



June 8, 2011

MSU Community Music School hosts ninth annual Eric 'RicStar' Winter Music Therapy Camp

Contact: Amanda Darche, MSU Community Music School, (517) 355-7661, ext. 16, adarche@msu.edu or Kathleen Adams; MSU College of Music (517) 353-9958, adamsk10@msu.edu

EAST LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan State University Community Music School (CMS) will host the **Ninth Annual Eric** '*RicStar*' Winter Music Therapy Camp June 16–18. *RicStar*'s Camp welcomes individuals of all ages with special needs as well as their siblings.

Camp will be held **Thurs.**, **June 16**, **through Sat.**, **June 18** at the Community Music School, 841 Timberlane in East Lansing. Adults and adolescent groups begin at 9 a.m.; children's groups begin at 10 a.m.

The camp honors 12-year-old Eric Winter, a seven-year music therapy client from DeWitt who had cerebral palsy and passed away in 2003.

The 2011 camp will conclude with the *Be-a-Star Showcase* on Sat., June 18, at 1:30 p.m. The Showcase is open to the public and will take place in the Community Music School auditorium.

In a letter to Camp Director Cindy Edgerton, one parent wrote: "This is what our government, schools, and society need to see and embrace. People with special needs are just that -- they have special needs, but have the same personal and interpersonal needs as healthy individuals. We need a more accepting society and you have built this and it continues to grow every year touching more and more who can go out and share this need. Thank you for all you do."

The 2011 camp brochure/application and camp video may be viewed on the CMS website: http://www.cms.msu.edu.

###

Editor's Note: This event provides excellent photo and video opportunities. Please contact Cindy Edgerton, (517) 353-6426, edgerto3@msu.edu, to schedule video/photo shoots, for interviews with participants or therapists, client success stories, or more information.

Founded in 1993, the Community Music School (CMS) is the outreach division of the MSU College of Music. The mission of CMS is to provide comprehensive music education – quality instruction, related music services, and educational programs – for interested individuals of all ages and levels with financial assistance for those in need.

For more information, visit <u>www.cms.msu.edu/</u> or call (517) 355-7661.