



Saline  
Area  
Schools

# Fiddlers RESTRUNG



Fall 2013

Volume 6, Number 1

# FIDDLE BEAT

## **Fiddlers ReStrung's Holiday Hometown Concert in Support of Toys for Tots**

**Sunday, December 8th at 2 pm—Saline High School**

For the past six years, Fiddlers ReStrung has provided a great kickoff to the Saline Fire Department's Toys for Tots campaign drive. Fiddlers ReStrung has helped the Saline Fire Department collect over fifteen hundred toys in past years. In current economic conditions when more families need help, the ability to make a difference with a toy makes this concert all the more powerful. Fiddlers ReStrung has dedicated many performances to community service during these past few years. This concert provides a most fitting way to ring in the holiday season.

This year's Holiday Hometown Concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 2:00 pm at the Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center of Saline High School, 1300 Campus Parkway, Saline. The concert takes place on the Sunday after Saline's traditional annual holiday parade along Michigan Avenue.

Also this concert will present a collage of community talent including performances by 6th grade and 7th & 8th grade fiddle clubs, Varsity Blues and the SHS Drumline. Thanks to these groups for graciously donating their time and talent.



Jimmy Whitman,  
FRS Artistic Director

**For tickets, call (734) 663-8923**

**Tickets will also be available at the door**

**Adults \$10 Students & Seniors \$5**

# History of Toys for Tots



**Toys for Tots** is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The program was founded in 1947 by reservist Major William L. Hendricks. William was inspired by his wife Diane when she tried to donate a homemade Raggedy Ann doll to a needy child but could find no organization to do so. At her suggestion he gathered a group of local Marine reservists, including Lieutenant Colonel John Hampton, who coordinated and collected some 5,000 toys for local children that year from collection bins placed outside of Warner Bros. movie theaters. Their efforts were so successful that, in 1948, Toys For Tots was launched as a national campaign. Hendricks used his position as director of Public Relations for Warner Brothers Studio to enlist celebrity support, as well as have Walt Disney Studios design the red toy train logo.

**Each donation counts!** Over 98% of donations made to Toys for Tots go to the mission of providing toys, books and other gifts to less fortunate children. The 2% spent on support principally covers fundraising expenses - not one donated dollar goes to pay for salaries or any other manpower costs.

## FIDDLERS RESTRUNG

### About Fiddlers ReStrung

Fiddlers ReStrung is currently a 25 member group made up of students from Saline High School. Focused on generating a genuine live performance, the ensemble relies on the musical and personal maturity, improvisational skills and spontaneity of its students.

Fiddlers ReStrung portrays a diverse arrangement of styles; ranging from traditional bluegrass and Celtic fiddle to a newer, progressive acoustic sound. Participation and improvisation are two key elements of Fiddlers ReStrung.

Fiddlers ReStrung has frequent performances at high visibility paid events such as fairs, private fundraisers, country music festivals and at pro bono events such as schools, senior centers and others.

James Whitman is the Artistic Director of Fiddlers ReStrung. Sarah Vaujin and Becca Wright are interns working with the group for 2013-14 school year. FRS is also fortunate to have Sheila Graziano as the Dance Choreographer for the group.

## ***Appalachian Joy Summer Tour 2013***

Fiddlers ReStrung members were "all aboard the bus" complete with gear, musical instruments and tons of enthusiasm to take their high energy entertainment on their annual summer tour on June 30th, 2013. This year's tour was labeled the "Appalachian Joy Tour". We visited several cities during the tour: Lexington, KY, Asheville, NC, Matthews, NC, Atlanta, GA, Nashville, TN, Indianapolis, IN. We did several fun activities such as touring Kentucky Horse Park, going to a Charlotte Knights Baseball Game and Fireworks, shopping at the South Park Mall, visiting Atlanta Aquarium and The World of Coke in Atlanta, taking Nashville Historic Ghost tour and visiting Mammoth Caves. We also attended a fiddling Workshop and a violin maker's Tour with Frank's Violins Rhythm Museum visit in Indianapolis.

The best part of any tour is the opportunity to play for audiences from states other than our *Pure Michigan!* This year FRS performed at varied locations such as Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY; Levine Senior Center, Matthews NC and Christ's Covenant Church, Matthews, NC. Few other notable performances were held at Lexington Public Libraries (Central and North Branch), Lexington, KY, Steve's Music Performance, Atlanta, GA and at Nashville Zoo, Nashville, TN.



The newest CD from Fiddlers Restrung,  
*Reflections,*  
is almost here!

Pre-order your copy today by emailing us at: [cd@fiddlersrestrung.com](mailto:cd@fiddlersrestrung.com)

## ***What Are The Fiddlers ReStrung Group Members up to?***

Students in Fiddlers ReStrung are high achieving students of Saline High School, both academically and in extracurricular activities beyond music, including athletics and community service. These students are required to be enrolled in Saline High School music classes each year they are in the ensemble. When they are not performing or rehearsing, they do one of the million extra-curricular activities that all high school students do such as cross country, tennis, swimming, track, golf, science Olympiad, Spanish club, Strive Club, student council etc. In addition, these students take advanced classes and maintain a 3.5 GPA!

Fiddlers ReStrung Group performs at approximately 60 gigs in a given year. Every summer the students choose a different route in the United States for their two-week tour. In addition, they attend two mandatory camps during winter and summer. Members are also encouraged to assist after school with the elementary fiddle club and with the Middle School Fiddle Club. ReStrung leads numerous fiddling workshops in Michigan and during summer tours.



All FRS members share the responsibility of producing a unique ensemble truly their own. Working alongside leadership, students craft their own arrangements and help make organizational decisions. This collaborative ownership grants ReStrung an authentic creative edge that is clearly visible from the striking energy they portray on stage.



# Favorite Photos from summer gigs...



Heritage Fest Sep 2013



Alber's Orchard Oct 2013



Grandville / Grand Rapids, July 2013



**Add Glitter to your event! Hire Fiddlers ReStrung!**



**Church Gatherings**



**Corporate Events**



**Family Reunions**



**Senior Citizens' Events**

**Any Venue!**

**Any Occasion!**

**To book a FRS performance for your next event, please email  
[bookings@fiddlersrestrung.com](mailto:bookings@fiddlersrestrung.com)**

Your **tax-deductible donation** in support of the activities of these talented musicians would be greatly appreciated.

Please make your check payable to:  
**Friends of Fiddlers ReStrung**

Mail to: Friends of Fiddlers ReStrung  
P. O. Box 639  
Saline, MI 48176

***Fiddlers ReStrung***

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