

# COMMUNITY NEWS

WINTER  
2010



HAMILTON  
MADISON  
HOUSE

## The House's Partnership With Jumpstart Demonstrates Promising Improvements in Children's Reading and Speech Skills

2009-2010

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*Taina with her Jumpstart mentor, Jacqueline, enjoyed celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday together at a Jumpstart-sponsored event held on March 5, 2010.*

Taina's mother looked on with pride as her daughter cheerfully created her Dr. Seuss hat in celebration of the great Doctor's birthday. The Jumpstart Program, the mother explained, helped her daughter to overcome her shyness by working on her speech and reading skills. The social three year old, who is now very interested in books and reading, told her mother that Jacqueline, a Jumpstart member, taught her to speak slowly and clearly.

Another mother talked about how she has also seen a change in her son since he began the House's Head Start program in September 2009. With encouragement from Jumpstart members, he actively seeks out books and wants to read with his mother.

Jumpstart is a nonprofit organization that places Americorps members and volunteers at child care sites to work with children one-on-one to improve their reading and

speech skills. The House's teachers at 129 Fulton Street credit this 2 year partnership with marked improvements in children's social interactions and reading capacity. They say that the Jumpstart members go with the flow of the class, get the children excited about reading, and serve as good role models. The children, who view Jumpstart members as friends, learn by playing and benefit from the personalized attention they receive. An average Jumpstart visit at HMH starts with one-to-one reading time, followed by circle time, and then free play with group activities to enhance skills such as rhyming and word association.

On Friday, March 5, 2010, two classes from 129 Fulton Street and one from 60 Catherine Street participated in a celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday, an event set up and sponsored by Jumpstart. Taina's class first stopped at the

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When Mr. Ta Yu Chen learned that Hamilton-Madison House selected his artwork to be featured on an upcoming invitation, he was surprised and thrilled. In December 2008, at City Hall Senior Center's Senior Arts Festival, supported by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Shui-Mo/Chinese watercolor painting was displayed. When Hamilton-Madison House staff members viewed selections at the festival, two Shui-Mo particularly stood out among the calligraphies, photographs, and watercolors. One year later, we wanted to ask Mr. Chen's permission to use his Shui-Mo that depicted a small colorful bird among a much larger, red-accented flowering plant in front of a cloudy, blue sky.

Upon meeting Mr. Chen for the first time, one would not suspect that he is 80 years old. He is vibrant, cheerful, and incredibly active. His retired life consists of learning com-

puter and Shui-Mo and doing "Stay Well" exercises. He says, "his schedule gets very full and he will often spend many hours at night practicing painting and getting more comfortable with the computer." Mr. Chen did not know anything about Shui-Mo until 1995 when he took a few classes. It was not until more recently that he started studying the strokes and how to mix colors. He takes most of his classes at City Hall Senior Center but also attends Grand Street Settlement for additional classes. Mr. Chen remarked that he "has a lot to learn but there are only 24 hours in each day!" The important thing is that he enjoys



water color and his busy life. He spends most of his time at City Hall Senior Center, where he has been a member since 1996, "because of all the opportunities to learn new things, socialize with friends, and expand his hobbies." It is a testament to the strength of the House's senior programs that individuals like Mr. Chen have a comfortable environment to congregate with fellow Chinese American seniors and have opportunities to remain physically and mentally active. City Hall Senior Center is a vibrant home-away-from-home for seniors that served over 65,000 congregate lunches in 2009.

## Music School Students Ready for Bach's *Double Concerto*

It has been 5 years since the Music School was founded and children are demonstrating dramatic improvements. After the recent winter recital, which was held on February 6 at Mariner's Temple Baptist church, Chet Kaplan, former Hamilton-Madison House participant and Music School founder, remarked, "The progress of the children really impresses me each time I attend a performance, and I understand how much effort goes into

making this happen. Several children really stood out in terms of their posture and technique. Of course, a couple will soon be ready for Bach's *Double Concerto* if we can find them a suitable orchestra."

90 children performed at the recital that for the first time required two sessions due to the large number of participants at various levels. The majority of performances were solos but some ensemble work was displayed. Two highlights

included Bach's *Gavotte in G Minor* and Beethoven's *Minuet in G*. The House would like to thank Rev. Henrietta Carter of Mariner's Temple Baptist Church and her congregation for their willingness to be such generous hosts. The children enjoyed performing in the space and remarked at how welcoming the volunteers from the church were. The recital was also a special performance opportunity for 3 New Horizon's Band members, who are also members of the church. The Band performed between

the two recital sessions.

