

About Us

Founded in 1979, Music for Many, Inc. is a not-for-profit (501)(c) organization whose mission is to enrich and enhance the Prek-12 school curriculum with arts-in-education programs.

For the past seven (7) years, Music for Many, Inc. has been providing artist in residency programs to students in temporary housing in District #9, Region #3, and Region #4. Our programs are funded by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs administered by HUD. The McKinney-Vento Grant Program is designed to promote the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth in schools and to ensure that they receive other educational services for which they are eligible. In order to accomplish this mission, it is necessary to offer educational and related services to homeless children and youth to supplement the traditional classroom experience. Music for Many, Inc. programs in homeless shelters have been welcomed and praised by site supervisors as well as by children and parents.

During the past four (4) years, Music for Many, Inc. has received approximately twelve *Parents as Arts Partners* grants for New York City students and parents. Parents and students have simultaneously benefited from programs such as: American Social Dancing, Photojournalism, Mural projects, Puppetry, Mask Making, Classical Indian Dance, Chinese Dance, to name a few.

In the past, Music for Many, Inc. has received New York State Council for the Arts grants for New York City Schools. Theatre and music programs were partially funded by NYSCA.

The "Rotten Sneaker Contest" with an arts component was a program that Music for Many, Inc. began in District #8 Bronx. For four (4) years, students were not only judged by their "smelly sneakers", they were also judged by an arts piece as well. The national RS contest is sponsored by Combe (makers of Odor

Eaters). In 2003, a student from PS 62, Bronx became the national winner of this contest. His hip-hop dance, as well as his "rotten sneakers", were featured on several television talk shows and in newspapers.

Each year we offer a variety of storytelling programs at branches of the Queens Library System. Prior to the event, principals announce to students that a *Music for Many* teaching artist will be at a local branch. This encourages students to visit their local library by connecting the school to a community resource.