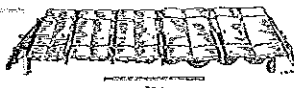
Piano Lessons With Zita Jefferson
<http://www.teacherzita.com/>

Piano/Voice

Melissa Parkhurst teaches piano and voice. She is a wonderful teacher, an extraordinary musician and has a special gift working with children. 503 242 4925.

Voice

Barbara Skipworth, who teaches Voice at the Multnomah Arts Center, is a fabulous teacher. 7688 Capitol Hwy, 503/823-2787
<http://www.multnomahartscenter.org/>



OTHER RESOURCES

Artichoke Music

Artichoke Music on Hawthorne is run by my former teacher, great selection of folk instruments and regular performances at their backstage café, great people always.
<http://www.artichokemusic.com/>
3130 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd., PDX
503/232-8845

Lessons @ MLC

KCLC (Ethos @MLC)

Kids Community (KCLC), MLC's after-school program, is partnering with Ethos Music Center to provide on site music lessons for kids. We are currently offering guitar lessons. With interested families, we can add more classes in African drumming, breakdancing, choir, Hip Hop, keyboard, percussion, rock band, and strings. If you are interested, please contact Deirdre at KCLC:
deirdre.kclc@gmail.com.

Eric Miller: I'm teaching a Marimba Class for High Schoolers at MLC on Thursdays from 5:45-6:45pm, so that students can continue playing beyond middle school. Let me know if you are interested: ericmarimba@gmail.com

MLC Elective Program: Marimba teacher Eric Miller, flautist Dawn Weiss have both offered music classes through the MLC elective program. Musician Martha Wurzelbacher has offered instrument making classes. paraeducator Michael Sosne has offered a guitar class and is currently doing an MLC Performance Band elective. Teacher Ned Hascall is currently teaching Harmonica and has taught Kazoo and Marching Band. If you are interested in offering a music elective contact Laura Bullock:
lbullock@pps.k12.or.us

www.bubbaguitar.com

A great resource for old time www.bubbaguitar.com - Great resource for old time stringband music and traditional music around Portland.

David Kerr Violin Shop

If you are looking to buy a string instrument the best place to get them is David Kerr violin shop. Also a nice lesson place is Ethos.
<http://www.kerrviolins.com/>



School-Based Health Center Program



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

HEALTH CARE FOR STUDENTS!

All school-aged youth who live or attend school in Multnomah County are welcome at the School-Based Health Centers - We're here for all your health care needs!

HIGH SCHOOLS

Cleveland School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3350

David Douglas School-Based Health Center (K-12)
(503) 988-3554

Grant School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3372

Jefferson School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3360

Madison School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3382

Marshall School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3370

Parkrose School-Based Health Center (K-12)
(503) 988-3392

Roosevelt School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3909

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL (K-8)

César Chávez School-Based Health Center
(formerly Clarendon@Portsmouth)
(503) 988-3815

George School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-3829

Harrison Park School-Based Health Center
(Formerly Clark@Binnsmead)
(503) 988-4577

Lane School-Based Health Center
(503) 988-5640

SCHOOL-LINKED

Eastside School-Linked Health Center
(503) 988-5488



HEALTH EDUCATION

IMMUNIZATIONS

SPORTS PHYSICALS

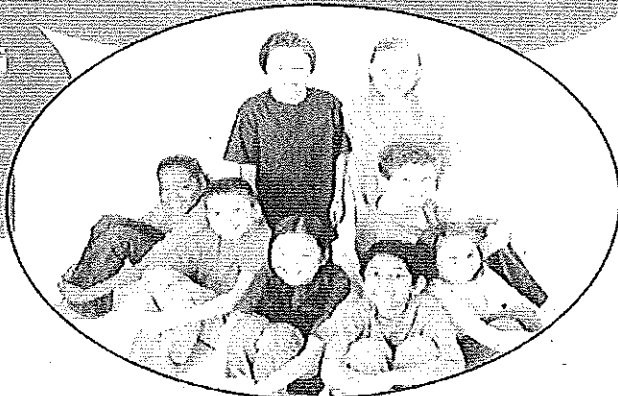
EMOTIONAL HEALTH

ASTHMA, ILLNESS & INJURY CARE

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES

STUDENT TESTING AND TREATMENT



Visit our website for more information:
www.mchealth.org/sbhc



SERVING THE FULL SPECTRUM: MEETING THE NEEDS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED STUDENTS

A workshop for education students, teachers, counselors, administrators, & parents

The goal of this workshop is to facilitate a learning environment in which all students can thrive. This workshop explores issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students in our public schools, and students with LGBT parents. It combines presentation, discussion, a panel of LGBT students, and group activities designed to give participants the tools to effectively support LGBT students and those with LGBT parents. We will work on practicing skills such as how to respond when LGBT students are targets of verbal or physical bullying in schools, designing inclusive classroom activities, and working with parents.

