



Dear Special Music School Families,

Family contributions are the most important source of income for the Special Music School PTA, Inc. Your generosity and support enables the PTA to be a partner, along with the Department of Education and Kaufman Center, in providing your child an exceptional educational experience. As the school year begins, please consider forwarding your contribution to the SMS PTA as soon as possible. Our **suggested PTA contribution this year is \$450 per student**. Do not let our suggested amount discourage you from giving more or less depending on your circumstances. You may make periodic contributions if that is more convenient for you. The Special Music School PTA holds an IRS designation of a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. **Contributions to the SMS PTA are TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.**

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

- The wonderful and fun **National Dance Institute** program for grades K-5, partially supported by the parent community.
- **Second Language** instruction for grades 6-8, entirely supported by parents' contributions.
- **Classroom supplies** for all academic teachers.
- **Art supplies.**
- **Technology Upgrades**, New laptops and Smartboards, upgrades to existing computers.
- **Play yard re-surfacing, equipment and supplies** to suit our school's unique space and needs.
- **Community-building events** and communications from your PTA.
- **Kaufman Music Center Gala Ad.**

School budgets from the Department of Education are tighter than ever. Without PTA funds, contributed by parents, many essential supplies will not be purchased, and the language and dance programs will cease to exist. Your contributions 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 contributions and fundraising. We are too small a community not to have everyone take part!

You can **contribute by CREDIT CARD using PayPal on the www.smsparents.org** website (follow link in right column). Please be aware, however, that PayPal charges the PTA a 3% fee for each transaction. If you can, 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 SMS community. If you have any questions please contact the SMS PTA Treasurer at info@smsparents.org.

Lauren Flowers and Ken Pantoga, SMS PTA Treasurer



cut along dotted line and present form with contribution

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

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

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

And/or we *PLEDGE* our support through the year: We will donate \$ _____ in _____ installments by May 18, 2013

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

Please bring this form to Curriculum Night, leave in the PTA folder at the front desk, or send via mail to:
PTA Treasurer, Special Music School – P.S. 859, 129 West 67th Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10023.

❖ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! ❖



Special Music School
Parent Teacher Association

Your PTA CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Students at the Special Music School benefit from music education that amounts to approximately \$7,000 per child per year, provided by Kaufman Music Center (KMC). Yes, over \$25,000 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 KMC is also important. Please plan to support the KMC this year as much as your means allow -through direct financial support, or through the different fundraisers sponsored by KMC. You will be hearing directly from KMC about giving this year.

Please be as generous to the Kaufman Music Center as you can – you can even name a seat in Merkin Hall or add your name to a wall. Contact Gina Napolitano at the KMC Development office, gnapolitano@kaufmanmusiccenter.org, for additional information. You can also go to the **Fundraising page at smsparents.org** for links to Kaufman Music Center, and information on various SMS Fundraising events they sponsor.

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