There are two upcoming Music School events of note: May 3, 2010, the 2nd Annual Spring Fundraiser will feature teachers and

*continued on page 3*





The children at HMH Head Start programs view Jumpstart members as their friends, benefit from the personalized attention they receive, and learn by playing.

local Starbucks, where they made hats out of poster board and enjoyed complimentary hot chocolate. Later, they visited Pace University's library to read. Parents were invited to attend the events and Taina's mother had the opportunity to explain why she chose Hamilton-Madison House's Child Care Program for her daughter. "I wanted

her to learn. When I saw a noticeable difference in my daughter's social and speech skills, I knew I made the right choice."

To learn more about the programs and services offered through the House's Child Care Department, visit the website at [www.hmhonline.org/ChildcareLandingPg.htm](http://www.hmhonline.org/ChildcareLandingPg.htm). 📄

### Music School – continued from page 2

select students and on June 16, 2010 the final recital at Pace University Auditorium. Both events are important to spread the joyful noise of the Music School's mission.

If you have any questions about the Music School or these events, please contact Thea Goodman at 212.349.3724 x 320 or [thea@hmhonline.org](mailto:thea@hmhonline.org). 📄

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS WIRE

### Thank you for supporting the Annual Appeal!

The end-of-year campaign raised \$8,395, which is a 68% increase from last year!

### 2009 Toy Drive

During this seasons' particularly large time of need, the House received support from a wide range of organizations and individuals. Over 1,000 toys or donations were collected for the House's children from Carnegie Corporation's Toy Drive, Chinatown Ice Cream



Factory, Darla Fernandez, Theresa Garber, Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Fay Chew Matsuda, Frank Modica, Packer Middle School, Sanrio, Silverstein Properties, Debra Thompson, UN International School, and Geoffrey Wiener, Jr.



### ESL Advocacy

On March 3, 2010, a HMH ESOL class wrote advocacy letters to Senator Velazquez requesting the 9/11 terrorist trials be relocated from Chinatown.

### REGISTER NOW

#### Summer LEAP Program – 6/29 to 8/20

Full-Day Summer Academic Program for Ages 5-12  
 Cost: \$900; Call: Monica @ 212.349.3724 x 335  
 Email: [monica@hmhonline.org](mailto:monica@hmhonline.org)

### UPCOMING

#### Chinatown Banquet – 4/16

Jing Fong: 20 Elizabeth St.  
 Time: 6:30 pm; Cost: \$125+  
 Call: Illyse @ 212.349.3724 x 313  
 Email: [events@hmhonline.org](mailto:events@hmhonline.org)



### UPCOMING

#### Walk for Youth Development – 7/18

Meet at HMH at 10:30 am; Cost: \$40 / \$25 students  
 Walk/Run along the East River Walkway with a group of your friends, family or co-workers. *To register:*  
[www.hmhonline.org](http://www.hmhonline.org), [events@hmhonline.org](mailto:events@hmhonline.org), or  
 212.349.3724 x 314 or 316.



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or for information  
about Community News  
Illyse Kaplan, x313



## YOUR WINTER 2010 ISSUE OF COMMUNITY NEWS IS HERE!

### THANK YOU SUPPORTERS!



*Board Member Jacqueline DaCosta alerted Hamilton-Madison House of her generous gift at former Executive Director Frank Modica's retirement celebration. The gift is designated for the House's teen program, which is in desperate need of financial support.*

**H**amilton-Madison House receives financial support from government agencies, private foundations, corporations, and individuals, like you, to keep our vital programs operating and our community strong. Since the fall newsletter, Hamilton-Madison House has received the following major donor support:

Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation, Axe-Houghton Foundation, Theodore H. Barth Foundation, Beir Foundation, Jacqueline DaCosta, Blanche T. Enders Charitable Trust, Glickenhau Foundation, Shuinchi Homma, M.D., Hyde and Watson Foundation, Jewish Communal Fund – Charles I Petschek, New York State Office of Mental Health-Suicide Prevention Program, Rotary Club of Downtown New York, TD Bank, and Unilever United States Foundation.

For more information about what we do, to make a tax-deductible gift, or to find out about sponsoring events, call (212) 349-3724, email [illyse@hmhonline.org](mailto:illyse@hmhonline.org), or visit [www.hmhonline.org](http://www.hmhonline.org).