

ROCHESTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Penfield Schools Run Musical Instrument Drive in June

May 23, 2011 – The Music Club at Penfield High School will be collecting musical instruments in Penfield to benefit REF's Spring for Music program on June 3 at Penfield High School and on June 3 and 4 at the Wegmans Music Festival at the Penfield Town Amphitheatre.

Musical instruments will be collected to be used by city school students in their instrumental music programs. "These used instruments can add to the number of city school students who have the tremendous opportunity to play a musical instrument," said Patricia Braus, executive director of REF.

Eliott Rosenberg, one of the organizers of the effort, noted the need for musical instruments in Rochester and the need for access to instruments. "Great musicians do not only come from rich suburban school districts," Mr. Rosenberg noted in a presentation to his fellow students. He noted the impoverished upbringing of Louis Armstrong. "For many children, accessing a musical instrument is not as easy as it was for us," he noted.

Rochester Education Foundation has collected more than 745 musical instruments to be donated to the city schools and lent to students in the instrumental music program since the Spring for Music program was launched in 2005.