



Dear Special Music School Families,

As the school year begins, please consider forwarding your annual dues for the SMS PTA. Our **suggested PTA contribution this year is \$450 per student**. We would be grateful if you gave whatever amount you can, now, and in installments if necessary. Beginning this school year, the SMS PTA holds an IRS designation of a 501©(3) tax-exempt organization. **Dues and contributions to the SMS PTA are TAX-DEDUCTIBLE**. The PTA will issue a receipt for all dues received.

As in past years, your support gives our kids the benefit of:

- ◆ The wonderful and fun **National Dance Institute** program for grades K-5, supported ½ by the parent community.
- ◆ **Italian Language** instruction for grades 6-8, supported 100% by parents.
- ◆ **Classroom funds** and classroom supplies for all teachers.
- ◆ **Art supplies** – like clay, and paper – that the school system does not otherwise provide.
- ◆ **Play yard equipment and supplies** to suit our school’s unique space and needs.
- ◆ **Community-building** events and communications from your PTA.

School budgets from the Department of Education are tighter than ever. Without PTA funds, contributed by parents, many supplies will not be purchased, and the language and dance programs will cease to exist. Your PTA Dues are vital to our children’s education.

We are looking for **100% PARTICIPATION from EACH GRADE**. Please show your support, within your financial means, through dues contributions and fundraising. We are too small a community not to have everyone take part!

We will vote in of our annual budget at the PTA General Meeting on September 20th at 8:45 a.m. Please return the form below, indicating your contribution or pledge as soon as possible.

Don’t forget – **you can now contribute by CREDIT CARD using Paypal on the www.smsparents.org** website. Please be aware, however, that Paypal charges the PTA a 3% fee for each transaction. If you can, please consider adding the fee cost of the transaction to your contribution.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request and for all of the other ways you show your support for our unique school community.

Doris Chiu and Jorge Sanchez, SMS PTA Co-Treasurers

cut along dotted line and present form with dues contribution

ANNUAL DUES CONTRIBUTION: SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL (P.S. 859) PTA

Family of (student(s)) _____ in grade(s) _____

We enclose a dues contribution of \$ _____ for SMS PTA (request: \$450 per student).

And/or we *PLEDGE* our support through the year: We will contribute \$ _____ in _____ installments by May 18, 2012

Please make check payable to SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL PTA, Inc.

Please bring this form to Curriculum Night, or send via mail to:

PTA Treasurer, Special Music School – P.S. 859, 129 West 67th Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10023.

Please return by September 23, 2011

❖ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! ❖



The Music Side of SMS: *Supporting the Kaufman Center*

Each student at the Special Music School benefits from music education costing approximately \$7,000 provided by Kaufman Center (KC). Yes, over \$30,000 by the time your child starts 4th grade! In years when contributions to non-profit arts foundations continue to suffer from the City's economic woes, "giving back" to KC is also important. Please plan to support the Kaufman Center this year as much as your means allow -through direct financial support, or through the different fundraisers sponsored by KC-. You will be hearing directly from KC about giving this year.

Please be as generous to the Kaufman Center as you can – you can even name a seat in Merkin Hall or add your name to a wall. Feel free to contact Gina Napolitano at the KC Development office (gnapolitano@kaufman-center.org) for additional information.

Contributions to KC, which are also fully tax deductible, are different from those to the SMS PTA. KC contribution checks should be made out to "Kaufman Center". If you wish to send a KC contribution with this note, the PTA will forward it promptly to the KC Development office

If you have any questions about your financial contributions to the Special Music School, please contact the SMS PTA Co-Treasurers at [**smspta.treasurer@gmail.com**](mailto:smspta.treasurer@gmail.com).