The workshop will include presentations from PFLAG, TransActive, The Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition, Multnomah County Health Department, and the Oregon Education Association. This workshop is open to all educational professionals, students in the field of education, and parents who care about this issue in their children's schools.

The workshop is sponsored by Pacific University's College of Education and Pacific's Center for Gender Equity (CGE).

Date: SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2011 Time: 9:30 AM TO 4:00 PM

Place: MARSH HALL, PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
(for map and directions, go to: www.pacificu.edu/about/location/)

**\$20 REGISTRATION FEE, \$10 FOR STUDENTS, FREE FOR PACIFIC STUDENTS.
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.**

Participants can earn 5 Professional Developmental Units (PDU's).
For information contact Dewayne Smith [smit3125@pacificu.edu]

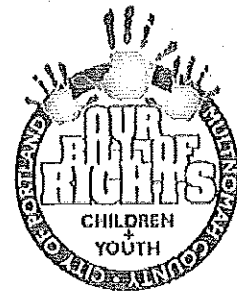
For questions and to reserve your space email Valerie Horres [horr9053@pacificu.edu].

Space is limited, first come first served. Registration at the door is possible, space pending.



The Multnomah Youth Commission, the official youth policy body for both Multnomah County and the City of Portland, is a group of young people, ages 13-21, that strives to provide a voice for youth in the County & City's work. Housed within the Multnomah County Commission on Children, Families & Community and the City of Portland's Office of the Mayor the MYC works to change policy affecting young people, as well as negative community perceptions about youth.

In 2005, the Multnomah Youth Commission led the development of "Our Bill of Rights: Children & Youth." The Youth Commission helped organize youth involvement in this project and helped ensure adoption of the Bill of Rights at City Council and the County Board. The Bill of Rights is the guiding document by which the Youth Commission defines its committee work.



The four committees of the MYC are:

- Education
- Health and Wellness
- Sustainability
- Youth Voice

The Multnomah Youth Commission meetings are generally the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, with the exception of July and August when there are no official meetings. An updated version of our calendar can be found at: <http://pdx.be/MYC-calendar>



All meetings are youth friendly and open to the community.

The Multnomah Youth Commission is funded and staffed by the following entities:



CONTACT US!

WEB: www.ourcommission.org/myc **EMAIL:** multnomahyouth@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: <http://pdx.be/MYCfacebook> **TWITTER:** @MYCommission

2010-2011 MULTNOMAH YOUTH COMMISSION

CO-CHAIRS: Daisy Quinonez & James Todd

VOTING MEMBERS: Unwukher Abdullahi • Wilson Ainess • Jacqueline Altamirano • Perla Alvarez • Camile Bates • Madeleine Bloch • Javier Cruz • Andrew Da'ke • Hadiyah Desphy
 Peipeba Ejke • Ricardo Gonzalez • Sophia Kecskes • Rebecca Kirk • Luwan Kahassay • Maira Martinez • Alex McCreedy • Erika Molina • Gunnar Olson • Eduardo Ortiz • Daniel Pierson
 Amy Qui • Quinn Rich • Akos Safo-Kantanka • Jerome Smith • Lindsie Smith • Karla Suarez • Emily Volpert • Emma Weizhander • Katherine Westmoreland

AT-LARGE MEMBERS: Henry Easton Koehler • M'as Ingram • Kim Nguyen • Isabelino Rios • Hanna Seminario • Dylan Tingley • Dyani Thomas • Avathar Vvekaraj

STAFF: Todd Diskin • Marc Fernandes • Open Seat in Memory of Jennifer Beegle

MULTNOMAH COUNTY: 421 SW Oak, 2nd Fl., Portland, OR 97204 • 503.988.5839p • 503.988.5538f

CITY OF PORTLAND: 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Ste. 340, Portland, OR 97204 • 503-823-2855p • 503-823-3588f

<http://www.ourcommission.org/myc>