



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

NEWS RELEASE

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Music Center Students in the Community

(*Brevard, NC*) –You may be surprised to see musicians playing on the streets of Brevard. Or in a store or visitor’s center. This summer the Brevard Music Center has sent students out into the community to play what they call “Flash Concerts”— impromptu, brief performances at unusual (for a concert) locations. The students have been studying at the Music Center since their arrival June 26, and when a piece of music is ready to share in performance, they’ve decided to extend beyond the usual concert venues.

The first performance a few weeks ago was outside the new Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce Visitor’s Center on East Main Street in downtown Brevard. Cars pulled over and rolled down their windows, and listeners emerged from nearby coffee shops and churches to enjoy a few minutes of music in the middle of the day.

Even more meaningful are the concerts at local retirement communities and rehabilitation centers. “It is important that we get out into the community and play for those people who can’t attend concerts at the Music Center,” says Sandra Shen, BMC artist faculty member. Shen regularly takes her BMC piano students to College Walk and the Brian Center to share their music. “We have built up relationships with some of the residents. They are so touched by the music and look forward to seeing us come back!”

The twice-weekly “BMC@TCL” free concerts have also been a popular event. This summer on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:30, student chamber music groups have performed in the Rogow Community Room of the Transylvania County Library to standing-room-only crowds.

There are numerous free concerts every week at the Music Center. Students will soon be returning to their own communities when the season ends August 9. We hope they will take the spirit of sharing their music with them.

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