

## Upcoming Events

On **Thursday April 26**, experience the world premiere of a string quartet by local composer (and Brown University faculty member) Gerald “Shep” Shapiro. This event features the CMW Players and will take place at the RISD Museum’s Metcalf Auditorium.



On **Sunday May 20**, the widely admired American pianist Jonathan Biss will return to Providence to present the second in a series of annual recitals donated to benefit Community MusicWorks.

Jonathan will perform an all-Beethoven program in the Main Gallery at The RISD Museum of Art. Last May’s all-Beethoven recital sold out, so be sure to contact Liz Cox to reserve your seats well in advance. Admission, including a reception catered by the amazing Linda Kane (who continues to provide dinners for Phase II every Thursday evening), is \$75 per person.

CMW’s 15th season reunion weekend will include a Fellowship Program seminar on **Friday June 8** and a concert on **Sunday June 10**. These public events will feature current alongside former CMW professional and student musicians who are returning to help us celebrate.

Please check our calendar at [communitymusicworks.org/calendar.htm](http://communitymusicworks.org/calendar.htm) for updates and more information.

## Program News

### Natasha Shines On

By Linda Daniels, CMW Board Member/Parent



“I try to imagine what kind of person I would be without playing the cello and I really can’t.”

In the beginning, the lesson room was dark and dreary and Natasha Rosario’s first cello was made of paper. But Community MusicWorks turned on an inner light that shines through everything Natasha has accomplished in the eleven years since her entrance to the program.

Natasha was seven years old when her mother signed her up for lessons. Natasha admits that she was an impatient student. “I wanted to run fast before I could walk. When you play an instrument, it takes years to be as good as the people you watch every day. I’ve learned to be patient with myself.” That patience, she says, helped her with academics, sports and life in general: “I learned to persevere.”

Today, at age 18, Natasha is poised to step onto a new stage after winning early acceptance into Brown University’s highly selective pre-med program. She knows CMW will always inform who she is, just as much as her four siblings – all CMW participants – and her mother have. “CMW is like family,” she says. “I grew up with it.” It will be especially hard to leave Phase II behind. Natasha says she will miss deeply the shared meals, wide-ranging discussions, and music-making with her friends and teachers at Phase II on Thursday evenings.



photo by John Foraste

Next year, Natasha hopes to join Brown’s orchestra as a cellist. She would also like to explore dance and visual arts, in addition to the languages she already loves, primarily Spanish and French, as well as a new interest, Arabic. She believes she’s been very well prepared by CMW to follow the light wherever it leads her.

### Introducing CMW’s Beginner Class!

In the fall, CMW launched an experimental Beginner Class, which focuses on developing a strong musical foundation through singing, rhythmic exercises and musical games before students begin to play their instruments.



Third-year Fellow Adrienne Taylor worked with Music Mentor Michael Daniels in teaching the class to sing in choir, dance with scarves, and play in bucket band. Students also started learning to read and write music. This semester, Adrienne and first-year Fellow Ealain McMullin are working with the Beginner Class as they begin to learn to play instruments. The students gave their first performance during a recent Skillz Hour when they played Tick-Tock Clock.

### music works Caption Challenge!



Try your hand at giving a fun caption to Emmy’s barnyard serenade! Send your entries to Liz at [lcox@communitymusicworks.org](mailto:lcox@communitymusicworks.org) by May 1. The winner, chosen by Liz and Emmy, will receive a surprise gift from the CMW staff.

## Music & Civil Society

In November, CMW and the Cogut Center for the Humanities at Brown University co-presented Music & Civil Society, a two-day symposium to increase understanding of the growing movement around music and community-building. The symposium gathered musicians, teachers, students, and academics from the United States, Canada, Venezuela, Berlin, and the Middle East, to explore the impact of music and musicians on a civil society.



The two days of discussions, presentations, and youth performances were extremely rich, and we’re still digesting what we learned! To that end, CMW commissioned Arlene Goldbard, a noted writer, speaker, and social activist, to create a publication that would help capture the essence and excitement of the symposium. Music & Civil Society: A Symphony in The Making features fascinating discussions of this movement’s potential and the issues it faces, wonderful first-person stories by people of all ages and backgrounds who took part in the symposium, and an amazing array of performance and interview videos.

You can download the conference publication at [communitymusicworks.org/musicandcivilsociety.htm](http://communitymusicworks.org/musicandcivilsociety.htm). Let us know what you think!



## Spring Donor Challenge

Through June, every dollar contributed to CMW will be matched by a dollar from the Carter Family Charitable Trust, up to \$50,000!



This very generous challenge, issued by Letitia and John Carter, gives those who believe in the mission of CMW--to create a cohesive urban community through music education and performance--the chance to double their support for the wonderful programs that make this mission come true.



Your \$25 gift means \$50. A gift of \$250 becomes \$500. Already CMW has raised over \$10,000 that qualifies for challenge. Please give now and as much as you can to insure that your contribution has twice the impact in building and transforming our community.

Also, don't forget that it's quick and easy to make a secure online donation to CMW at our website! Learn more at: [communitymusicworks.org/getinvolved.htm](http://communitymusicworks.org/getinvolved.htm).



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### CMW on the web:

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Want to know  
more about the events  
where these photos  
were taken? Check out  
CMW's website, blog,  
and Flickr site!



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1392 Westminster Street • Providence, RI 02909

15 years of performance,  
education, and community

## Welcome to The Works Volume 7, Spring 2012

Spring greetings from Community MusicWorks!

Thus far, during our 15th season, we have enjoyed several notable residencies by visiting musicians: the Cecilia String Quartet, the Haven String Quartet, oboist Frank Rosenwein, pianist Knut Erik Jensen, and a music-loving squirrel that made our storefront rehearsal space and sheet music library his headquarters for nearly a week (see October blog photo). Following his residency, the squirrel was happily relocated to nearby Dexter Park.

CMW students have continued to hone their ensembles skills this season, working in chamber orchestras every Friday, and even performing all together for the first time during February's Community Day, playing Beethoven's Ode to Joy. It's been thrilling to watch the dramatic improvement!

In this issue of The Works, we offer several challenges to readers and an account of the reward that came to one of our students who took on the challenge of learning the cello. We also highlight our recent conference, which was inspired by the impact that several musical initiatives around the world are having on historically challenged communities.

Please take note of our upcoming events featuring our students, the CMW Players and even more special guests. No challenge there... and we look forward to seeing you soon!



*Adrienne, Ariana, Chloe, Ealain, Emmalee, Heath, Jesse, Jori, Laura, Liz, Minna, Robin, Sara, & Sebastian*